

Inside IEMA

Monthly Newsletter



Illinois Emergency Management Agency

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From IEMA Director James K. Joseph

It's a glorious time to be a Chicago Cubs fan! Many have waited their entire lives to see the beloved Cubbies win the World Series, and dreams finally came true in the early-morning hours of Nov. 3. While throngs of excited Cubs fans took to the streets of Wrigleyville and other neighborhoods across Chicago to celebrate this momentous event, the city's first responders were hard at work to ensure the safety of the revelers and all Chicago residents.

Thanks to the city's planning and dedicated employees, the Cubs' World Series run and subsequent celebration event occurred with very few incidents. Hats off (preferably a Cubs hat!) to Chicago for showing the nation and the world how to throw a party!

Once again this month I spent time on the road to meet with some of our partners as well as speak to aspiring public safety professionals at Western Illinois University in Macomb. The hours spent driving around the state can be tiring, but I'm always energized when I reach my destination and get to meet face-to-face with a variety of fascinating people.

I had the opportunity to observe activities in the emergency operations centers for Rock Island and Whiteside counties as well as IEMA's Radiological Assessment Field Team during the recent exercise of emergency response plans for the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station. You can find out more about this exercise on page 6.

I also got to meet with members of the McHenry County Local Emergency Planning Committee. These committees may not be as high profile as other emergency preparedness and response organizations, but they play a key role in planning for incidents involving hazardous materials in their communities. I enjoyed updating them on the state's efforts in this area and getting feedback from them on the challenges they face.

I hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving. As we head into the busy holiday season, let's remain vigilant in our efforts to ensure the safety of the people we serve.



Director Joseph and his assistant Sarah Plinski (center) pose with McHenry County staffers (from left) Carrie Carlson, Robin Gibbs, McHenry County EMA Director David Christensen and Robert Ellsworth.

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DHS Provides Training on Mobile Detection Deployment Units

IEMA personnel recently learned more about a federal asset that can be deployed to assist first responders in detecting radiological and nuclear threats.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) developed and deploys Mobile Detection Deployment Units (MDDUs) in support of local responders throughout the country. Each MDDU contains enough radiological and nuclear detection equipment to outfit a large team.

The MDDU is an asset designed to augment and supplement first responders' radiation and nuclear detection capabilities. The asset can provide significant support in large metropolitan areas such as Chicago that have a higher occurrence of National Special Security Events. As the fifth largest state, Illinois also has more robust response organizations, which would be the primary entity to request the MDDU.

On Nov. 3, an MDDU was transported to Springfield. IEMA staff members and radiological duty officers were provided hands-on training to establish an understanding of MDDU technologies and implementation strategies. As future requests for IEMA assistance may incorporate this asset, training increased personnel readiness to assist with emergency responder inquiries and personnel augmentation.

The MDDU training was delivered in two sessions. The initial session incorporated a didactic overview of the MDDU program and detection capabilities. The



IEMA staffer Tarver Haven receives instruction on the operation of a Thermo Fisher Scientific PackEye radiation detection backpack.

objective of this session was to establish a baseline of how assets are requested and deployed, and provide an overview of MDDU-specific radiation monitoring and detection capabilities.

In a follow-on session, personnel were provided hands-on instruction. This session incorporated a variety of radiation technology procedures including passive monitoring, active search and radionuclide identification. The training session also included the adaptation of vehicle-assisted monitoring, geospatial analysis and high resolution gamma spectrometry.

DNDO collaborates with U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) to make these assets available regionally. In Illinois, an MDDU is maintained by the DOE/NNSA Region 5 Radiological Assistance Program.

Conway Represents IEMA on Illinois Competitiveness Council

IEMA staff attorney Louise Conway was recently appointed to a subcouncil of the Illinois Competitiveness Council, along with representatives from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Gov. Bruce Rauner signed Executive Order 2016-13 to create the Illinois Competitiveness Council in October. The council is charged with reviewing all agency rules and regulations as part of a comprehensive plan to promote economic growth and

job creation by cutting governmental red tape.

The council will review state regulations to ensure they are up to date, relevant and easy to understand and that there is a clear need for the regulation.

The Illinois Competitiveness Council is seeking input from the public on which rules and regulations are the biggest hindrance to people and businesses. Feedback can be submitted to www.illinois.gov/cut.

Tabletop Exercises Focus on Radiological Field Response

IEMA's Radiological Assessment Field Team (RAFT) would play a crucial role during response to a nuclear power plant accident. Equipped with sensitive radiation detection equipment and trained on how to properly collect samples of vegetation, water and air, RAFT members would provide critical information about the location and level of radioactive materials released by the nuclear power plant. That information would be used by the state to develop recommendations to protect the public from exposure to radiation.

RAFT members spend hundreds of hours each year participating in training and exercises of the Illinois Plan for Radiological Accidents. For pre-drills and exercises, that usually involves deploying personnel to a location near the nuclear power plant to practice their capabilities.

However, rather than dispatching 13 vehicles, equipment and 30 personnel to the Quad Cities area for the Oct. 5 pre-drill, RAFT team members participated in two tabletop exercises that provided an opportunity to discuss procedures and issues in greater depth than can be done in a drill situation. One tabletop exercise was held in Springfield on Oct. 19, with the other conducted in West Chicago on Oct. 26.

Data used as part of the Oct. 5 pre-drill exercise was presented to the players. Staff representing the various RAFT positions described their roles regarding notification, activation and deployment. As new data was presented, the players indicated who they were communicating with and the actions they would take

in response to the evolving situation.

The tabletop exercise format allowed everyone participating to gain a "big picture" perspective on RAFT activities as they listened to how other players were performing their duties. During a regular exercise situation, players primarily focus on their own tasks related to the mission. The tabletop format also reduced IEMA's costs for the pre-drill.

RAFT members were deployed to the Quad Cities area for the partial-scale exercise on Nov. 16.



RAFT member Jim Kolba assists fellow team member Julie Dixon in entering field data into RadResponder using an iPad.



New features of RadResponder were explained during the training.



The training also covered operation of the air sampler.

Senior Staff Spotlight: Phil Anello

Phil Anello has worked in emergency management for more than 23 years. While his job duties have evolved over the years from local emergency management coordinator to his current role as IEMA chief accountability officer, one thing has never changed: his deep commitment to public service.

Anello joined the emergency management profession in 1993 when he was hired as the emergency management coordinator for Macon County. During his tenure, Anello led responses to several state-declared disasters, including five events that received federal disaster declarations. The most challenging of those, he said, was the 2006 ice storm that caused widespread power outages throughout the county, with electrical service not fully restored for 10 days.

To ensure the safety of residents struggling with no heat in frigid temperatures, Anello coordinated with IEMA on the deployment of troops from the Illinois National Guard to conduct door-to-door wellness checks. As a result, several people were transported to warming centers or medical facilities, and no lives were lost. Anello also worked closely with Ameren on prioritization of power restoration to critical facilities.

Anello served as president of the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA) from April 2007 to April 2008. He vividly remembers his last day in office because it coincided with an early morning 5.4 magnitude earthquake in southeastern Illinois, which sent many attendees at IESMA's annual meeting in Decatur rushing back to their jurisdictions to deal with the temblor's effects.

A year later, Anello joined IEMA's staff as the agency's earthquake coordinator and worked with local emergency managers in 32 southern Illinois counties to develop and enhance required local earthquake response and recovery plans.

In 2012, Anello became bureau chief for Disaster Assistance and Preparedness, which later became the Bureau of Disaster Recovery and Risk Reduction. In this role, he oversaw the state's catastrophic planning effort and programs for radiological emergency planning, hazardous materials, hazard mitigation, public assistance and individual assistance. During this time, he was involved in three federally declared disasters: major flooding events in

2011 and 2013 and the November 2013 tornado outbreak. He also served as the deputy state coordinating officer for these declarations.

In November 2015, Anello was appointed the agency's chief accountability officer (CAO), a position that helps IEMA handle requirements of the new Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA). His past experience with grants at the local and state government levels helped him develop innovative approaches for guiding grantees through the new process. As he enters his second year as CAO, Anello said he remains committed to ensuring all jurisdictions and organizations receive the assistance they need to meet requirements of GATA.

Anello, a Decatur native, lives in his hometown with wife Kristen. He has four children: Anthony, 24; Andrea, 21; Mackenzie, 18; and Jake, 14. In his spare time, he enjoys riding his motorcycle and attending his kids' sporting events.



Chief Accountability Officer Phil Anello

Save the Date

2017 IEMA Training Summit

Sept. 5 – 7

**Prairie Capital Convention Center
Springfield**

IEMA X-Ray Inspectors Ensure Safety for Patients, Workers

X-rays are an important tool for doctors, dentists, veterinarians and even for many businesses. To ensure the safety of x-ray producing equipment as well as the qualifications of people operating the equipment, IEMA's 10 x-ray inspectors log thousands of miles each year visiting facilities in communities throughout the state.

The inspectors examine various types of x-ray producing equipment at hospitals, dental offices, veterinarian offices, medical clinics, manufacturing facilities, universities and prisons. In fact, IEMA registers and inspects more than 34,000 devices that electronically produce radiation at more than 11,000 facilities.

Tests conducted during an inspection are geared toward ensuring the radiation producing devices are functioning correctly and as expected and not exposing the patient or operators to excess radiation. Inspections also ensure the operators are appropriately trained and properly credentialed where required.

IEMA inspects some facilities annually and others less often. The frequency of inspections is based on the nature of the facility. The highest priority facilities, such as computerized tomography clinics, are inspected annually, while other facilities operating various types of analytical x-ray equipment or dental x-ray machines are inspected once every five years. An IEMA x-ray inspector may visit as many as six facilities in a day, and each inspector averages more than 1,000 miles on the road in a month.

In addition, IEMA certifies more than 2,000 industrial radiographers and accredits nearly 15,000 medical x-ray/therapy technologists. Individuals applying for medical x-ray accreditation or industrial radiography certification are required to meet specific training and/or education requirements. IEMA personnel review applications and documentation and, if all requirements are met, grant a medical accreditation for two years or industrial radiography certification for five years.

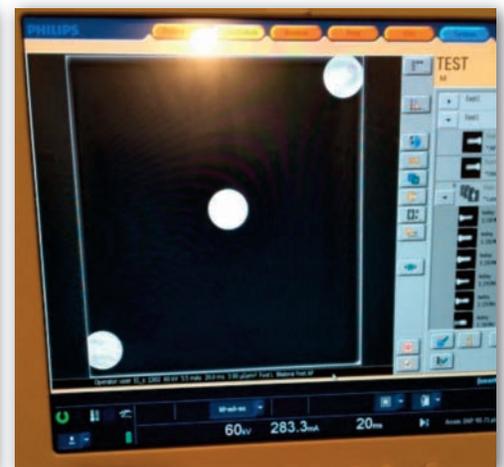
When an item of noncompliance is found during an inspection, the



Inspectors use a radiation detection meter known as a Piranha to measure the radiation from a dental x-ray machine. Several exposures are made to verify that the radiation output is consistent and reproducible.

agency issues a noncompliance letter to the facility. The letter outlines the specific issue and indicates a corrective action response is needed within 30 days. Once the response is received, it is reviewed and an acknowledgement letter is sent back to the facility. If no response is received within 30 days, an additional letter with a 15-day deadline is sent to the facility.

Most facilities quickly correct identified issues. Those that don't could face additional actions from the agency including fines and/or an order to cease operations.



Collimation testing is conducted to verify the radiation field matches up with the light field so that technologists taking x-rays are aware of the specific area being exposed to radiation. Inspectors use small coins or metal objects to mark the edges and the center of the light field and then expose the cassette to radiation. They then review the resulting image to verify the radiation field and the light field are congruent.

State, Counties Test Nuclear Plant Emergency Plans

Emergency plans for the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station were recently tested during a pre-drill on Oct. 5 and partial-scale exercise on Nov. 16. The exercise was conducted to meet Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements for nuclear power plants to test emergency plans every two years.

Because the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station is located across the Mississippi River from Iowa, the exercise was coordinated with the state of Iowa, two Iowa counties and FEMA Regions 5 and 7.

The Quad Cities pre-drill and exercise marked the first time Illinois and Iowa implemented the Enhanced Exercise Initiative (EEI). The new EEI is an attempt to move beyond the traditional model and toward self-evaluation. IEMA evaluators received training before the Quad Cities exercises.

During the exercise on Nov. 16, two IEMA evaluators were stationed in each county, with one evaluator in the Radiological Emergency Assessment Center (REAC) and one in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). Evaluators were provided performance criteria to monitor throughout the event. In addition, the more than 150 state and local participants in REAC, SEOC, Rock Island and Whiteside counties and other locations completed evaluation forms at the conclusion of exercise play. Comments from participants are being compiled and will be used by IEMA to identify performance strengths as well as areas that need improvement.

FEMA personnel also evaluated exercise performance in the county emergency operations centers and identified areas to address to enhance local response capabilities.



During the Quad Cities pre-drill, the REAC GIS operator provided maps and data to the REAC manager and health physics and reactor specialists as they assessed potential protective action recommendations.



Staff in Whiteside County's emergency operations center participated in the Nov. 16 exercise for the Quad Cities nuclear power station.



USACE National Flood Fight Materiel Center

Assistant Director Joe Klinger (left) and Chief of Staff Jennifer Ricker (right) recently toured the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) National Flood Fight Materiel Center at the Rock Island Arsenal. USACE maintains stocks of flood fight supplies, such as sandbags, polyurethane, HESCO barriers and pumps, at the center to support USACE districts throughout the country.

New Exercise Design Course Now Open for Registration

Exercises are critical for testing an organization's response capability, and proper exercise design is key to exercise success. IEMA currently is offering the first in a series of three new exercise design classes that cover tabletop, functional and full-scale exercises.

Exercise Design – Tabletop is a two-day course focused on promoting knowledge, experience and understanding of the tabletop exercise and the exercise design process. The course reviews the process for designing, developing, conducting and evaluating a tabletop exercise. Participants will complete a hazard/threat assessment, develop exercise objectives, choose core capabilities based on the exercise objectives, develop a scenario and situation manual, conduct a tabletop exercise and evaluate the exercise. The development of an After Action Report and Improvement Plan will be discussed and demonstrated.

This course is designed for federal, state and local emergency management officials, volunteer organization personnel and other agency officials

involved in designing, conducting and evaluating exercises.

Completion of the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program course and FEMA Independent Study IS 130 (Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Planning) is required before attending this course. Copies of certificates from those courses must be on file with the IEMA Training Office.

Classes scheduled to date include the following:

March 8-9, 2017 – Williamson County Administration Building in Marion

March 22-23, 2017 – Fairview Heights Fire Department

Registration for these classes is available at <http://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/training/OnlineReg/>. The IEMA training staff is working on scheduling additional course dates and locations, which will be posted on that page as they are confirmed.

Chicago OEMC Prepared for the Cubs' World Series Events

Director Joseph listens as Alicia Tate-Nadeau, executive director of Chicago's Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC), explains activities in the agency's emergency operations center during events celebrating the Chicago Cubs' World Series Championship in early November.

OEMC personnel monitored citywide activity during all of the Cubs' home and away games and coordinated resources to ensure the safety of fans, residents and first responders. The city was able to draw on experiences dealing with past championship events for the Chicago White Sox and Chicago Blackhawks when planning for the Cubs' World Series games and celebrations.



IEMA Recognized for Best Practice in GATA Implementation

During the past year, IEMA's Chief Accountability Officer Phil Anello has worked closely with the agency's more than 100 grantees on implementation of the new uniform guidance 2 CFR Part 200 as part of the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA). These efforts, which included personal interactions, webinars, conference calls and presentations, were recently recognized by the state's Grant Accountability and Transparency Unit (GATU) as a best practice for the development of the "GATA Sequential Order of Award Delivery." GATU is sharing IEMA's model with all grant-making state agencies.

To date, IEMA has successfully assisted more than 100 organizations in completing the required registration and pre-qualification process, which included assistance with the financial and administrative internal control questionnaire. In addition, more than 60 grantees have participated in a series of webinars that provided technical assistance and instruction in completing the new uniform application and budget templates.

IEMA also has conducted a series of conference calls

to more than 100 grantee organizations to provide support regarding the Notice of State Award and Uniform Grant Agreements. Presentations on the GATA implementation process were given at the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association and IEMA training summits, IEMA regional meetings and grantee workshops.

In addition to improving how the state handles grant awards, Anello said he believes GATA is enhancing business processes for local governments and not-for-profit businesses.

The agency is committed to continuing its support to IEMA grantees through a variety of innovative approaches. Over the next year, IEMA will continue to provide webinars, conference calls and one-on-one support to grantees in an effort to bridge communication gaps and proactively inform grantee partners regarding any implementation issues.

If you have any questions or comments regarding GATA, contact Phil Anello, CAO, at phil.anello@illinois.gov or by phone at 217-785-9890.



Director Joseph spoke to students at Western Illinois University in Macomb on Nov. 10 as part of the annual Homeland Security Research Program lecture series. Joseph addressed the role of IEMA in general as well as in the homeland security space.



Several IEMA employees got in the spirit of Halloween by dressing up like characters from the animated movie "Minions."

Previous issues of Inside IEMA are available at:
<http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>.



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