



2025 National Homeland Security Association

Walter E. Washington Convention Center
801 Allen Y. Low Place NW, Washington, DC 20001

Draft Conference Agenda



Schedule at a Glance

Monday, August 25

- 0700-1700: Registration open
- 0800-1700 Conference Workshops, Trainings, Meetings, Case Studies, Seminars, and Tours (requires preregistration)
- 0830-0930: Session A
- UASI POC meeting begins at 0900.
- 0945-1045 Session B
- 1100-1200 Session C
- Lunch on your own
- 1330-1430 Session D
- 1445-1545 Session E
- 1600-1700 Session F

Tuesday, August 26

- 0800-1700: Registration open
- 0900-1045: Opening Ceremonies and Remarks
- 1100-1200: Session 1
- 0900-1900: Exhibition Hall open
- 1215-1315: Lunch provided in Exhibit Hall.
- 1330-1430: Session 2
- 1445-1545: Session 3
- 1600-1700: Session 4
- 1700-1900: Exhibitor Social

Wednesday, August 27

- 0800-1600: Registration open
- 0900-1030: General Session
- 0900-1500: Exhibition Hall open
- 1045-1145: Session 5
- 1200-1300: Lunch provided.
- 1315-1415: Session 6
- 1430-1530: Session 7
- 1545-1645: Session 8
- 1900-2200: Host Social – location TBD

Thursday, August 28

- 0830-1100: Registration open
- 0900-1045: General Session
- 1045-1100: Closing Ceremony
- 1115-1215: "Best of Show" & "Sorry I Missed That!"
- Lunch on your own (not provided)
- 1330-1530: In-depth Discussions (concurrent offerings possible)



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Welcome Letter from NHTA President Natalie Gutierrez



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TIME	EVENT	ROOM
MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2025		
0700 – 1700	Registration Open	
0800 – 1200	SEMINAR – Disaster Recovery: A Strategic Overview of the Public Assistance Process (MGT-481) – Texas A&M Engineering (TEEX). Please use this link to register: https://my.teex.org/TeexPortal/Default.aspx?MO=mCourseCatalog&D=EU&C=MGT481&S=58 Details on page 28.	154 AB
0800 – 1300	TRAINING – AEM/CEM Certification Preparatory Course (Registration for this class is with IAEM directly at: https://www.iaem.org/cvweb/cgi-bin/eventsdll.dll/EventInfo?sessionaltcd=082525PREP not NHSA; Details on page 29.	144 C
0800 – 1030	TESTING – IAEM AEM/CEM Exam	156
0800 – 1500 <i>with a lunch break 1200 - 1300</i>	WORKSHOP - Senior Officials Workshop for All-Hazards Preparedness (MGT-312) – Texas A&M Engineering (TEEX); instructed by Barry Graham and Don Ogden. In addition to registering in CVENT, please register via this link below, more details can be found on page 30 to include prerequisites. Registration link: https://my.teex.org/TeexPortal/Default.aspx?MO=mCourseCatalog&D=FP&C=MGT312&S=693	149 AB
0830 – 0930	SESSION A – No need to preregister, eligible for “Best of Show” and “Sorry I Missed That!”	146 A
	• Active Shooter – “Maximizing Impact: Scaling up the Crawl, Walk, Run Exercise for Increased Cost Efficiency and Greater Returns” (8), with Donna Insixiengmay and Megan Womack; Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth	
	• Cybersecurity – Moderator: Adam Monsolve	145 A
	• Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services – Moderator: Robert Collins	
	• Personnel, Policy, and Law – Moderator: Irene Navis	146 B
	• Pop-up Track - Moderator: Susan Dzbanko	145 B
	• Public Health and Medical – Track Lead: Jay Rajyaguru Moderator: TBD	147 A
0830 – 1000	• Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Track Lead: Susanna Taddei; Moderator: TBD	147 B
		146 C
0830 – 1000	TRAINING – Tactical Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents – instructed by John Stamatopolous, New Mexico Tech, Details on page 31.	TBD
0900 - 1100	TOUR #5 (offering 1 of 3): Washington DC Emergency Operations Center <i>SPECIAL NOTES: Please arrive at least 10 minutes early to check in to the facility. This tour is fully ADA accessible. Any international visitors need to be registered at least 60 days in advance. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist.</i> Details on page 20.	
0900 - 1100	TOUR #16: Downtown DC Business Improvement District <i>SPECIAL NOTES: This tour is ADA accessible. The total walking distance is approximately a 1-mile round trip. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist.</i> Details on page 27.	
0900 – 1130	TOUR #11: District Department of Transportation & Department of Energy & Environment Riverfront Bicycle Tour <i>SPECIAL NOTES: The total ride length is approximately 10 miles, and bikes</i>	



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	<i>from the local public Capital Bikeshare system will be provided. This ride will be on trails and city streets using primarily bike lanes that are separated from cars by concrete dividers. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist. Details on page 24.</i>	
0900 – 1300	BUSINESS MEETING – UASI POC Annual Meeting (UASI POCs only) Details on page ____.	143 AB
0945 – 1045	SESSION B – No need to preregister, eligible for “Best of Show” and “Sorry I Missed That!” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Shooter – Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth • Cybersecurity – Moderator: Adam Monsolve • Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services – Moderator: Robert Collins • Personnel, Policy, and Law – Moderator: Irene Navis • Pop-up Track - Moderator: Susan Dzbanko • Public Health and Medical – Track Lead: Jay Rajyaguru, Moderator: TBD • Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – “Subway System Update Available: Technology and Policing in the Subway” (55), with Michelle Gorman and Vladimir Boguslavskiy; Track Lead: Susanna Taddei; Moderator: TBD 	146 A 145 A 146 B 145 B 147 A 147 B 146 C
1000 – 1100	TOUR #6: (offering 1 of 2) MPD Boat Tours <i>SPECIAL NOTES: This tour is limited to American citizens only. Participants are asked to wear closed toe shoes, boat appropriate attire, and bring government issued identification. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist. Details on page 21.</i>	
1000 – 1200	TOUR #14: Smithsonian Institution Office of Emergency Management <i>SPECIAL NOTES: This tour is ADA accessible. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist. Details on page 26.</i>	
1015 – 1145	TRAINING – Drone Assessment and Response Tactics – instructed by Dan Delgado, New Mexico Tech, Details on page 32.	144 AB
1100 – 1200	SESSION C– No need to preregister, eligible for “Best of Show” and “Sorry I Missed That!” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Shooter – Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth • Cybersecurity – Moderator: Adam Monsolve • Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services – Moderator: Robert Collins • Personnel, Policy, and Law – Moderator: Irene Navis • Pop-up Track - Moderator: Susan Dzbanko • Public Health and Medical – Track Lead: Jay Rajyaguru Moderator: TBD • Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Track Lead: Susanna Taddei; Moderator: TBD 	146 A 145 A 146 B 145 B 147 A 147 B 146 C
1100 - 1230	Tour #12: United States Supreme Court (offering 1 of 2) <i>SPECIAL NOTES: All visitors must be pre-screened before they enter the court, no weapons, if you are allowed to carry a weapon by law, it must be checked by the SCOTUSPD Officers and secured in a Gun Locker. There is no public parking at the court and no food or drinks will be allowed in the court building at any time. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist. Details on page 25.</i>	
1200 – 1300	Lunch on your own – see page ____ for walkable options (coming soon!)	



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1300 – 1400	TOUR #6: (offering 2 of 2) MPD Boat Tours <i>SPECIAL NOTES: This tour is limited to American citizens only. Participants are asked to wear closed toe shoes, boat appropriate attire, and bring government issued identification. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist. Details on page 21.</i>	
1300 – 1430	CASE STUDY – Current Trends in the Misuse of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Presented by Dan Delgado, New Mexico Tech, Details on page 32.	144 AB
1300 - 1430	TOUR #12: United States Supreme Court (offering 2 of 2) <i>SPECIAL NOTES: All visitors must be pre-screened before they enter the court, no weapons, if you are allowed to carry a weapon by law, it must be checked by the SCOTUSPD Officers and secured in a Gun Locker. There is no public parking at the court and no food or drinks will be allowed in the court building at any time. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist. Details on page 25.</i>	
1300 – 1500	TOUR #5 (offering 2 of 3): Washington DC Emergency Operations Center <i>SPECIAL NOTES Please arrive at least 10 minutes early to check in to the facility. This tour is fully ADA accessible. Any international visitors need to be registered at least 60 days in advance. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist. Details on page 20.</i>	
1300 – 1500	TOUR #7 Union Station/Amtrak <i>SPECIAL NOTES: This tour is ADA accessible. Details on page 22. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist.</i>	
TBD-TBD+2	TOUR #10: George Washington Hospital <i>Please standby for times.</i> Details on page 23.	
1300 – 1700	SEMINAR – Disaster Recovery: A Strategic Overview of the Public Assistance Process (MGT-481) – Texas A&M Engineering (TEEX), Please use this link to register: https://my.teex.org/TeexPortal/Default.aspx?MO=mCourseCatalog&D=EU&C=MGT481&S=59 Details on page 28.	154 AB
1300 – 1700	PRESENTATION – Law Enforcement Uses of Drones; Details on page 32.	147 B
1300 – 1700	BENCHMARKING – Preparedness Grants Meet Up for State Administrative Agencies Representatives, hosted by Robert Evans, Illinois Emergency Management Agency; Details on page 33.	145 B
1330 – 1430	<u>SESSION D– No need to preregister, eligible for “Best of Show” and “Sorry I Missed That!”</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Shooter – Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth • Cybersecurity – Moderator: Adam Monsolve • Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services – Moderator: Robert Collins • Personnel, Policy, and Law – Moderator: Irene Navis • Pop-up Track - Moderator: Dawn Heartsong • Public Health and Medical – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru • Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Track Lead: Susanna Taddei; Moderator: TBD 	146 A 145 A 146 B 144 C 147 A 143 C 146 C
1330 – 1500	PANEL DISCUSSION - The Power of Good Data: Operationalizing Stakeholder Preparedness Review Outcomes (124), with Michelle Gillies, Darvan Cosby, Eric Smith, and Deborah Hunt; details on page 34.	143 AB
1445 – 1545	<u>SESSION E – No need to preregister, eligible for “Best of Show” and “Sorry I Missed That!”</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Shooter – Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth • Cybersecurity – Moderator: Adam Monsolve 	146 A 145 A



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services – Moderator: Robert Collins• Personnel, Policy, and Law – Moderator: Irene Navis• Pop-up Track - Moderator: Dawn Heartsong• Public Health and Medical – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru• Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Track Lead: Susanna Taddei; Moderator: TBD	146 B 144 C 147 A 143 C 146 C
1445 – 1615	TRAINING – Homemade Explosives: Awareness, Recognition, and Response , with TBD, New Mexico Tech, Details on page 35.	144 AB
1445 – 1615	PANEL DISCUSSION - The Power of Good Data: Operationalizing Stakeholder Preparedness Review Outcomes (124), with Michell Gillies, Darvan Cosby, Eric Smith, and Deborah Hunt; details on page 34.	143 AB
1500 – 1700	TOUR #5 (offering 3 of 3): Washington DC Emergency Operations Center SPECIAL NOTES Please arrive at least 10 minutes early to check in to the facility. This tour is fully ADA accessible. Any international visitors need to be registered at least 60 days in advance. Closed – met capacity plus waitlist. Details on page 20.	
1600 – 1700	PANEL DISCUSSION - Strategic Foresight and Futures for Homeland Security (220), with Kristin Wyckoff and Zachary Schulman; details on page 35.	143 AB
1600 – 1700	SESSION F – No need to preregister, eligible for “Best of Show” and “Sorry I Missed That!” <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active Shooter – Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth• Cybersecurity – Moderator: Adam Monsolve• Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services – Moderator: Robert Collins• Personnel, Policy, and Law – Moderator: Irene Navis• Pop-up Track - Moderator: Dawn Heartsong• Public Health and Medical – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru• Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Track Lead: Susanna Taddei; Moderator: TBD	146 A 145 A 146 B 144 C 147 A 143 C 146 C
1600 – 1700	CLOSED MEETING – FIFA World Cup 2026 Host Cities ; Details on page ____.	156

Note: The Pop-up Track is not subject specific, each session will offer its own unique presentation.



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The 2025 National Homeland Security Conference will be offering an opportunity to catch the “Best of Show”. Presentations will be ranked as “Best of Show” by you and your peers, using the NHSC app during the conference. You will have the opportunity to rate the presentations you attend. “Sorry I Missed That!” will give you the opportunity to select the presentations that you missed but wished you hadn’t. The top five, “Best of Show” and top five “Sorry I Missed That!” regardless of track, will be invited to return for an encore presentation on Thursday, August 28th, from 11:15 to 12:15. Final presentation selection is also subject to the presenter’s availability.

New this year are Mini, Micro, and Pop-up tracks. Mini-tracks consist of six one-hour sessions on the same topic presented on Monday. A Micro-track is a half-day of one-hour sessions on the same topic. Pop-up tracks are individual topics that appear throughout the week. Pop-up tracks may be announced the same day of the presentation. Mini, Micro, and Pop-up tracks are eligible for “Best of Show” or “Sorry I Missed That!” encore presentations, unless they are in italics.

Presentations given during Session 8 on Wednesday as well as those shown in italics, are not eligible for “Best of Show” or “Sorry I Missed That!” encore presentations.

TIME	EVENT	ROOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025		
0800 – 1700	Registration Open	
0830 - 0900	Entrance Entertainment – <i>(proposed)</i>	
0900 – 1900	Exhibitor Hall Open	Exhibit Hall
0900 – 1045	Opening Ceremonies: Introduction (Master of Ceremonies) Presentation of Colors Pledge of Allegiance National Anthem Invocation Welcome Addresses: National Homeland Security Association National Homeland Security Association President Natalie Gutierrez City of Washington, DC Police Police Chief <i>(proposed)</i> City of Washington, DC Fire-Rescue Fire Chief <i>(proposed)</i> Washington, DC Department of Emergency Management Clint Osborn, Director <i>(proposed)</i> Closing Remarks (Master of Ceremonies) Exit Entertainment – <i>(proposed)</i>	



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1000 – 1600	NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION COMMAND BUS VEHICLE INTEROPERABILITY EXERCISE FOR FIRE/EMS , details on page 37.	
1045 – 1100	Break	
1100 – 1200	Session 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Practices and Lessons Learned – “Scalable Procedures for Election Security Operations: Best Practices from 2020-2024” (84), with Natasha Streets, Lauren Knapp, and Ben Webster; Moderator: Blake Fisher 143 AB • Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru 146 A • Combating Violent Extremism – Moderator: Larry Kraus 145 A • Community Preparedness and Resilience – “Enhancing Community Resilience through Strategic Funding and Programming” (127), with Christophe Arnold, Aaron Yen, Alex Francois, Chris Childers; Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn 145 B • Counterterrorism – “The Anatomy of Terrorist Cells: Insights into Structure, Function, and Counterterrorism Strategies” (6), with Dr. Ahmet Yayla; Moderator: Jason Stewart 146 B • Emergency Management – Moderator: John Antapasis • Emerging Technologies – Moderator: Susanna Taddei 146 C • Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing – Moderator: Siobhan Carroll 147 A • Grants and Program Management – Moderators: Dawn Heartsong and Susan Dzbanks 144 AB • Mental Health – Moderator: Irene Navis • Planning – “Mitigating the Risk of Human Trafficking Post Natural Disaster” (4), with Krista Hoffman; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal 147 B • Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure – Moderator: Jorge Torres 143 C • Training and Exercise – Moderator: Sheryl Jardine 149 AB • Sponsored Solution Track 144 C <p>Company: 908 Devises (Exhibitor) Presentation Speaker: Casandra Benoit Session Title: Description: 154 AB</p>	
1200 – 1215	Break	
1215 – 1315	Lunch (Provided)	Exhibit Hall
1315 – 1330	Break	
1330 – 1430	Session 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Practices and Lessons Learned – Moderator: Blake Fisher 143 AB • Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru 146 A 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combating Violent Extremism – Moderator: Larry Kraus • Community Preparedness and Resilience – “Crisis in Context: Building Resilience and Measuring Impact Using Data Visualizations” (177), with Michelle Carnahan and Francisco Sanchez, Jr.; Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn • Counterterrorism – “Emerging Threats and Terrorist Exploitation of Technology” (59), with Dr. Gina Ligon and Dr. Austin Doctor; Moderator: Jason Stewart • Emergency Management – Moderator: John Antapasis • Emerging Technologies “Navigating the AI Landscape: Knowledge Engineering” (93), with Claire Allen; Moderator: Susanna Taddei • Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing – Moderator: Siobhan Carroll • Grants and Program Management – Moderators: Dawn Heartsong and Susan Dzbanko • Mental Health – Moderator: Irene Navis • Planning – “The Power of One: How One Idea and One Phone Call Helped Build Public Trust, Soften the Disinformation Narrative, and Revolutionized Community Led Regional Survivor Support after Hurricane Helene” (81), with Kate Amaral; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal • Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure – Moderator: Jorge Torres • Training and Exercise – Moderator: Sheryl Jardine • Sponsored Solution Track Company: CACI (Gold Sponsor) Presentation Speaker: Amanda Blake Session Title: Description: 	145 A 145 B 146 B 146 C 147 A 144 AB 147 B 143 C 149 AB 144 C 154 AB 156
1430 – 1445	Break – Refreshments provided by Gold Sponsor CACI	
1445 – 1545	Session 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Practices and Lessons Learned – “HSIN for COP, ESA, Election Security - and other Best Practices / Lessons Learned” (101), with Carl Roberts; Moderator: Blake Fisher • Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru • Combating Violent Extremism – Moderator: Larry Kraus • Community Preparedness and Resilience – Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn • Counterterrorism – “Innovation in Bombing Mitigation” (88), with Sara Henry and Michael Knight; Moderator: Jason Stewart • Emergency Management – Moderator: John Antapasis • Emerging Technologies – “Airport Modernization” (142), with Timothy Tyler; Moderator: Susanna Taddei • Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing – Moderator: Siobhan Carroll • Grants and Program Management – Moderators: Dawn Heartsong and Susan Dzbanko • Mental Health – Moderator: Irene Navis 	143 AB 146 A 145 A 145 B 146 B 146 C 147 A 144 AB 147 B 143 C



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning – “Integrated Response Building to Become One” (7), with Bryce Houlton; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal• Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure – Moderator: Jorge Torres• Training and Exercise – Moderator: Sheryl Jardine• Sponsored Solution Track Company: Kasware (Silver Sponsor) Presentation Speaker: Brooke Patton Session Title: Description:	149 AB 144 C 154 AB 156
1545 – 1600	Break	
1600 – 1700	Session 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Best Practices and Lessons Learned – Moderator: Blake Fisher• Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru• Combating Violent Extremism – Moderator: Larry Kraus• Community Preparedness and Resilience – Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn• Counterterrorism – Moderator: Jason Stewart• Emergency Management – Moderator: John Antapasis• Emerging Technologies – Moderator: Susanna Taddei• Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing – Moderator: Siobhan Carroll• Grants and Program Management – Moderators: Dawn Heartsong and Susan Dzbanko• Mental Health – Moderator: Irene Navis• Planning – Moderator: Jennifer Schaal• Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure – Moderator: Jorge Torres• Training and Exercise – Moderator: Sheryl Jardine• Sponsored Solution Track Company: Safeware (Exhibitor) Presentation Speaker: Stephanie Sarbacher Session Title: Description:	143 AB 146 A 145 A 145 B 146 B 146 C 147 A 144 AB 147 B 143 C 149 AB 144 C 154 AB 156
1700 – 1900	Exhibitor Social	EXHIBITOR HALL



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TIME	EVENT	ROOM
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025		
0800 – 1600	Registration Open –	
0900 – 1500	Exhibitor Hall Open	
1000 – 1600	NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION COMMAND BUS VEHICLE INTEROPERABILITY EXERCISE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT , details on page 37	
0900 – 1030 0900 – 0905 0905 – 1030	General Session – Opening Announcements TBD	
1045 – 1100	Break	
1045 – 1145	Session 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Best Practices and Lessons Learned – Moderator: Blake Fisher• Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru• Combating Violent Extremism – Moderator: Larry Kraus• Community Preparedness and Resilience – Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn• Counterterrorism – “Purgatory: Swatting, Extortion, and ‘The Com’” (34), with Christopher Betts; Moderator: Jason Stewart• Emergency Management – Moderator: John Antapasis• Emerging Technologies – Moderator: Susanna Taddei• Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing – Moderator: Siobhan Carroll• Grants and Program Management – Moderators: Dawn Heartsong and Susan Dzbanko• Mental Health – Moderator: Irene Navis• Planning – “How to Successfully Develop and Manage a Joint Hazardous Assessment Team (JHAT)” (68), with Michael Hammett and Robert Dunivin; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal• Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure – Moderator: Jorge Torres• Training and Exercise – Moderator: Sheryl Jardine• Sponsored Solution Track <p>Company: Emergency Management Collaborations (Exhibitor) Presentation Speakers: Andrea Glass and Michelle Seitz Session Title: MERRGE™: Revolutionizing Mass Casualty Response & Victim Reunification Session Description: Communities worldwide face an increasing risk of mass casualty incidents (MCIs) resulting from natural disasters, active threats, infrastructure failures, large-scale transportation accidents, terrorism, and acts of war. Effectively managing an MCI requires a highly coordinated, multi-agency response to address complex operational challenges across multiple sites, including the incident location, hospital systems, evacuation centers, and family assistance centers. Emergency Management Collaborations (EMC) was established to address critical gaps in mass casualty response, victim tracking, and reunification—challenges that have persisted</p>	143 AB 146 A 145 A 145 B 146 B 146 C 147 A 144 AB 147 B 143 C 149 AB 144 C 154 AB 156



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	<p>across communities for over two decades. This session will introduce participants to MERRGE™, a Rapid Reunification System designed to enhance response efforts in large-scale incidents by streamlining the process of locating, tracking, and reuniting victims with their loved ones. Attendees will gain valuable insights into how MERRGE™ supports emergency response operations, improving efficiency and outcomes in crisis situations.</p> <p>Session Learning Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discover the MERRGE™ Rapid Reunification System.• Examine common barriers to efficient victim identification and family reunification.• Learn how MERRGE™ enhances response efforts by streamlining victim tracking and reunification.• Understand the system's key features, functionality, and integration into existing emergency management protocols.• Evaluate how technology-driven solutions like MERRGE™ can improve efficiency and effectiveness in crisis situations.	
1000 – 1500	Exhibitor Hall Open	
1200 – 1300	Lunch (Provided) Exhibitor Hall	
1300 – 1315	Break – return to conference hall	
1315 – 1415	<p>Session 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Best Practices and Lessons Learned – Moderator: Blake Fisher• Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru• Combating Violent Extremism – Moderator: Larry Kraus• Community Preparedness and Resilience – Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn• Counterterrorism – Moderator: Jason Stewart• Emergency Management – Moderator: John Antapasis• Emerging Technologies – Moderator: Susanna Taddei• Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing – Moderator: Siobhan Carroll• Grants and Program Management – Moderators: Dawn Heartsong and Susan Dzubanko• Mental Health – Moderator: Irene Navis• Planning – Moderator: Jennifer Schaal• Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure – Moderator: Jorge Torres• Training and Exercise – Moderator: Sheryl Jardine• Sponsored Solution Track Company: ESRI (Silver Sponsor) Presentation Speakers: Faby Carrera Session Title: Session Description:	
1415 – 1430	Break	



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1430 – 1530	<p>Session 7: <i>Note – These presentations are not eligible for “Best of Show”.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Best Practices and Lessons Learned – Moderator: Blake Fisher• Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru• Combating Violent Extremism – Moderator: Larry Kraus• Community Preparedness and Resilience – Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn• Counterterrorism – Moderator: Jason Stewart• Emergency Management – Moderator: John Antapasis• Emerging Technologies – Moderator: Susanna Taddei• Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing – Moderator: Siobhan Carroll• Grants and Program Management – Moderators: Dawn Heartsong and Susan Dzbanko• Mental Health – Moderator: Irene Navis• Planning – “Leveraging Intelligence and Investigations for ICS” (82), with Dr. Ed Wolff and Brian Danekes; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal• Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure – Moderator: Jorge Torres• Training and Exercise – Moderator: Sheryl Jardine• Sponsored Solution Track Company: RAKIA Presentation Speakers: David Alley Session Title:	
1530 – 1545	Break	
1545 – 1645	<p>Session 8: <i>Note – These presentations are not eligible for “Best of Show”.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Best Practices and Lessons Learned – Moderator: Blake Fisher• Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) – Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru• Combating Violent Extremism – Moderator: Larry Kraus• Community Preparedness and Resilience – Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn• Counterterrorism – Moderator: Jason Stewart• Emergency Management – Moderator: John Antapasis• Emerging Technologies – Moderator: Susanna Taddei• Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing – Moderator: Siobhan Carroll• Grants and Program Management – Moderators: Dawn Heartsong and Susan Dzbanko• Mental Health – Moderator: Irene Navis• Planning – Moderator: Jennifer Schaal• Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure – Moderator: Jorge Torres• Training and Exercise – Moderator: Sheryl Jardine• Sponsored Solution Track Company: Balboa Geolocation (exhibitor)	



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	Presentation Speakers: Will Boystak Session Title:	
1900 - 2200	Host Social – National Building Museum	



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TIME	EVENT	ROOM
THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025		
0830 – 1100	Registration Open –	
0900 - 1045	General Session In-Depth Discussion Introduction: Delaware Bay Key Bridge Collapse (<i>confirmed</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none">USCG Sector Delaware Bay Key Bridge Response: Eagle and Raven” (111), with Glenna Tredinnick and Todd WardwellRedefining the Pathway of Disasters in the United States- New Challenges Facing Emergency Managers Lessons Learned from the Francis Scott Key Bridge Collapse” (145), with Preeti Emrick, Joey Henderson, and David Bycoffe	
1000 – 1600	NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION COMMAND BUS VEHICLE INTEROPERABILITY EXERCISE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT , details on page 37.	
1045 – 1100	Closing Ceremony – Thank you Washington, DC – see you in Louisville, KY 2026!	
1100 – 1115	Break	
1115 – 1215	Session 9: – Highlighting the “Best of Show” presentations (the five presentations that scored the highest) <i>plus three</i> additional new presentations. <i>“Best of Show” and “Sorry I Missed That!” winners will be posted on the app after Session 8 and announced at the Host Social</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">“Best of Show” presentation #1 TBD, Moderator: TBD“Best of Show” presentation #2 TBD, Moderator: TBD“Best of Show” presentation #3 TBD, Moderator: TBD“Best of Show” presentation #4 TBD, Moderator: TBD“Best of Show” presentation #5 TBD, Moderator: TBD“Sorry I Missed That!” presentation #1 TBD, Moderator: TBD“Sorry I Missed That!” presentation #2 TBD, Moderator: TBD“Sorry I Missed That!” presentation #3 TBD, Moderator: TBD“Sorry I Missed That!” presentation #4 TBD, Moderator: TBD“Sorry I Missed That!” presentation #5 TBD, Moderator: TBD	
1215 – 1330	Lunch on your own (<i>not provided</i>)	
1330 – 1530	In-depth Discussion: Delaware Bay Key Bridge Collapse: USCG Response and Emergency Management Lessons Learned (<i>confirmed</i>) Details on page 37.	



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National Homeland Security Conference – Washington, DC Tours August 25, 2025



Tour #5: Washington DC Emergency Operations Center

Maximum Attendees: 25 per tour (3 offerings)

Check-In Location: 1015 Half Street SE (one block from the Navy Yard Metro – Half Street exit)

DESCRIPTION

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the District of Columbia is managed by the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA). The mission of HSEMA is to ensure DC agencies, businesses, and residents are prepared to prevent, protect against, respond to, mitigate, and recover from all threats and hazards. The current EOC was completed in 2023 and has been used for several dozen activations including multiple National Special Security Events such as the 2024 NATO Summit, Presidential Inauguration, and multiple weather events and other incidents. The tour will include presentations conducted by EOC management, the District of Columbia Fusion Center, and other public safety partners.

SCHEDULE

Tours offered at 9 AM, 1 PM, and 3 PM. Each tour and discussion will last approximately 2 hours.

SPECIAL NOTES

Please arrive at least 10 minutes early to check in to the facility. This tour is fully ADA accessible. Any international visitors need to be registered at least 60 days in advance.



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Tour #6: MPD boat tours

Maximum Attendees: 12 at each of the 2 tours

Check-In Location: 550 Water Street SW – Harbor Patrol Unit Building

DESCRIPTION

The mission of the Metropolitan Police Department's Harbor Patrol Unit is to patrol all the rivers, inlets, and waterways of the District of Columbia while ensuring members of the public are practicing safe recreational boating. The Harbor Patrol Unit has a fleet of approximately 20 vessels, which range from jet skis to airboats. All Harbor Patrol officers and sergeants are Public Safety Divers and are always prepared to dive in the District's waterways to search, rescue, and recover at depths ranging from 6 feet up to 40 feet. This tour will give participants a chance to get a behind-the-scenes look at the Harbor facility, learn about the different operational activities performed on a regular basis, and wrap up with a tour of the Channel and Anacostia River.

SCHEDULE

Tours will last approximately 1 hour, and will leave at 10 AM & 1 PM

SPECIAL NOTES

This tour is limited to American citizens only. Participants are asked to wear closed toe shoes, boat appropriate attire, and bring government issued identification.



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Tour #7: Union Station/Amtrak

Maximum Attendees: 100

Check-In Location: Washington Union Station, 50 Massachusetts Avenue NE

DESCRIPTION

Washington Union Station is one of the country's first great union railroad terminals, located just five blocks away from the United States Capitol. Designed by renowned architect, Daniel Burnham, the station was completed in April 1908. In 1981, Congress passed the Union Station Redevelopment Act, creating the rehabilitation and redevelopment of the Union Station complex as a multi-use transportation terminal serving the Nation's Capital, and secondarily as a commercial complex.

With over 100,000 people using the station daily, it is the second busiest station in the Amtrak system. Union Station provides service to the Northeast Corridor via Acela Express and Northeast Regional Service and eight Amtrak long-distance and regional trains. Union Station is a busy transit hub serving 14 types of transportation, from passenger trains including Amtrak, Virginia Railway Express (VRE), Maryland Area Rail Commuter (MARC), to inter-city buses, bike sharing, cabs, ridesharing services, and a Metro station.

The Station Revitalization Plan envisions dramatically improving facilities that will be modern, safe, and secure, which will accommodate three times as many passengers and twice as many trains. This will all be within the same footprint and will preserve Union Station's historic architectural design. The station's 214,000-square-foot shopping mall will be renovated, and a large mixed-use development is being planned for the station's rail yard.

The Amtrak Police Department (APD), the national police force of the carrier, operates out of Union Station with uniformed police officers and K9 units specializing in bomb and narcotic detection. Nationwide, the APD has more than 450 officers and employees. The APD provides security and safety to the traveling public, employees, stations, and rail equipment, with statute for interstate police powers. The department is an accredited national railroad full-service police force established by the Rail Passenger Service Act of 1970.

Tour participants will have the opportunity to tour the station, visit an Amtrak trainset, experience a K9 demonstration showcasing bomb detection with bomb scents and test an Amtrak train simulator.

SCHEDULE

Arrival at Union Station at 1 PM, and departure at 3 PM. Tour participants will break up into smaller groups to cycle through each station experience.

SPECIAL NOTES

This tour is ADA accessible.



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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Tour #10: George Washington Hospital

Maximum Attendees: 25

Check-In Location: Address is 900 23rd Street NW, and the meeting place will be the hospital lobby. The hospital is adjacent to Foggy Bottom Metro station on the Orange, Silver, and Blue lines.

DESCRIPTION

GW Hospital's mission is to provide the highest quality healthcare, advanced technology and world class service to our patients in an academic medical center dedicated to education and research. This tour in the Emergency Department will be to see the special chemical warfare protocol and decontamination area, followed by a presentation/panel. The presentation will be about hospital-based emergency management within DC at The George Washington University Hospital with a focus on recontamination.

SCHEDULE

Tour duration will be 2 hours. There will be one session, with a time TBD.



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Tour #11: District Department of Transportation Riverfront Bicycle Tour

Maximum Attendees: 20

Check-In Location: Marriott Marquis, 901 Massachusetts Ave NW

DESCRIPTION

Join the District Department of Transportation for a ride using DC's newest protected bike lanes and trails to explore safety infrastructure, flood control, bridges, and more. This bike ride will start across from the Washington Convention Center, pedaling past the National Mall to the riverfront Buzzard Point neighborhood, a new set of mixed-use buildings incorporating innovative flood control measures. The ride will then continue on the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge, through Anacostia Park, and across the 11th Street Bridge before riding around the U.S. Capitol Building back towards the starting point. **SCHEDULE**

Departure at 9 AM, and arrival back at approximately 11-11:30 AM.

SPECIAL NOTES

The total ride length is approximately 10 miles, and bikes from the local public Capital Bikeshare system will be provided. This ride will be on trails and city streets using primarily bike lanes that are separated from cars by concrete dividers.





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Tour #12: United States Supreme Court

Maximum Attendees: 20 per tour (2 offerings)

Check-In Location: 1 First Street NE. Visitors may enter the building from the doors located to the left (Northwest Door) and right (Southwest Door) of the main steps on the plaza level. An accessible entrance and exit are located along Maryland Avenue on the left side of the building.

DESCRIPTION

The Supreme Court of the U.S. Police Department tour offers a glimpse into America's highest court, allowing visitors to explore its neoclassical architecture, view the courtroom where landmark decisions are made, and learn about the court's role in shaping the nation. As a member of this conference, you will go behind the scenes of the protective footprint of the Supreme Court of the U.S. Police Department (SCOTUSPD); The mission, the people, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and a special place few see.

Once the tour is completed you will have unescorted access to the court's public areas, gift shop, and cafeteria.

SCHEDULE

11 AM & 1 PM; tour duration is approximately 90 minutes

SPECIAL NOTES

All visitors must be pre-screened before they enter the court, no weapons, if you are allowed to carry a weapon by law, it must be checked by the SCOTUSPD Officers and secured in a Gun Locker. There is no public parking at the court and no food or drinks will be allowed in the court building at any time.



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Tour #14: Smithsonian Institution Office of Emergency Management

Maximum Attendees: 25

Check-In Location: Smithsonian Metro Station

DESCRIPTION

The Smithsonian Institution is the world's largest museum, education, and research complex, with 21 museums, 14 education and research centers, and the National Zoo—shaping the future by preserving heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world.

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) collaborates across the Institution to improve the Smithsonian's ability to respond to emergencies and recover from disasters. OEM works closely with Smithsonian staff to perform emergency planning and manage emergency operations, conduct training and exercises, perform risk reduction activities, and improve the Smithsonian's overall capacity to respond to and recover from natural, technological, and human-made hazards. Their work also involves working side-by-side with local, state and federal partners to address emergency issues at their facilities and properties and promote the greater public safety interests in the communities they call "home."

This tour will include both public and behind-the-scenes areas of one or more Smithsonian museums on the National Mall to showcase how Smithsonian OEM keeps visitors safe and coordinates with other partners on the multiple adjacent events that regularly occur outside the museums.

SCHEDULE

Arrive at the Smithsonian Metro Station at 10am, with return at 12pm.

SPECIAL NOTES

This tour is ADA accessible.



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Tour #16: Downtown DC Business Improvement District

Maximum Attendees: 25

Check-In Location: Washington Convention Center

DESCRIPTION

The Downtown DC Business Improvement District (BID) is a catalyst, facilitator, and thought leader in diversifying the economy, promoting public-private partnerships, and enhancing the downtown experience for all. They oversee a 140-block area of approximately 530 properties and numerous parks and public spaces.

This tour will start outside the Washington Convention Center, where the BID and DC's Metropolitan Police (MPD) will discuss how the business community and public safety agencies collaborate on the numerous special events that impact the area. These have included National Special Security Events (NSSEs) such as the 60th Presidential Inauguration, the 2024 NATO Summit, and the United States-Africa Leaders' Summit in 2022.

Next, the tour will include walking a few blocks South to F Street where the Downtown DC BID the Holiday Market and other public events between 7th and 9th Streets. The focus of this tour will emphasis how to safely operate a street closure for public events. Attendees will learn how the Downtown DC BID and public agencies maintain a safe environment during daily operations and special events of a street closure for public events. Officials from the BID and Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) will share their experiences on safely operating street closures for public events.

SCHEDULE

9 AM meet at the front of the Convention Center for a brief discussion before walking to F Street NW and returning at 11 AM.

SPECIAL NOTES

This tour is ADA accessible. The total walking distance is approximately a 1-mile round trip.



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SEMINAR - DISASTER RECOVERY: A STRATEGIC OVERVIEW OF THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROCESS (MGT-481)

The Disaster Recovery for Senior Officials course provides a strategic overview of the FEMA Public Assistance Process that is essential to disaster recovery for local communities. The FEMA Public Assistance Process provides funding for local governments and eligible Private Non-Profit organizations to conduct effective long-term recovery. Unfortunately, many jurisdictions do not have a good understanding of this process and thereby fail to obtain, and retain, all the recovery revenue the community is eligible for. This course will provide senior leaders and staff planners with the key elements, milestones, and pitfalls to avoid when guiding a local jurisdictions recovery plans and operations. MGT481 - 4.00 HOURS

Prerequisites:

- There are no prerequisites for this course.

Recommended:

- Disaster recovery awareness | AWR408 -Online Course (1 hour)

Topics:

- Overview of the FEMA public assistance program
- Pre-disaster recovery planning
- Key milestones and pitfalls in recovery operations
- Best practices for local jurisdictions and partners

Participants

- Local government senior officials and staff
- Emergency managers
- Local government finance managers
- Public works and utility managers
- Public power managers
- Healthcare non-profit managers
- School district administrators
- Public information officers
- Senior officials, leaders, and local staff
- Private non-profits

Continuing Education and Professional Credits 0.4 CEUs



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TRAINING & TESTING - AEM/CEM CERTIFICATON PREPARTORY COURSE

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) will be offering the AEM/CEM preparatory exam course from 0800 to 1300 and the AEM/CEM Exam from 0830 to 1000. The cost of the preparatory course and exam fee are NOT included with your registration fee. Registrants who indicate they would like to attend the prep course and/or take the exam will also need to register directly with IAEM at: <https://www.iaem.org/cvweb/cgi-bin/eventsdll.dll/EventInfo?sessionaltcd=082525PREP>; to finalize their registration. The registration deadline is TBD. Onsite registration is not available.

Summary:

What emergency manager hasn't worked through a long or challenging after-action review process following a real-world incident? Drawing on years of experience with after-action reviews and continuous improvement, a panel of state and local emergency managers will discuss their approaches to completing after-action reviews. FEMA's Continuous Improvement Technical Assistance Program will moderate, and lead discussions focused on the development and success of their jurisdictions' After-Action Reports (AARs) from recent major incidents. The panelists will consider what went well and describe what they would do differently to drive more change and action through their after-action review process. The discussion will consider topics from all four continuous improvement phases described in FEMA's National Continuous Improvement Guidance (Discovery, Validation, Resolution, and Evaluation). This will include discussion of data collection and analysis, action tracking, and assessing the success of completed actions. During the discussion of each phase, attendees will be engaged through a question-and-answer session with the panelists and moderator.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will learn more about the continuous improvement process as described in FEMA's National Continuous Improvement Guidance.
- Participants will engage in peer-to-peer learning on approaches that worked well for their continuous improvement activities using recent incident after-action reviews.
- Participants will gain tactical knowledge of continuous improvement principles that may apply to their specific work environment.

Intended Audience:

- Emergency managers at all levels, as well as those who work with non-governmental (private sector and non-profit) organizations, who engage in continuous improvement activities.



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WORKSHOP - SENIOR OFFICIALS WORKSHOP FOR ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS (MGT-312)

This workshop provides a forum for senior officials to understand strategic and executive-level issues related to all-hazards disaster preparedness, to share proven strategies and best practices, and to enhance coordination among whole community officials responsible for emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. The workshop emphasizes planning, operational coordination and public information and warning through extensive group discussions and a table-top exercise. The final outcome of the seminar is the development of an action plan to improve the preparedness posture of the community/organization.

Training Level:

- Management and Planning

Venue:

- This workshop is typically delivered at a time and place determined by the requesting jurisdiction. Each workshop, including site and curriculum delivery costs, is fully funded through DHS/FEMA's Homeland Security National Training Program.

Course Length:

- 8 hours

Workshop Topics:

- Roles and responsibilities and preparedness challenges
- Domestic preparedness resources and how to leverage them for your community.
- Homeland Security Strategic Planning as it relates to risk and needs assessment and the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for your jurisdiction.
- Executive-level incident response and recovery considerations, including medical/public health, situational appraisal, incident management (ICS), mutual aid agreements, media relations, recovery and restoration processes, Federal assistance, and business/economic recovery.
- Includes a practical exercise tailored for the jurisdiction(s) as the catalyst to generate discussion of policy and emergency operations center activities required to support the incident commander's and state/federal government requirements related to an all-hazard, catastrophic incident.

Continuing Education Credits:

- IACET - 0.6 CEUs

For more information contact: TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE – link to be provided

Course Materials:

Participants receive an executive handbook on all-hazards preparedness. This reference book contains chapters on:

- The importance of all-hazards preparedness and the “right” questions to ask during an emergency situation.
- The National Response Framework
- Local Government Partner Guides
- ESF and Support Annexes
- Working with the media Overviews of:
 - The Stafford Act Support to States
 - DOD Support to Domestic Incidents; and



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- Federal Support in Non-Stafford Act events

Participants:

This workshop is intended for elected and appointed senior officials from a local jurisdiction, but may also include executives from other community entities, both public and private, that are likely to be involved in a disaster response, including:

- Directors of local response agencies
- Chiefs of departments: fire, law, EMS, HazMat, public works, water, public health, health care, emergency management, Governmental administrative disciplines/services
- Public Information Officers
- Resident federal agency representatives (FBI, BATF, Secret Service, FEMA, TSA)
- CEOs of hospitals
- College and university representatives
- School district superintendents
- Airport and port facility managers
- DoD installation commanders and representatives
- Stadium and sports facility managers and directors

Class Size:

- Approximately 70 participants

BUSINESS MEETING - UASI POC ANNUAL MEETING

Annual business meeting for the official Points of Contact (POC's) only. Meeting and lunch sponsored by Partner Forces (Silver Sponsor).

TRAINING – TACTICAL RESPONSE TO SUICIDE BOMBING INCIDENTS (TRSBI), 1.5 HOUR COURSE

The course provides law enforcement officers, tactical operators, and law enforcement supervisors and command staff with the knowledge and skills to implement response strategies for active suicide bombers and post-blast incidents. Participants are presented with information regarding criminal incidents versus terrorist incidents and the mindset and tactics necessary to respond to and mitigate the effects of a suicide bomber. This information is presented using case studies of incidents within the United States and discussions regarding the lessons learned from these incidents.

Presenter:

John Stamatopolous spent 28.5 years with the Tucson Police Department, holding positions as a SWAT operator, sergeant, lieutenant, captain and tactical team commander for over 16 years. Mr. Stamatopolous retired at the rank of Captain, as the department's Executive Officer overseeing day-to-day operations. He has been an explosive breacher since 1995 and successfully conducted 643 high risk tactical operations. Mr. Stamatopolous has trained and mentored thousands of law enforcement officers in support of DHS/FEMA and Department of State initiatives. He has provided training across the United States, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East pertaining to QRF tactics, explosive breaching, hostage rescue, vehicle assault, and tactical communication.



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TRAINING – DRONE ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE TACTICS, 1.5 HOUR COURSE

The course presents emergency personnel with the methodologies used to detect, identify, track, assess, respond and report Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) activity. Participants are provided information on the current UAS criminal and terrorist threat, and analog and electronic UAS detection techniques.

Presenter:

Dan Delgado spent 22 years with the FBI, serving as the Unit Chief at FBI Headquarter WMD Directorate, Critical Infrastructure, Emerging Threats and Technologies Unit, responsible for identifying malicious or intentional misuse of advanced or evolving technologies, and directing proactive measures to conduct outreach to prevent/prepare for potential WMD attacks utilizing these new technologies. An experienced helicopter pilot, Mr. Delgado served 15 years in the US Coast Guard (USCG), logging 2000 flight hours, performing law enforcement and search and rescue missions, rescuing over 30 lives at sea.

CASE STUDY – CURRENT TRENDS IN THE MISUSE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (UAS) TACTICS, 1.5 HOURS

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Presenter:

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PRESENTATION - LAW ENFORCEMENT USE OF DRONES

This 4-hour presentation by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Drone Team will showcase the evolving role of drones in law enforcement operations, highlighting their diverse applications in enhancing public safety and security. Drones provide critical support in the protection of soft targets and crowded places, offering real-time surveillance and quick deployment in emergencies. By enhancing information and intelligence sharing, drones enable better situational awareness for first responders and decision-makers. We will explore their effectiveness in combating domestic violent extremism and hostage/barricade situations.

Additionally, drones strengthen community preparedness and resilience by supporting disaster response and critical infrastructure protection. The session will also focus on how drones can contribute to election security, helping to monitor polling stations and detect potential threats. Best practices and lessons learned will be shared, emphasizing the integration of drones into counterterrorism efforts, and policy changes affecting first responders.

Further, if allowed by the venue, the presentation will offer practical exercises with indoor drones where attendees will get the opportunity to fly the drones we use. We will also explore using drones to enhance law enforcement effectiveness while ensuring adherence to ethical and legal guidelines. Join us to explore how these innovative technologies are reshaping modern law enforcement.



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Learning Objectives:

- Current uses of drones in Law Enforcement
- Lessons learned over the last 8 years of having a drone team.
- The future of drone technology in the US.

Presenters:

- Sam Byrd has been with the Sheriff's Office for 28 years. He worked as a Deputy in corrections and patrol before becoming a Cpl. in communications and civil. Sergeant in corrections, community relations, and patrol. He started on the UAS Team in 2016. He has been a Lt. for 3 years working corrections and currently the third shift patrol Lt. and UAS Team Lt.
- John Rautio has been with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office for 28 1/2 years. He started as a Deputy in Corrections and was there 10 years before going to Patrol. After 7 years on Patrol, he went to the Detective Bureau for approximately 7 years. Next, Deputy Rautio went to CID (Community Intervention & Diversion) for 3 years. Currently he is the BWC (Body Worn Camera) Deputy for Support Services. Deputy Rautio has been on the Franklin County Drone Team since 2016.
- Detective John R Harris, with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, has 22 years of law enforcement experience. Before getting hired at FCSO, he worked for the Utica Police Department, Licking Memorial Police Department, and Obetz Police Department. At FCSO, he has worked in corrections and patrol and is currently in the investigations division. He has been a part of UAS's (Drone) special team, for the past two years.

BENCHMARKING: PREPAREDNESS GRANTS MEET UP FOR STATE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES REPRESENTATIVES

The presentation will actually be a discussion among representatives of the FEMA Preparedness Grants State Administrative Agencies (SAA 's). FEMA hosts a town hall each year at the NHSC to discuss topics and provide information from the federal government perspective related to the FEMA Preparedness Grant Programs. The meeting request that is submitted today would be for representatives from SAA 's to have a discussion among their fellow SAA colleagues in order to meet, discuss best practices, and form a working group that will facilitate further colleague discussion, and assist new colleagues. The basic format is to identify an experienced colleague for each of the FEMA Preparedness Grant Programs as a subject matter expert, which could facilitate discussion, or answer questions for their program of expertise. The request for this session should take place hopefully prior to the FEMA Town Hall so that SAA 's can assist other colleagues with items related to state administration that don 't involve matters related to FEMA. Hopefully this session will allow the FEMA town hall to be more focused on those strictly federal government to SAA related matters.



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PANEL DISCUSSION - THE POWER OF GOOD DATA: OPERATIONALIZING STAKEHOLDER PREPAREDNESS REVIEW OUTCOMES

In today's complex emergency management landscape, flexible and effective data utilization is key to improving preparedness and response outcomes. This presentation will highlight innovative updates to the Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) tools presented at the 2024 conference in Miami, focusing on how to operationalize data to drive better preparedness outcomes. We will showcase enhancements to the survey tool and dashboards that provide more actionable insights into regional capabilities and gaps.

Participants will see how these innovations have streamlined data entry into the Universal Reporting Tool (URT), ensuring efficient, accurate, and timely information for local, state, and national stakeholders. We will explore community-specific workshops aimed at empowering local jurisdictions to interpret data and enhance targeted preparedness strategies. Additionally, we'll demonstrate how to use Esri mapping tools to create heat maps that visualize core capability strengths and weaknesses across a region, fostering more informed decision-making and resource allocation.

This session is designed for emergency management professionals and entity leaders looking to translate capabilities data into actionable preparedness outcomes, with a focus on increasing regional resilience through informed collaboration and data-driven strategies. Join us as we explore the power of good data in operationalizing stakeholder preparedness outcomes.

Learning Objectives:

- Demonstrate effective data utilization by highlighting how to leverage updated THIRA/SPR tools to direct data-driven preparedness outcomes that strengthen regional capabilities and improve the efficiency of existing resources.
- Demonstrate how entities or agencies may enhance local preparedness through workshops and visualization by teaching partners how to interpret data effectively.
- Demonstrate how to contextualize data - Guide participants in identifying key data trends and gaps to maximize return on investment in addressing critical vulnerabilities.

Presenters:

- Michelle Gillies is a seasoned leader in emergency management and program development, currently serving in UW Medicine's Mission Forward Care Delivery Operational Excellence team and as EOC Planning Section Chief.
- Darvan Cosby is a retired military veteran with over 20 years of service, including roles as a Civil Affairs Specialist, Ranger, and Peacekeeping Operator for the United Nations. He serves as an Emergency Management Coordinator with Pierce County, leading multiple projects, including the THIRA/SPR, Regional Critical Transportation Plan, and community outreach initiatives.
- Eric Smith
- Debbie Hunt is the Exercise and Assessments Coordinator for King County Emergency Management (KCEM), overseeing the KCEM exercise program and coordinating Seattle UASI's THIRA/SPR data submission. She also consults with county 441 departments on exercise planning and implementation.



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TRAINING – HOMEMADE EXPLOSIVES: AWARENESS, RECOGNITION, AND RESPONSE, 1.5 HOUR COURSE

The course is designed to provide emergency first responders with the knowledge necessary to recognize and respond to incidents involving Homemade Explosives (HME). Emergency first responders are presented with information on the identification of HME explosive precursor chemicals, HME manufacturing indicators, HME exposure indicators, and pre-detonation and post-detonation response actions. Throughout this course, emergency first responders discuss how to implement safe response strategies when recognizing the presence of HME indicators; understanding these response actions is critical to mitigating the hazards associated with HME.

Presenter: TBD

PANEL DISCUSSION – STRATEGIC FORESIGHT AND FUTURES FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

This panel will explore how the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is leveraging strategic foresight to enhance preparedness and resilience. As homeland security threats evolve due to technological advancements, geopolitical shifts, demographic changes, and extreme weather events, the ability to anticipate and imagine future operational environments and be able to adapt is critical. The DHS Science & Technology Directorate (S&T) is using a foresight framework to enhance collaboration with DHS Components, the interagency, national laboratories, academic centers of excellence, international organizations, and state, local, tribal and territorial partners. A consistent framework aids in systematically monitoring science and technology advancements and broader trends and assessing implications to inform strategy and operational planning. This panel will share current approaches in foresight and collaboration, highlight key trends shaping their respective domains and engage the audience on how the homeland security enterprise can leverage foresight practices to prepare for future developments while addressing near-term needs.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand how DHS Components are applying Strategic Foresight. Demonstrate how entities or agencies may enhance local preparedness through workshops and visualization by teaching partners how to interpret data effectively.
- Identify new opportunities for the homeland security enterprise to engage in strategic foresight activities and products.
- Review key trends shaping the future of homeland security

Presenters:

- Kristin Wyckoff, Senior Advisor/Program Director; U.S. Department of Homeland Security – Science & Technology
- Zachary Schulman, Foresight & Futures; U.S. Coast Guard



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FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 HOST CITIES WORKSHOP

This is a closed, by invitation only meeting for the cities hosting the FIFA games in 2026. At this meeting, cities will discuss their planning efforts and how to coordinate efforts across sites.



FIFA World Cup 2026 Host Cities

48 Teams Competing in 104 matches in 16 host cities across 3 North American countries broken up into 3 regions for close to 40 days. Previous 7 World Cups had 32 teams and 64 games for close to 30 days.

- United States
 - Atlanta(Central Region)
 - Boston(East Region)
 - Dallas (Central Region)
 - Houston(Central Region)
 - Kansas City(Central Region)
 - Los Angeles(West Region)
 - Miami(East Region)
 - New York/New Jersey(East Region)
 - Philadelphia(East Region)
 - San Francisco(West Region)
 - Seattle(West Region)
- Canada
 - Toronto (East Region)
 - Vancouver (West Region)
- Mexico
 - Guadalajara (West Region)
 - Mexico City (Central Region)
 - Monterrey (Central Region)



"2002 was the only other World Cup to be hosted by multiple countries (Japan/S. Korea)"

PANEL DISCUSSION: FINDINGS FROM RECENT INCIDENT AFTER-ACTION REVIEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION: AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PANEL

Have you ever wondered how other jurisdictions handled an incident response or recovery issue, but couldn't find that information? During this session, a panel of state and local emergency managers will share their findings from recent incident after-action reviews and their approaches for completing those reviews. FEMA's Continuous Improvement Technical Assistance Program will moderate a discussion focused on sharing incident after-action review findings, how to develop findings, and how to leverage findings to drive change. The panelists will consider what went well and describe what they would do differently during future response and recovery operations. The discussion will also consider their after-action review process in connection to the four continuous improvement phases described in FEMA's National Continuous Improvement Guidance (Discovery, Validation, Resolution, and Evaluation), including how to collect and analyze data, to track resulting actions, and to assess the success of completed actions. During the discussion, attendees will be engaged in a question-and-answer session with the panelists and moderator.



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Learning Objectives:

- Participants will engage in peer-to-peer learning based on recent incident after-action review findings and approaches for managing recent incident after-action reviews.
- Participants will gain tactical knowledge from other jurisdictions regarding continuous improvement principles that may apply to their specific work environment.
- Participants will learn more about the continuous improvement process as described in FEMA's National Continuous Improvement Guidance.

Intended Audience:

- Emergency managers at all levels, as well as those who work with non-governmental (private sector and non-profit) organizations, who engage in continuous improvement activities.

MOBILE COMMAND BUS RALLY AT THE 2025 NATIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE

Location:

Between the two buildings at the Washington Convention Center, L St NW (between 7th & 9th Streets NW)

Schedule: 0900 – 1500 hours daily

- Tuesday, August 26, 2025 – Law Enforcement Mobile Command Buses
- Wednesday, August 27, 2025 – Fire and EMS Mobile Command Buses
- Thursday, August 28, 2025 – Emergency Management Mobile Command Buses
- Daily Live Communications Drill (1300 – 1400 hours) Exercising ICS 205 & P.A.C.E. Plans

Event Highlights:

- Explore & Interact: Enter and experience Regional Mobile Command Vehicles from local, state, and federal jurisdictions for credentialed conference attendees.
- Interoperability Drills: Live communications exercises to test agency coordination across different frequency bands
- P.A.C.E. Implementation: Utilizing the National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG) for multi-agency collaboration and leveraging other District and State systems.
- Showcasing NCR Capabilities: Featuring assets from the National Capital Region (NCR) Communications Interoperability Group (CIG)
- Private-Sector Integration: Deployable emergency response units from AT&T, Verizon Wireless, T-Mobile, D.C. Water, PEPCO Power, and Washington Gas
- This event presents a hands-on opportunity for conference attendees to witness real-time interoperability efforts and explore the future of communications readiness in public safety.



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PRESENTATIONS IN WAITING –

Note: These are the presentation candidates, not all of these presentations will make the final selection

- **Active Shooter** – “Responding to Individuals with Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs During Active Shooter Events” (43), with Kelly Boyd; Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth
- **Active Shooter** – “Managing the Aftermath of an Active Shooter Incident” (70), with James P. Moore and Scott C. Gauvin; Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth
- **Active Shooter** – “Trauma-Informed Training: Preparing Communities for Mass Casualty Scenarios” (97), with Alex Saragusa and Ashley McCunniff; Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth
- **Active Shooter** – “Lab and Operational Assessments of Walk-Through Screening Systems” (173), with Matthew R. Aderholdt, Sr.; Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth
- **Active Shooter** – “Case Study: Dayton, Ohio Oregon District Active Shooter Incident and Post-Incident Response” (222), with David Gerstner; Moderator: Holly Hollingsworth
- **Best Practices and Lessons Learned** – “Soraya” (65), with Soraya Sutherlin; Moderator: Blake Fisher
- **Best Practices and Lessons Learned** – “Integrating a Response with Federal, State, and Local agencies; A Look inside Houston Airports Emergency Management” (128), with Frank Ciaccio and Austen McMillin; Moderator: Blake Fisher
- **Best Practices and Lessons Learned** – “Front Line Insights: Lessons from the Trump Rally in Butler, PA— EMA EMS Preparation, Response, and Challenges” (133), with Robert (Rob) McLafferty and Richard (Rick) Lippert; Moderator: Blake Fisher
- **Best Practices and Lessons Learned** – “Local Solutions, Federal Support: Innovative Approaches to Domestic Security Preparedness” (203), with Robert Collins; Moderator: Blake Fisher
- **Best Practices and Lessons Learned** – “From Research to Action: Best Practices and Lessons Learned for Effective Resilience Strategic Planning” (227), with Ashley Reed and Asia Jones; Moderator: Blake Fisher
- **Best Practices and Lessons Learned** – “Gearing up for an NSSE: Chicago’s administrative and operations efforts for the DNC” (259), with Natalie Gutierrez, Jamar Sullivan, and Duane Devries; Moderator: Blake Fisher
- **Best Practices and Lessons Learned** – TBD Moderator: Blake Fisher
- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)** – “Motive, Means, and Opportunity: The Timeless Trifecta of Terrorist Tactics ” (19), with Kirk Yeager; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)** – “Bridging the Gap Between the FBI and Disaster Preparedness and Response Community: What is Your Plan?” (38); with Ms. Jessica Young; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)** – “Advanced Airborne Hazmat Modeling for Urban Environments” (105), with Adam Moses; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)** – “Protecting Your Community From Radiological Terrorism” (123), with Mr. Jeff Corcoran; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru



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- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)** – “Saving Our Own: Rethinking Urban Search and Rescue after a Domestic Nuclear Detonation” (143), with Robert ‘Bob’ Wagner; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)** – “Recent Advances in Novichok Preparedness and Recovery (152)” with Joseph Zarzycki, Carol Brevett, and Douglas Sommerville; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)** – “Half-life After Death” (192), with Courtney Eckstein, Gavan Hebner, and Adam Reef; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)** – “Nightmare on Applegate! Responding to the Unknown In the Ville” (213), with Edward J. Meiman III (Jody), Anthony Roberts, Dean Harley, and Scott Claxon; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)** – “Jordan Shield: Lessons Learned in the Port of Aqaba” (251), with Robert ‘Bob’ Wagner; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “Disrupting the Terrorist Recruitment Cycle: Minimizing Force, Maximizing Prevention” (9), with Ahmet Yayla; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “Active Shooter - Oregon District, Dayton Ohio” (26), with Stephen Clark; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “The Public Health-Informed Approach in Action: Successes of Multi-Disciplinary Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Teams in New York State” (53), with Paula Granger and Frazer Lonie; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “Building and Sustaining a Threat Management Team” (208), with Eric William and Todd K. Baxter; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “The Chain of Violent Radicalization - A Public Health Framework for Countering Violent Extremism” (64), with Sloan Grissom; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “Mission: Secure Oklahoma Schools” (103), with Michael Fike; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “Regional Strategies for Combating Domestic Violent Extremism: A Northern California Perspective” (112), with Margaret Anand, Noël Lipana, Greg Concepcion, and Nicholas Silva; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “Incel Extremism - Cases and Threat Assessment Tools” (114), with Chuck Balaj; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “Unveiling Online Extremism: Assessing Digital Threats and Building Resilience” (230), with Dr. Allison McDowell-Smith and Riley Turner; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Combating Violent Extremism** – “Women in Terrorism: Understanding the Role of Gender in Violent Extremism” (205), with Dr. Terry Oroszi; Moderator: Larry Kraus
- **Community Preparedness and Resilience** – “From Awareness to Action: Empowering Teens to Lead Flood Safety Efforts in the District” (108), with Vermecia R. Alsop; Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn



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- **Community Preparedness and Resilience** – “A Community Lifeline Case Study with the City of Houston” (151), with Silas J. Devine Jr. and David Conley; Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn
- **Community Preparedness and Resilience** – “Whole Community Preparedness for Connected Cities and Communities” (165), with Michael Dunaway, Zachary Smith, Laura Hershon, Scott McCallum; Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn
- **Community Preparedness and Resilience** – “Partners in Preparedness: Tangible Approaches to Protect Houses of Worship” (176), with Daniel S. Avondoglio and Mayya Saab; Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn
- **Community Preparedness and Resilience** – “Closing the Gaps: Strategic Initiatives to Strengthen Emergency Preparedness and Resilience” (248), with Shawna Parks; Moderator: Elizabeth Dunn
- **Counterterrorism** – “Tackling a Trafficker with a Team and Taking Their Treasures” (115), with Heidi Chance, Moderator: Jason Stewart
- **Counterterrorism** – “How to Plan for the Consequences from Long-Duration, Wide-Spread Interruptions of Lifeline Services without Crawling Under Your Bed to Hide: The Blue Book Project” (129), with Thomas Berry, Jamie Biglow, Josh Filler, and Dawn Thomas; Moderator: Jason Stewart
- **Counterterrorism** – “Natural Resource Exploitation as a Means to Diversify Funding for Terrorism and Other Illicit Activities” (180), with Kathryn Connelly, Sean Evans, and Cary Davis; Moderator: Jason Stewart
- **Counterterrorism** – “Structured Analytic Exploration of the Threats to the Homeland” (190), with Sean Evans and Kathryn Connelly; Moderator: Jason Stewart
- **Counterterrorism** – “Stopping Fentanyl through Technologies and Partnerships” (216) with Paul McDonagh, Travis Brown, Kamal Bherwani, and Dan Bontz; Moderator: Jason Stewart
- **Cybersecurity** – “Cybersecurity Policy Compliance Automation in Critical Information Infrastructure Protection” (74), with Jemima Owusu-Tweneboah; Moderator: Adam Monsolve
- **Cybersecurity** – “Best Practices for Implementing Quantum-Resistant Security” (78), with Gina Scinta; Moderator: Adam Monsolve
- **Cybersecurity** – “Enhancing the Cybersecurity Workforce through Comprehensive Training and Research Initiatives” (121), with Jason Maughan, Thomas Edgar, Alex Reniers, and Greg Trahan; Moderator: Adam Monsolve
- **Cybersecurity** – “Securing our Communities: Addressing IoT Risk” (186), with Laura Hershon, TBD, Kat Megas, and Nelson Gonzalez; Moderator: Adam Monsolve
- **Cybersecurity** – “Cyber Incident Response Planning for Healthcare Coalitions - A Case Study” (219), with Sloan Grissom and Karishma Kumar; Moderator: Adam Monsolve
- **Cybersecurity** – “Strategic Cyber Defense: Bridging Intelligence, Security, and Community Resilience” (231), with Mike Asencio and Dr. Alex Crowther; Moderator: Adam Monsolve
- **Cybersecurity** – “Understanding Risk and Cybersecurity” (238), with David Metz, Sasha Romanosky, Henry Willis, and Chad Heitzenrater; Moderator: Adam Monsolve



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- **Emergency Management** – “Best Practices for a “Bulletproof” AAR for Real-world or Exercises that will Actually be Accepted!” (138), with Derek Rowan and Katie Kitzmiller; Moderator: John Antapasis
- **Emergency Management** – “From Bridges to Bourbon Street: How SBA Partners to Support Community Recovery During Disaster” (147), with Chris Stallings; Moderator: John Antapasis
- **Emergency Management** – “From Haywood to DC: Lessons Learned from Hurricane Helene Deployment” (197), with Alexandra Lampson, Carolyn Mejia, Alex Coutroulis, and Jeremy Bersin; Moderator: John Antapasis
- **Emergency Management** – “San Diego Flooding - An Experiment in Equity” (206), with Jeff Toney; Moderator: John Antapasis
- **Emergency Management** – “Developing a Comprehensive and Sustainable Local Sheltering Capability for a Changing World” (212), with Elliott Reep; Moderator: John Antapasis
- **Emergency Management** – “Large Scale Special Event Planning National and Local Perspective” (217), Moderator and presenter: John Antapasis
- **Emergency Management** – “Navigating the Technology Procurement Landscape: Tips and Tricks” (237), with Taran Nicholas, Chris Vaughan, and Conor McClintock; Moderator: John Antapasis
- **Emergency Management** – “Learning Your Lessons: Using Esri to increase efficiency and leverage information from After Action Reports” (247), with Michelle Gillies and Eric Smith; Moderator: John Antapasis
- **Emergency Management** – “Diving into the Shallow End” (249), with Amy Hoffman and Tristan Reed; Moderator: John Antapasis
- **Emergency Management** – “2024 Tampa Police Department response to Hurricane Helene and Milton” (257), with Jason Dillaha; Moderator: John Antapasis
- **Emerging Technologies** – “Electronic Storage Detection Canines: Roles in Homeland Security Cases” (12), with Stephanie Cassidy; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Emerging Technologies** – “Navigating the AI Landscape: Knowledge Engineering” (93), with Claire Allen; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Emerging Technologies** – “Airport Modernization” (142), with Timothy Tyler; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Emerging Technologies** – “‘DroneGate’: The Response to UAS in New Jersey” (154), with Teddy Damour, Michael Ward, Jesse Hartnett, and Christopher Deibert; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Emerging Technologies** – “AI You Can Trust: Why Explanation Matters” (155), with Amidu Kamara; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Emerging Technologies** – “Can we Use a Robot for That? Evaluating Unmanned Systems for Responder Missions” (169), with Kris Dooley, Mitchell Roberts, David Smith, and Michael Pavone; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Emerging Technologies** – “The Integration of Robotics into Public Safety” (179), with Dan Munsey and Jeff Alexy; Moderator: Susanna Taddei



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- **Emerging Technologies** – “Managing AI-enabled Threats to Critical Infrastructure and Communities During Disasters: a Review of Existing Impacts and Emergent Vulnerabilities” (255), with Sonny S. Patel, Doug Jordan, Julian Neyland, and Timothy B. Erickson; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Emerging Technologies** – “Tools and Technologies to Enhance Incident Response” (258), with Paul McDonagh, Brad Schmidt, Michael Murphy, and Brandon Borden; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Tracking Digital Shadows: The Investigation of School Threats and the Rise of Online Extremism” (10), with Joe O’Barr; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Modernizing Election Threat Sharing: GIS-Driven Collaboration for Homeland Security” (87), with Mike Sena, Carl Walter, Jay Moseley, and John Cohen; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Fusion Center Success Stories: A Highlight Reel of Private Sector Engagement and Intelligence and Information Sharing” (91), with Clint Ladd, Cleyton Bray, and Kimberly McDonald; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Tactical Intelligence at the Border; On the Street: Determining Gang Affiliation Through Tattoo Symbolology” (98), with Dr. David Byrne; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Multi-jurisdiction Situational Awareness—Better Safety and Security in the National Capital Region” (99), with Matt Tripp; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Information and Intelligence Sharing Initiatives from the Intelligence Community and The National Coordinator” (135), with Ewa Clark, Erika Karolewski, and Dr. Ashley Pennington; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Fake News, Real Problems: A Guide to Surviving False and Misleading Information” (156), with Jamie Biglow and Lauren Hagy; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Leveraging Fusion Center Intelligence to Support Fire/EMS, Emergency Management, and CBRNE Partners” (159), with Alex Cardella; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Making Intelligence Accessible and Unbiased” (168), with Dr. Rosemary McDonnell and Dr. Trevor Knight; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Enhancing Information and Intelligence Sharing** – “Florida Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources Best Practices” (254), with Jason Knowles, Tommy Capobianco, Doug Pasley, and Matt Simons; Moderator: Siobhan Carroll
- **Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services** – “AI, VC, EM: Future-Focused Innovation in Emergency Management” (63), with Tyler Felous, Felipe Millon, Bill Clerico, and Steven Torrence; Moderator: Robert Collins
- **Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services** – “Leveraging FEMA’s IMAAC and CBRN Responder to Enhance Interagency Coordination During a CBRN Incident” (94), with Sloan Grissom; Moderator: Robert Collins
- **Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services** – “Utility-Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems – the Technology, the Pros, Cons, Risks and the Community Concerns” (119), with Michael Lambert; Moderator: Robert Collins
- **Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services** – “Trust, but Verify”, the Future of First Responder Identity and Credential Verification Technology” (122), with Dr. Mark Landahl, Manu Sporny, and Mr. Roy Dunn; Moderator: Robert Collins
- **Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services** – “Securing the Chemical Supply Chain” (181), with Sun McMasters; Moderator: Robert Collins
- **Fire Rescue/Emergency Medical Services** – “Automated Support Tools For Emergency Operation Center Managers and First Responders” (189), with Paul McDonagh, Michael Chard, and Mark Sloan, Moderator: Robert Collins



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- **Grants and Program Management** – “FEMA: Procurement Under Grants Introduction and Overview” (52), with Brian Wagner; Moderator: Dawn Heartsong
- **Grants and Program Management** – “PROTECT - Planning Response and Operations Taskforce to Enhance Cybersecurity” (131), with Alexandria Swanson; Moderator: Dawn Heartsong
- **Grants and Program Management** – “Measuring the Unmeasurable: Debunking Myths for Effective Preparedness and Response Metrics in Homeland Security Grant Programs” (149), with Garry Briesse; Moderator: Dawn Heartsong
- **Grants and Program Management** – “Operation Stonegarden Summit” (161), with Susan Dzbanks; Moderator: Dawn Heartsong
- **Grants and Program Management** – “SLCGP Summit” (163), with Susan Dzbanks; Moderator: Dawn Heartsong
- **Grants and Program Management** – “Paying for Terrorism Prevention Programs: DHS Grants to Help You” (202), with Ryan Garfinkel, John Iorio, and David O’Leary; Moderator: Dawn Heartsong
- **Grants and Program Management** – “FEMA Fundamentals of Grants Management Course Overview” (232), with Kevin Watts and William Spencer; Moderator: Dawn Heartsong
- **Grants and Program Management** – “From Risk to Resilience: 20 Years of Nonprofit Security Grant Success in the District of Columbia and Across the National Capital Region” (250), with Bettina Coleman, Charles Madden, and Cembrye A. Ross; Moderator: Dawn Heartsong
- **Grants and Program Management** – “DHS Town Hall” (260), with Kerry Thomas; Moderators: Dawn Heartsong & Susan Dzbanks
- **Mental Health** – “Navigating Insider Threats: Lessons from the Alaska Airlines Flight 2059 Incident and Cross-Sector Applications” (3), with Jason D. Wallis; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Mental Health** – “Trauma Recovery, Resilience, and Wellness” (14), with Dan Willis; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Mental Health** – “Examining the Impacts of Migration on the Mental Health of EMS Clinicians in Arizona” (27), with Christine Crudo Blackburn; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Mental Health** – “Lessons From A Practical Disaster Mental Health Response Team Training Exercise” (29), with Dr. Alfred S. Titus, Jr.; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Mental Health** – “New York State First Responder Mental Health Needs Assessment” (31), with Terry Hastings, Amy Nitza, and Dr. Robin Jacobowitz; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Mental Health** – “The Shift That Never Ended - Stories of Resiliency” (100), with Einar J. Gustafson; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Mental Health** – “Learning Agility as a Critical Competency for Crisis Leaders: Evidence from High-Risk Environments”, (136), with Dr. Scott Drexler; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Mental Health** – “Facility Dog Programs: Providing Paws-itive Benefits for Staff Resilience” (242), with Dr. Trevor C. Knight, Tiffany Peterson, and Ronit Reguer; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Mental Health** – TBD Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Personnel, Policy, and Law** – “Rewriting the Rules of Free Speech: Potential Legislative and Judicial Solutions to Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition, 535 U.S. 234 (2002)” (69), with Thomas Cilla and Joseph Remy; Moderator: Irene Navis



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- **Personnel, Policy, and Law** – “Interagency Board: Multi-Gas Detector Acquisition Guidance” (75), with Douglas E. Wolfe; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Personnel, Policy, and Law** – “Building Trust through Transparency: Body-Worn Cameras in Modern Day Law Enforcement” (113), with Ervey Gutierrez and Lauren Wallenhorst; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Personnel, Policy, and Law** – “Effective and Proactive Risk Management during Involuntary Employee Separations” (172) with Daryle Hernandez and Jenny Stone; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Personnel, Policy, and Law** – “Reinventing Policing from the Inside-Out: The Story of How Metro Nashville PD Invested in their Emerging leaders and X Number of Powerful Lessons Learned” (183), with Michelle Richter, Joshua Blaisdell, Sam McGhee, and Anne McGhee Stinson; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Personnel, Policy, and Law** – “Instituting Drone Traffic Patterns, Ensuring Effective Enforcement” (185), with Jens Moe; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Personnel, Policy, and Law** – “Reforming Intelligence for Law Enforcement: A Capitol Police Perspective” (191), with Ravi Satkalmi; Moderator: Irene Navis
- **Planning** – “Stop, Collaborate, and Listen. Integrating Homeland Security into Emergency Management Programs” (2), with Jessica Adams-Lopes; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal
- **Planning** – “Integrated Response Building to Become One” (7), with Bryce Houlton; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal
- **Planning** – “National Special Security Event (NSSE): Cross-Sector Coordination of the 2024 Democratic National Convention” (56), with Thomas Henkey and Robert Long; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal
- **Planning** – “Homeland Security Executive Committee Regional Priority Setting and Resourcing Process” (158), with Sarah Jewell, Adair Ravencraft, and Jacob Graham; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal
- **Planning** – “21st Century Consequence Management Planning: What's Different, What's the Same, and Why We Need to Step Up Our Game” (174), with Dawn Thomas; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal
- **Planning** – “Enhancing Public Safety in Large-Scale Events: A Unified Approach to Planning, Coordination, and Response” (178), with Robert Hevia, Alejandro R. Fernandez, and Um Set Ramos; Moderator: Jennifer Schaal
- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “Colorado Whole of State Critical Infrastructure Protection Program” (25), with Kevin McElyea and Thomas Banker; Moderator: Jorge Torres
- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “Offshore Ports of Refuge All Hazards Support of Disaster Disabled Onshore Port Systems” (72), with John Harpe; Moderator: Jorge Torres
- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “Research and Development for Border Security of the Future!” (80), with Matthew Barger; Moderator: Jorge Torres
- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “H-GAC's Grid Fragility Initiative Concepts and Tools for Assessing Emergency Management/Response Vulnerability to a Power Outage” (118), Michael Lambert; Moderator: Jorge Torres
- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “TSA” (120), with David Browne; Moderator: Jorge Torres



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- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “Crisis to Coordination: Protecting Critical Infrastructure from the New Year’s Attack to the Super Bowl and Mardi Gras” (160), with Richard Chatman, Noel Bellas, Douglas J. Pasley, and Oliver Zakrzewski; Moderator: Jorge Torres
- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “Paving the Way for a More Resilient Future” (182), with Scott Breor; Moderator: Jorge Torres
- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “Good Old-Fashioned Sabotage: The Historic Precedent and Unappreciated Threat of State-Sponsored Sabotage” (188), with Pete Owen; Moderator: Jorge Torres
- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “Protecting Our Future: Practical Data Loss Prevention for K-12 Schools” (194), with VJ Rao; Moderator: Jorge Torres
- **Protecting Soft Targets and Critical Infrastructure** – “Enhancing Critical Infrastructure Resilience in the Nation’s Capital” (199), with Alexandra Lampson, Gregory Vernon, and William McNamara; Moderator: Jorge Torres
- **Pop-up Track** – “A Community Crisis: Exploring Man-made and Natural Disaster Planning, Preparedness, Training & Response” (218), with Kelly Muklevicz, Roger Roberts, Lorea Arostegui, and Molly Maurer; Moderator: TBD
- **Public Health and Medical** – “Public Health During a Chemical Incident” (44), with Jennifer Kiger and Alison Hare; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Public Health and Medical** – “Utilizing Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) to distribute Medical Countermeasures from the Strategic National Stockpile” (15), with Trey Frankovich; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Public Health and Medical** – “Safeguarding our Pediatric Healthcare Environment: Strategies for Workplace Violence Prevention” (30), with Travis Witt, Jessica Marchione, and Dr. Jennifer Katzenstein; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Public Health and Medical** – “Public Health During a Chemical Incident” (44), with Jennifer Kiger and Alison Hare; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Public Health and Medical** – “2024 Democratic National Convention: Lessons Learned in Political Mass-Gathering Event Medicine for Future US Cities in Today’s Ever Change Threat Landscape” (66), Nicholas Cozzi and Juan Hernandez; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Public Health and Medical** – “Fatality Management: Not Just About Picking Up the Bodies” (95), with Bryan Hoffmann; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Public Health and Medical** – “National Security and Surge: Preparing America’s Healthcare System through the National Disaster Medical System Pilot Program” (130), with Adeteju Adeniji Ajibade, Dr. Clark Lee, Dr. Emily Post, and Alison Ng; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru
- **Public Health and Medical** – “Whole Community Centered Health Security: The Intersection of Hospital Preparedness and Homeland Security” (193), with Jack Leeber, TBD, Joshua Merson, and Dr. Eileen F. Searle; Moderator: Jay Rajyaguru



2025 National Homeland Security Association

Walter E. Washington Convention Center
801 Allen Y. Lew Place NW, Washington, DC 20001

Draft Conference Agenda



- **Training and Exercise** – “The Future of Public Safety Training: Virtual Reality Training for Success” (24), with Jason J. Kepp; Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Training and Exercise** – “Empire State of Mind: Executing Large Scale Exercises to Protect New York City Transit Hubs” (33), with Katie Joel and Meghan Dudley; Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Training and Exercise** – “Broward County/City of Sunrise CCTA Exercise” (39), with Clay Pacheco; Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Training and Exercise** – “Clery Act - Helping IHEs Plan and Train for Campus Emergencies” (54), with Christopher Tantlinger; Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Training and Exercise** – “Methods to Evaluate the Effectiveness of Tabletop Exercises” (102), with Peter T. Gaynor, John Duda, Dan Amraen, and Scott J. Glick; Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Training and Exercise** – “Exercise Funding Is Diminishing! Develop an HSEEP Board Game in Just 45 Minutes Using a Dash of AI” (139), with Derek Rowan and Katie Kitzmiller; Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Training and Exercise** – “Scenario design for functional exercises. Why Ground Truth is Critical! Wait, What's Ground Truth?” (141), with Derek Rowan and Katie Kitzmiller Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Training and Exercise** – “California Office of Emergency Services Pilots Catastrophic Earthquake Exercise with Cascading Impacts to the Health, Food, and Agriculture Sector in Partnership with the US Department of Homeland Security” (187), with Corinne Edds-Reitman, Nathan DiPillo, Thomas Waltz, and Ann Hammer; Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Training and Exercise** – “Integrating Continuity of Governmental Operations in Homeland Security Exercise: Salt Lake County's Continuity Cup” (200), with David Schuld; Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Training and Exercise** – “Gaming and Strategic Foresight Address Uncertainty in Homeland Security Decision-making” (221), with Benjamin Preston, Annette Prieto, Andrew Lauland, and Patricia Stapleton; Moderator: Sheryl Jardine
- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** – “Building a Successful Counter-Drone Program to Enhance Physical Security” (5), with Tom Adams and TBD; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** – “Domestic C-UAS Operations: Challenges and Solutions” (46), with Brandon Youngblood and L. Scott Parker; Track Lead: Susanna Taddei; Moderator: TBD
- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** – “Advancing sUAS Supply Chain Security” (77), with Benjamin Sugg; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** – “Enhancing Responder UAS Playbooks and Airspace Awareness” (224), with Paul McDonagh and Blaise Linn; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** – “Operationalizing UAS to Innovate Emergency Response” (226), with Luke Watko and Kris Dooley; Moderator: Susanna Taddei
- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** – “Advancing UAS Capabilities in the NCR: Enhancing Public Safety through Regional Collaboration” (240), with Christian Quinn, Michael Lighthiser, Douglas Miller, and Brad Woehrlen; Moderator: Susanna Taddei