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## Registration for 2017 EMAI & IERC Conference Now Open

Registration for the 2017 Emergency Management Alliance of Indiana (EMAI) and Indiana Emergency Response Commission's (IERC) joint conference is now open. IERC and EMAI will co-host the 27th annual conference—“Together We Make It Happen”—from Oct. 17 to Oct. 20 in Indianapolis.

The conference will cover a variety of topics such as crisis management in active shooter environments, animal response during disasters, the organization of hazardous materials incidents, local emergency planning committees (LEPC) 101, and the rewards and challenges of emergency management, among many others.

The EMAI, which consists of 15 board members from across the state, works to advance the emergency management profession in Indiana. The organization serves as a widespread network of

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## 2017 United Front Exercise



*IDHS District 1 Incident Commander, Gary McKay, coordinating with the Army National Guard*

On Monday May 8, 2017, more than 350 local, state and federal first responders participated in a disaster response exercise with Israeli Homefront Command. This exercise was a collaboration between the Indiana National Guard and Israeli Homefront Command as part of United Front. Since 2011, Indiana and Israel have joined in a small-group exchange program intended to improve cooperative response efforts internationally.

The scenario was an EF4 (Enhanced Fujita scale) tornado that came through Merrillville, Ind., and struck the Radisson Hotel, damaging the atrium. The hotel has been in the process of being fully demolished, which made the exercise more realistic and beneficial for all participating.

During the exercise, attendees were taught how to safely search for missing victims in collapsed structures. The main goal of the exercise was to save as many lives as possible and to ensure United States agencies and Israeli Homefront Command have the proper training to prepare responders for armed conflict, disasters and emergency situations. Participants also learned about centers that take in families and how to talk to survivors in order to help find those still missing.

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## Search and Rescue Personnel and K-9s from Seven States Attend Search and Rescue Training

More than 35 search and rescue personnel and their K-9s attended the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's Search and Rescue Conference on April 21-23 at Camp Atterbury, in Edinburgh, Indiana.

The attendees represented seven states, Indiana, Missouri, Michigan, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Illinois and Ohio.

The conference featured courses of varying difficulty, ranging from beginner to advanced. The courses included basic search and rescue skills, area search, trailing, human remains detection on land and human remains detection and live body search during a disaster.



In addition to the courses offered during the conference, Brad Dennis, Director of the KlaasKids Foundation Search Center for Missing and Trafficked Children, presented on how the KlaasKids Foundation gathers resources when searching for missing children and

what search techniques they use to locate children more quickly.

For more information on the IDHS search and rescue training program, visit [dhs.in.gov/searchandrescue.htm](https://dhs.in.gov/searchandrescue.htm).

## IDHS Reminds Local CERT of Outreach Toolkit

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) is reminding the state's Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) of an outreach toolkit they can use to better connect and engage with the public about improving local safety capabilities and keeping local CERT engaged with activities other than emergencies.

The CERT toolkit contains an outreach plan with detailed examples about the different ways CERT can engage its community, a slideshow presentation, informational posters, press release and media advisory templates and public service announcements.

In addition to emergency response duties, CERT can get involved in its community in other ways. The toolkit provides different ideas such as:

- Assisting with traffic control;
- Participating in fundraisers for emergency responders;
- Educating school children and community members on emergency preparedness;
- Providing security staffing at events such as parades, festivals and other events.

The CERT toolkit is designed to be

a flexible, adaptable resource that local CERTs can apply to their own specific situations. To learn more about CERT or to download the CERT toolkit, please visit [dhs.in.gov/citizencorps.htm](https://dhs.in.gov/citizencorps.htm).





# EMS Professionals Awarded Ezkenazi Health Impact Award



The Eskenazi Health EMS Impact Award program's goal is to recognize, on a quarterly basis, EMS employees who have proven outstanding skills, teamwork and other positive characteristics while working with Eskenazi Health staff.

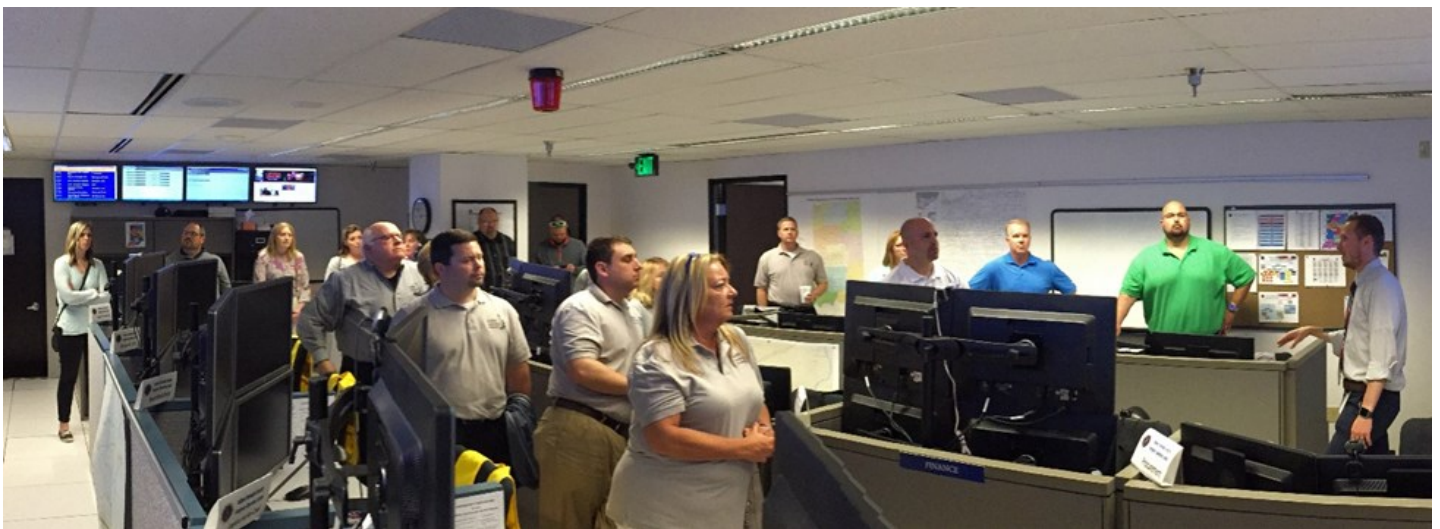
“Jeremy and Calvin epitomize what Emergency Medical Service personnel should be” said Dannielle Gilyan with Eskenazi Health. “Their lack of hesitation when approached to talk to a group of youth who are considering a future in pre-hospital services is what will drive future generations to obtain a career in this field.”

Jeremy Anker and Calvin Hicks, with Indianapolis Emergency Medical Services (IEMS), were awarded this quarter's Eskenazi Health EMS Impact Award. The

award recognizes the hard work and dedication of these two EMS professionals, and their work with youth interested in careers within the health field.

Anker has been a paramedic with IEMS for more than six years. Hicks has been with IEMS for 25 years, and has worked as an EMT for nearly 21 years.

## Indiana Association of School Business Visits IDHS



The Indiana Department of Homeland Security hosted the Indiana Association of School Business Officials in Indianapolis for an overview of the agency, its role in school safety and resources available to schools. The visit also included a tour of the State Emergency Operations Center. Representatives from 33 schools attended the event.

## Allen County Partners to Distribute Smoke Alarms and All Hazard Radios



Allen County Homeland Security worked with a local fire department to install smoke alarms and distribute all hazard (weather) radios at a mobile home park in mid-May.

Poe Fire Department in Fort Wayne teamed up with Allen County Homeland Security to distribute and install smoke alarms and all hazard radios on May 13, 2017.

Indiana Department of Homeland Security provided the all-hazard radios as part of a statewide initiative to provide the units to the most vulnerable populations, especially those who are economically disadvantaged or live in mobile homes.

## Indiana Man Receives National EMS Award

Indiana native Scott DeBoer has been named as a recipient of this year's EMS10: Innovators in EMS award by the Journal of Emergency Medical Services (JEMS).

Winners of the award were selected by a panel of EMS professionals from a pool of nominees. Only 10 nominees were given the esteemed title of top 2016 innovator in EMS.

DeBoer was recognized for his newest book, *Peds Pearls: Tear-out Tips, Tricks & Treasures from the Trenches* which focuses on simple, easy to understand pediatric emergency medical education. The book features 52 tear-out posters that are designed to hang in bathrooms or break rooms where medical emergencies often occur.

DeBoer has more than 25 years of nursing experience and has authored two other books. He is also the founder and primary speaker of his pediatric medical education seminar company, *Pedi-Ed-Trics Emergency Medical Solutions, LLC*.

## Emergency Management and Response Agencies in Southern Indiana Participate in Mobilization Exercise

Emergency responders from Southern Indiana participated in the Southern Region Mobilization Functional Exercise on May 9 in Orange County.

More than 25 emergency management and response agencies from Indiana Department of Homeland Security's districts 8, 9 and 10 participated in the mock mobilization, safety briefing,

credential distribution and demobilization.

Each district conveyed to the mobilization point at the Orange County Community Center in Paoli, Indiana. Although responders did not bring any of the equipment they would bring on a deployment, the exercise was meant to simulate, on a small scale, what would happen if called upon to respond to

a disaster as part of an IDHS district response team.

During lunch, Colonel Luckett, with the Indiana National Guard, presented on important safety procedures to follow and the different stages of a convey, from planning to arriving at the assembly area.



## 2017 United Front Exercise, Cont.

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The Lake County Sheriff's Department conducted air operations that would assist in search and rescue, and practiced assisting medical transports with non-living victims.

Exercise participants included:

- Merrillville Fire and Police Department
- Crown Point Fire Rescue
- Lake County Emergency Management Agency
- Porter County Emergency Management Agency
- Porter County 9-1-1
- Indiana District 1 Task Force-Indiana Department of Homeland Security
- Indiana State Department of Health
- District 1 Hospital Emergency Planning Committee
- Northwest Indiana Information Sharing Security Alliance
- Indiana National Guard
- Ohio National Guard
- Illinois National Guard
- Chicago Emergency Management
- Red Cross
- U.S. DHS/TSA
- Homefront Command-Israel Defense Forces
- Indiana Task Force 1-City of Indianapolis Department of Public Safety
- United States Maine Corps Chemical Biological Incident Response Force

## Rush County Receives Storm Ready Certification

Rush County received a StormReady Certification from the National Weather Service (NWS) on May 1, 2017.

The NWS StormReady program helps community leaders and emergency management professionals strengthen local safety programs by equipping them with the communication and safety skills needed to save lives and property before, during and after a weather-related event.

To be officially StormReady, a community must:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center;
- Have more than one way to receive severe weather warnings and forecasts and to alert the public;
- Create a system that monitors weather conditions locally;
- Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars; and
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.



*Pictured from left to right: Rush County Commissioners Bruce Levi, Mark Bacon, and Paul Wilkinson; Mike Robbins, NWS; Chuck Kemker, Rush County Emergency Management Agency; and Dave Tucek, NWS.*

Indiana University Southeast and Purdue Northwest also received their StormReady certifications in the 2017 fiscal year. Overall, Indiana has 46 counties, one community, seven universities and 11 commercial sites that are StormReady certified and 16 other communities and organizations that support the program.

# Natural Gas Leak Sparks Cooperation

A multi-agency cooperative effort in Greene County helped keep Worthington and Switz City residents safe beginning in the early evening on April 18, when a large natural gas storage well leak occurred, through April 19, when the well was capped.

Fairplay Grant Fire Protection Territory, the first responding agency, filled the role of incident command.

Citizens Energy staff monitored air quality levels throughout the incident, which, coupled with weather data provided by the National Weather Service, supplied vital information and updates about potential changes in areas of concern.

As a precaution, several homes near the release were evacuated, and local power utilities cut power to nearby lines, leaving about 50



*The gas leak, which took place in Green County, Indiana. The leak occurred during routine maintenance.*

homes without power during the incident. Road closures included portions of State Road 67 and several county roads, and were implemented by local law enforcement and the Indiana Department of Transportation.

Participating agencies included: Fairplay Grant Fire Protection Territory, Worthington Police, Greene County Sheriff, Greene County Emergency Management Agency, Greene County Emergency Medical Services, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Indiana State Police, Indiana Department of Transportation, Citizens Energy, Red Cross and area utility companies.

## 2017 EMAI & IERC Conference Now Open Cont'd

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emergency management personnel that fosters a collaborative and supportive professional environment.

To register for the conference, please visit <http://indianaema.org/2017-conference>. Questions can be sent to [emai@indianaema.org](mailto:emai@indianaema.org). You can also connect with EMAI on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/EMAofIndiana/>.

## Training Registration Now Available Through Acadis

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) Division of Preparedness and Training has made registration for various training sessions available through the Acadis online portal. Participants will now be able to register for online seminars, as well as classroom sessions pertaining to multiple subjects within emergency management and response.

Below are examples of June and July training sessions that participants can now register for online:

- Introduction to Emergency Management – June 19
- Working with the Media – June 23

- Comprehensive Emergency Management Planning – June 21
- Wide Area Search – July 31

To search for additional training sessions, go to <https://acadisportal.in.gov/AcadisViewer/Login.aspx> and select “Available Training” on the right-hand side of the screen. Registrants must have a PSID number prior to registration.

Please contact IDHS Training at [training@dhs.in.gov](mailto:training@dhs.in.gov) with any questions.

## Mission

*The Indiana Department of Homeland Security will provide statewide leadership, exemplary customer service, and subject matter expertise for the enhancement of public and private partnerships and the assurance of local, state and federal collaboration to continually develop Indiana's public safety capabilities for the wellbeing and protection of our citizens, property and economy.*

## Contact

*The Hoosier Responder* is a publication of  
The Indiana Department of Homeland Security.  
Please direct any questions or comments to the  
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