



FEMA

Private Sector Division

Office of External Affairs

November 2014 Monthly Newsletter

Colleagues,

Some things are so integral to our modern lives that we don't even think about them – until they are disrupted. In particular, I am thinking of items such as lights and electricity, running water, or the ability to transport people and goods safely and efficiently throughout the country. The 16 critical infrastructure sectors are so vital to our way of life that the President issued a [proclamation](#), making November Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month. From the power we use in our homes and businesses to the transportation that moves us and the communication systems we rely on every day, critical infrastructure plays a key role in sustaining our way of life and enabling us to better respond to and recover from disasters.

Critical infrastructure was also a key theme during last month's *National Conference on Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships*, which was sponsored this year by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security through the National Protection and Programs Directorate and FEMA, in partnership with North American Aerospace Defense Command/ U.S. Northern Command, and co-hosted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

November is also a time to reflect on the tremendous efforts of our [veterans](#), as well as a time to give thanks. The veterans I know, including active and retired military colleagues across government, are dedicated leaders who bring a "can do" energy to all they touch. I am thankful for having people like this in my personal and professional life, and I am equally thankful for all of you in the private sector who have joined us in our efforts to build resilience across the nation over the past several years. Happy Thanksgiving!

Jeanie Moore
Director (Acting), Private Sector Division
Office of External Affairs
Federal Emergency Management Agency

News



FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate discusses the value of building networks across public and private sectors to make the nation better prepared for and more resilient to disasters.

4th Annual Conference on Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships

On October 15-16, government and private sector representatives from across the country gathered in Washington, DC for the 4th annual national Conference on Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships. Attendees included owners and operators from critical infrastructure sectors, *Fortune* 500 companies, small businesses, academia, and state and local emergency managers.

The conference highlighted successful public-private partnerships from across the homeland security and emergency management enterprise and featured keynote remarks by Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Charles Johnson, FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, and Weather Channel CEO David Kenny. Breakout discussions focused on a variety of emerging issues such as technology and volunteers, mitigation and business emergency operations centers.

Calendar

November

[Critical Infrastructure Security & Resilience Month](#)

December

[Winter Fire Safety](#)

January

[Winter Weather Awareness](#)

Veterans Day Message

In November, our Nation pays tribute to the millions of military veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces. We recognize those veterans who continue to serve their country by contributing their skills, talents, and experiences to the success of the emergency management mission.

FEMA Region IX Welcomes Private Sector for Open House

On September 25, FEMA Region IX hosted an Open House in its Oakland, Cal. headquarters to promote collaboration between the public and private sectors on emergency management and preparedness initiatives.

Attendees heard from government and private sector executives on topics related to preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. Attendees also had the opportunity to tour Region IX's Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC).

Participating Bay Area organizations included organizations like: Business Recovery Managers Association (BRMA), Association of Continuity Planners (ACP), Bay Area Response Coalition for Financial Industry Resilience, Security & Teamwork (BARCfirst), and California Resiliency Alliance (CRA).



FEMA Region IX's Acting Deputy Regional Administrator Farley Howell (standing left) and Private Sector Liaison Michael Cummings (standing right) discuss FEMA's regional planning and operations.

FEMA Regions 9 and 10 Welcome their First Regional Private Sector Representative

On October 22, FEMA Regions 9 and 10 welcomed Mark Sole as their first Regional Private Sector Representative (PSR), who will be shared between Regions IX and X for the next 90 days.

Mark Sole has been with Wells Fargo Bank since 2008 as a Vice President – Regional Emergency Manager. He is responsible for the Pacific Northwest region, including the region's emergency planning, emergency response / preparedness, and critical incident coordination and training. Prior to joining Wells Fargo, Mark retired as a Lieutenant after a 30 year career in law enforcement and firefighting from the City of Sunnyvale, Cal., which operates the largest public safety department in the United States.

Mark hit the ground running during his first week with Region IX, working with several divisions to discuss economic recovery and response planning related to post-disaster cash movement and survivor support. While at FEMA, Mark will train in aspects of federal response and recovery, and work to ensure that the private sector is a full and effective member of the emergency management team.

To learn more about the Private Sector Representative program, contact us at fema-private-sector@fema.dhs.gov.



Proposed Public Assistance Policy on Insurance Open for Comment

FEMA seeks public comments from state, tribal, territorial and local governments, private non-profit organizations, and interested members of the public regarding its proposed Public Assistance policy on insurance. Comments must be submitted through the process outlined in the [Federal Register Notice](#) and are due on **December 8, 2014**.

Private Sector Resilience Tips

Subscribe to [FEMA Private Sector email alerts](#) for Tips of the Week and other news.

Recent Tips:

- [Protect your IT products and systems](#) by using the latest product updates, patches and operating systems.
- Update your [business cyber security infrastructure crisis plan](#) to protect your network from malware, worms and spyware.
- Talk with your employees about tips they can use to [prevent identity theft, social engineering and phishing scams](#).

FEMA 101

Emergency Support Functions

When disaster strikes, the [National Response Framework](#) (NRF) guides how the whole community works together and how response efforts relate to other parts of national preparedness. A key part of the NRF is the 15 Emergency Support Functions, which are the primary coordinating structures at the federal level to bundle and manage resources. [Independent Study Course IS-800.B](#) offers an introduction to the National Response Framework.

Critical Infrastructure Security & Resilience Month

Whether it's an individual or family thinking about how to prepare for a disruption of critical infrastructure, or a business or industry taking steps to ensure that the services they provide are resilient to disruptions, November is a time to ensure that we are as robust as possible. We all play a role in keeping infrastructure strong, secure, and resilient. We can do our part at home, at work, and in our community by being familiar with emergency plans, preparing for disruptions, incorporating basic cyber safety practices, and making sure that if we see something, we say something by [reporting suspicious activities](#) to local law enforcement.

Throughout November, you can learn more about critical infrastructure and how it impacts your daily life at www.dhs.gov/critical-infrastructure-security-and-resilience-month. You can also [download a toolkit](#) to get ideas, information, and resources you can use to help spread the word about the importance of infrastructure resiliency.

Training: Critical Infrastructure

FEMA's [Emergency Management Institute \(EMI\)](#) offers free, web-based independent study courses to provide an introduction to Critical Infrastructure within the context of the National Response Framework (NRF), the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP), and Critical Infrastructure Protection program implementation and collaboration. These courses provide government officials and critical infrastructure owners and operators with the knowledge and skills needed to implement critical infrastructure security and resilience activities.

- [IS-821.a: Introduction to the Critical Infrastructure Support Annex](#)
- [IS-860.b: Introduction to the National Infrastructure Partnership Plan](#)
- [IS-921: Implementing Critical Infrastructure Protection Programs](#)
- [IS-913.A: Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience: Achieving Results through Partnership and Collaboration](#)

Spotlight: ESF #4 - Firefighting

[Emergency Support Function \(ESF\) #4 – Firefighting](#) provides Federal support for the detection and suppression of wildland, rural, and urban fires resulting from, or occurring coincidentally with, an all-hazard incident requiring a coordinated national response for assistance. The ESF #4 Coordinating Agencies are the Department of Agriculture / Forest Service and the DHS/FEMA/Fire Administration.

Joint Critical Infrastructure Partnership Webinar Series

The Joint Critical Infrastructure Partnership (JCIP) Webinar Series, presented by the Department of Homeland Security Office of Infrastructure Protection and the Regional Consortium Coordinating Council, in collaboration and partnership with Infragard, continues this month with *Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience*.

Register for the webinar today!

[Tuesday, November 18; 11:00am – 12:00pm](#)

[Thursday, November 20; 2:00pm – 3:00pm](#)

Contact

Please contact FEMA Private Sector Division via e-mail at:

FEMA-Private-Sector@fema.dhs.gov

NBEOC Information

[National Business Emergency Operations Center Overview \(NBEOC\)](#)

[NBEOC Membership Application](#)

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