

The History of the IPAWS Lab to TSSF
Brief Video of the Facility
TSSF Capabilities
Partnerships
Resources
Looking Ahead

#### **History of the IPAWS Lab**

- Approximately 14 years ago, we decided to use some lab space for an IPAWS Lab
  - Inter-agency agreement with DoD Defense Information System Agency (DISA) Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC)
  - Initially for evaluation of EAS devices
  - Preparation to perform the first national-level EAS test
  - Develop improvements to the national-level EAS system
- Big idea: let's construct a closed IPAWS system
  - Support SLTTs
  - Support conferences
  - Perform independent tests and evaluations





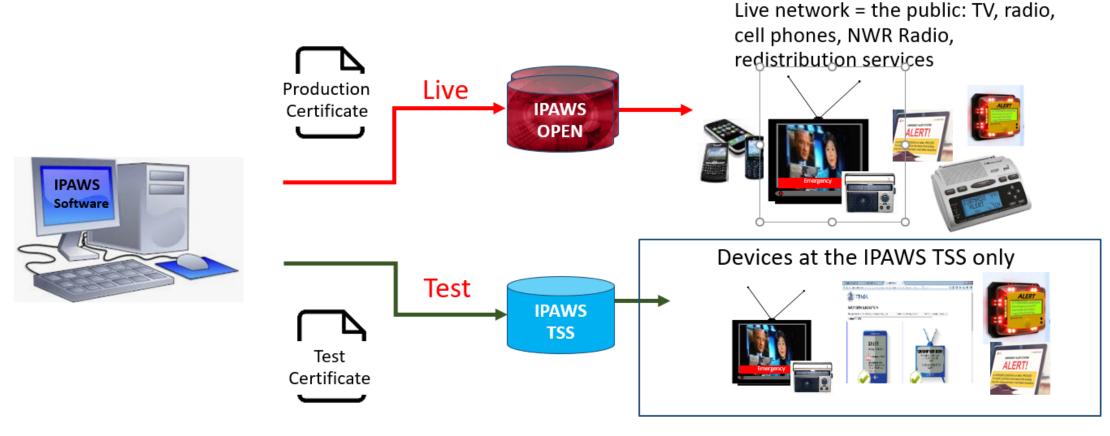
# **IPAWS Technical Support Services Facility**

- Over the years, increase in demand, requests for visits, reliance on lab personnel, etc.
  - Contractor suggested a larger, more accommodating space to support current and future efforts
  - Shifted away from "lab" and into service-oriented position
- New name IPAWS Technical Support Services Facility
- Location:
  - 161 National Plaza, Oxon Hill, MD (National Harbor)
  - Closer proximity to FEMA Headquarters
  - Accessibility
  - Amenities





# **Same Technical Capabilities**





**Closed Environment** 

### **Seminar and Learning Facility**

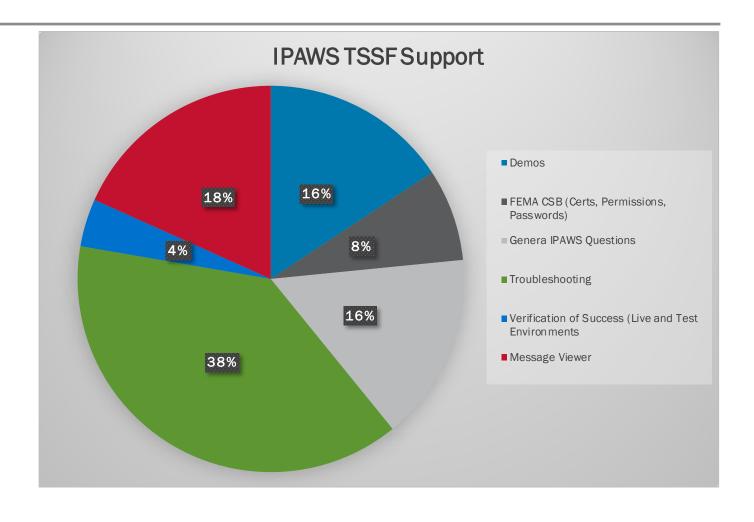
- Interactive seminar and conference areas
- Hands-on learning facility
- End-to-end demonstration capabilities
- Enhanced A/V to support virtual events
- Vendor supported events (e.g., refresher training, vendor-hosted seminars)
- Knowledgeable and experienced support staff
- IPAWS PMO technical support

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# 24/7/365 On-Call Technical Support

- Live alerting assistance
- Troubleshooting errors
- Teaching/education
- Proficiency demonstration assistance
- Alert verification
- Technical configuration help
- Vendor support
- Q&A





#### **Partnerships**

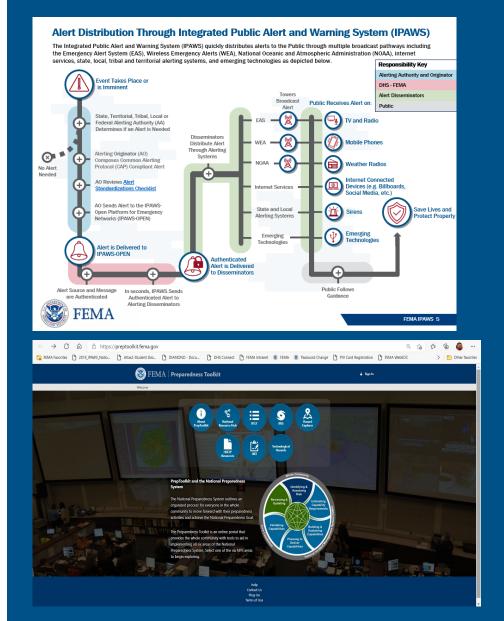
- FEMA National Integration Center (NIC) Technical Assistance (TA) series
  - IPAWS technical support
  - IPAWSTSSF Office Hours
- National Exercise Division (NED)
  - Evaluated exercise support (HSEEP Evaluators)
  - National Level Exercise (NLE) Cascadia Rising 2022
  - IPAWS technical support
- DHS Science & Technology
  - Operational exercises
  - Technical expertise and input to collateral and projects
- FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI)
  - Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC)
  - Table-top exercises



#### Resources

- IPAWS Program Planning Toolkit
  - Fact sheets
  - Guides
  - FAQs
- IPAWS Process Playbook
  - Detailed processes by pathway
  - Great teaching tool
- IPAWS Exercise Starter Kit
  - Scalable
  - SitMan, EEGs, AARs,





https://www.fema.gov/media-collection/ipaws-program-planning-toolkit

# Cool Stuff We're Working On

- Scenario-based monthly proficiency tests not a requirement
  - FEMA-provided short scenarios to make monthly testing "fun"
  - Kick-off 13 Sept with San Fernando, CA
  - Scalable/customizable
- Table-top exercises
- Improved web site space for TSSF-related information
  - Toolkits
  - Guides
  - Best practices
  - Announcements
- Continue to support and work with our partners to improve AWN

- We welcome suggestions!
- How can we better help you?
- What would you like to see in a lab setting?



#### **Looking Ahead**

- Incorporation of emerging technologies
- Increased interactions with SLTTs
- Seminar and conference hosting
- Increased incorporation of IPAWS in exercises
- On-site and off-site learning initiatives
- Expanded partnerships
- Increased and improved resources for you!









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