
Texas Division of Emergency Management

Preparedness Update

Helping to prepare the Texas emergency management community

November 2017

The *Preparedness Update* alerts Texas' emergency management community to planning, training and exercise opportunities while providing updates on Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) preparedness initiatives and activities. For more information, or to receive the *Preparedness Update*, contact [Bill Wahlgren](#).

Hurricane Harvey puts TDEM's Critical Information Systems to the Test

TDEM's Critical Information Systems (CIS) has partnered with the emergency management and response community to develop and deploy operations technology solutions that aid in incident response. Hurricane Harvey tested these systems to an unprecedented degree, giving us an opportunity to celebrate successes and address challenges. Many CIS applications run off of WebEOC, a server-based crisis information management system. WebEOC supports critical communications during response and recovery as well as during normal operations. Local jurisdictions, working with TDEM CIS or their local WebEOC Administrators, can create their own WebEOC accounts and link with other local, state and federal entities, allowing jurisdictions to track daily operations, administrative and cost data,



Responders relied on new and improved technology applications during Hurricane Harvey.

as well as statewide incident information in real time. WebEOC supports custom applications that CIS has created to assist with critical emergency management missions, for example, the State of Texas Assistance Request (STAR). The STAR system allows jurisdictions to request additional emergency resources, as needed, and to track the progress of their request with time stamps at every stage. The Texas Emergency Tracking Network (ETN), another custom application, uses WebEOC as well as iOS and Android applications, for real-time data entry. With a smartphone, mobile scanner and wristbands, personnel can use ETN to track the evacuation, transportation, sheltering and reentry of large populations along with pets and durable medical equipment. Eventually, CIS will update integration of WebEOC and ETN into TXMAP, DPS' geographic information system (GIS), to provide a spatial view of population movement. Another upcoming program that CIS is taking over is the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR), which uses an online registration system. This system provides local jurisdictional data custodians with additional information on the needs of citizens in their community who may require additional assistance during a disaster or emergency, such as individuals with disabilities, special medical needs or unique transportation challenges. The WebEOC disaster summary outline (DSO) interface allows jurisdictions to quickly create and submit preliminary damage assessments to TDEM, shortening the time usually needed to create and process DSO forms in a paper environment. Together, all of these systems form a robust suite of tools that support the emergency management community with critical information and communication.

For more information about CIS systems or to comment, contact the TDEM CIS Section at support@soc.texas.gov or contact [Chuck Phinney](#).

State of Texas Preparedness Exercise Program Updates

With winter approaching, preparing local emergency management stakeholders for freezing and icy conditions can help reduce the effects that freezing temperatures and ice can have on a community. According to the National Weather Service, the number one cause of injuries and death during winter weather is from vehicle accidents. Other winter weather hazards include carbon monoxide poisoning from the improper use of heating devices and exposure, especially by the very old and very young, to freezing temperatures. The goal is to keep businesses, schools and other organizations open or to reopen them as quickly as possible. Tabletop exercises using a local winter weather scenario can help organizations prepare for a disaster. These exercises can help identify strengths and weaknesses of plans, policies and procedures already in place. Follow up by identifying the next steps to take, issues that need to be addressed and update your organization's emergency operating plan and test it annually. The importance of understanding upcoming winter conditions could save lives.

For more information on conducting tabletop exercises, contact the TDEM Exercise Unit at tdem.exercises@dps.texas.gov.

Local and Regional Planning Update

Local and Regional Planners attended the Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings course in Austin. The course includes classroom presentations that address potential terrorist bombing targets in U.S. communities, common military and commercial explosives available to terrorists, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and response procedures that support safe and effective operations during bombing incidents. LRPU encourages its planners, as well as local emergency management coordinators, to seek emergency management training opportunities in order to better serve the state's local jurisdictions and communities. For more information, contact [Mario Chapa](#).

Local and Regional Plans Review

In September, the unit reviewed **160** plan documents.

State of Texas Emergency Management Plan and Annex Updates

State of Texas Emergency Management Plan

The planning process has begun on updating the structure and organization of the *State of Texas Emergency Management Plan*. Stakeholders will be notified as future planning meetings are scheduled. For more information, contact [Natalie Vega](#).

Public Works and Engineering Annex

The planning process has begun on the *Public Works and Engineering Annex*. Stakeholders will be notified about upcoming meeting dates. For more information, contact [Ben Parry](#).

Emergency Management Annex

The planning process has begun on the *Emergency Management Annex*. Stakeholders will be notified about upcoming meeting dates. For more information, contact [Danielle Hesse](#).

Oil and HAZMAT Response Annex

The planning process has begun on the *Oil and HAZMAT Response Annex*. Stakeholders will be notified about upcoming meeting dates. For more information, contact [Jay Rimel](#).

Agriculture and Natural Resources Annex

The planning process has begun on the *Agriculture and Natural Resources Annex*. Stakeholders will be notified about upcoming meeting dates. For more information, contact [Danielle Hesse](#).

Public Safety and Security

The planning process has begun on the *Public Safety and Security Annex*. Stakeholders will be notified about upcoming meeting dates. For more information, contact [Ben Parry](#).

Recovery Annex

The *Recovery Annex* is in internal review. For more information, contact [Natalie Vega](#).

Public Information Annex

The planning process has begun on the *Public Information Annex*. Stakeholders will be notified as future planning meetings are scheduled. For more information, contact [Jay Rimel](#).

Preparedness Quiz

Test your knowledge of emergency management by answering the following questions (True/False).

1. An emergency operations plan is a document that defines how people and property will be protected during an incident.
2. Emergency operations plans should always start from scratch.
3. Whole community planning only involves emergency management planners, and should not include faith-based organizations or businesses.
4. An emergency operations plan is static and once approved should not change.

1.T 2.F 3.F 4.F

Other News and Events

Congratulations

Local and Regional Planner Mario Chapa has been promoted to unit supervisor. Previously, Mario worked on numerous projects such as Rio Grande Valley and Coastal Bend Evacuation Plans, the State of Texas Functional Needs Support Services Toolkit, and the State of Texas Shelter Managers Course. Mario served during the disaster response for Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike, as well as the California Wildfires of 2008. Please join us in congratulating Mario.

Upcoming Preparedness Training Opportunities

Please be aware that the dates of the classes listed below are subject to change. Check our website, www.preparingtexas.org, for current dates and locations as well as new course offerings.

Click [here](#) for a map of DPS regions. Click the course code for course descriptions.

Region 1

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
AWR-313	Homemade Explosives: Awareness, Recognition, and Response	Paris	11/01
G-200	Texas Public Officials Workshop	Arlington	11/01
PER-246	Primary Screener Backpack Basic Course (PSBB)	Fort Worth	11/01
PER-246	Primary Screener Backpack Basic Course (PSBB)	Dallas	11/01

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
T-600.d	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 4)	Denton	11/02
MGT-348	Medical Preparedness and Response to Bombing Incidents	Paris	11/02 - 11/03
PER-245	Secondary Screener Radiation Isotope Identifier Device (SS/RIID)	Fort Worth	11/02 - 11/03
PER-245	Secondary Screener Radiation Isotope Identifier Device (SS/RIID)	Dallas	11/02 - 11/03
PER-335	Critical Decision Making for Complex Coordinated Attacks	Dallas	11/02 - 11/03
T-600.e	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 5)	Denton	11/03
AWR-346	Radiological/Nuclear WMD Operations for Law Enforcement	Dallas	11/06
PER 349	Primary Screener Backpack Basic Refresher Course (Pilot)	Dallas	11/06
PER-300	Primary Screener/Personal Radiation Detector Refresher Course	Dallas	11/06
E/L-956	NIMS ICS All Hazards Liaison Officer (LOFR) Course	Garland	11/07 - 11/08
PER-318	Preventive Radiological/Nuclear Detection Team Operations Course	Dallas	11/07 - 11/10
G-489	Management of Spontaneous Volunteers in Disasters	Cedar Hill	11/09
T-600.b	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 2)	Bonham	11/09
EMS-850	Ambulance Strike Team/ Medical Task Force Leader Course	Arlington	11/09 - 11/10
G-300	Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents	Colleyville	11/13 - 11/15
H-301	HazMat Emergency Response Technician	Sherman	11/13 - 11/17
E/L-958	NIMS ICS All-Hazards Operations Section Chief (OSC) Course	Garland	11/28 - 12/01
G-288	Donations Management Course	Desoto	11/29 - 11/30
T-600.a	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 1)	Mesquite	11/30
MGT-315	Critical Asset Risk Management	Denton	12/04 - 12/05
H-500	HazMat Technician - Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) Certification	Tyler	12/04 - 12/15
T-600.a	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 1)	Palo Pinto	12/06
G-300	Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents	Willow Park	12/06 - 12/08
MGT-343	Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater Utilities	Dallas	12/12 - 12/13
G-141	Instructional Presentation and Evaluation Skills	Dallas	12/12 - 12/14
G-400	Advanced Incident Command System, Command and General Staff	Willow Park	12/14 - 12/15
E/L-954	NIMS ICS All-Hazards Safety Officer Course (SOFR)	Hurst	12/19 - 12/22
T-600.b	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 2)	Arlington	12/31
MGT-418	Readiness: Training Identification Preparedness Planning	Fort Worth	01/03 - 01/04

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
L-548	Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) Program Manager Train-the-Trainer Course	Dallas	01/08 - 01/09
MGT-341	Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals and Healthcare Organizations Within the Community Infrastructure	Arlington	01/09 - 01/10
T-600.b	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 2)	Emory	01/10
L-550	Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) Train-the-Trainer	Dallas	01/10 - 01/12
ALERT	AMBER, Blue, Silver and Endangered Missing Persons Alert Course	Kilgore	01/12
E/L-950	NIMS ICS All-Hazards Incident Commander (IC) Course	Garland	01/15 - 01/19
T-600.a	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 1)	Athens	01/17
G-300	Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents	Garland	01/22 - 01/24
G-400	Advanced Incident Command System, Command and General Staff	Garland	01/25 - 01/26
E/L-967	NIMS ICS All-Hazards Logistics Section Chief (LSC) Course	Garland	01/29 - 02/02

Region 2

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
PER-211	Medical Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) Events	College Station	12/04 - 12/06
MGT-341	Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals and Healthcare Organizations Within the Community Infrastructure	Dickinson	12/05 - 12/06
MGT-343	Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater Utilities	League City	12/05 - 12/06
T-600.e	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 5)	Galveston	12/06

Region 3

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
G-290/G289/G291	Basic Public Information Officer Course(G290)/Public Information Officer Awareness Course(G289)/JIS/JIC Planning for Tribal, State, and Local PIOs(G291)	Beeville	11/07 - 11/09
PER-211	Medical Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) Events	Rio Grande City	11/14 - 11/15
PER-211	Medical Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) Events	Corpus Christi	11/15 - 11/16
PER-211	Medical Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) Events	Rio Grande City	11/16 - 11/17
MGT-317	Disaster Management for Public Services	Progreso Lakes	11/27 - 11/28
MGT-343	Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater Utilities	Progreso Lakes	11/29 - 11/30

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
MGT-342	Strategic Overview of Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater	Progreso Lakes	12/01
G-317	Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Course	Laredo	12/01 - 12/09
PER-320	Personal Protective Measures for Biological Events	Rio Grande City	12/08
PER-320	Personal Protective Measures for Biological Events	Rio Grande City	12/09
PER-320	Personal Protective Measures for Biological Events	Weslaco	12/12
PER-213	Wide Area Search	Alice	12/12 - 12/14
PER-320	Personal Protective Measures for Biological Events	Weslaco	12/13
G-300	Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents	Cotulla	12/19 - 12/21
G-400	Advanced Incident Command System, Command and General Staff	Cotulla	12/21 - 12/22
PER-213	Wide Area Search	Corpus Christi	01/09 - 01/11
MGT-341	Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals and Healthcare Organizations Within the Community Infrastructure	Weslaco	01/16 - 01/17
MGT-345	Disaster Management for Electric Power Systems	Weslaco	01/18 - 01/19
H-504	NFPA 1006 2008 Edition Trench Rescue Levels I and II Pro-Board Certification	Corpus Christi	01/23 - 01/26
AWR-213	Critical Infrastructure Key Resources Awareness Course	Brownsville	01/31

Region 4

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
H-501	NFPA 472 HazMat Technician - Pro-Board Certification	Odessa	11/06 - 11/10
PER-211	Medical Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) Events	Fort Stockton	11/07 - 11/08
ALERT	AMBER, Blue, Silver and Endangered Missing Persons Alert Course	San Angelo	11/09
E/L-969	NIMS ICS All-Hazards Type III Communications Unit Leader (COML)	El Paso	12/05 - 12/07
T-600.a	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 1)	Socorro	12/06
T-600.a	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 1)	Junction	12/11
G-975	EOC Operations and ICS Interface	El Paso	12/12 - 12/14
G-400	Advanced Incident Command System, Command and General Staff	San Angelo	01/24 - 01/25
H-302	HazMat Refresher Training	Midland	01/25

Region 5

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
ALERT	AMBER, Blue, Silver and Endangered Missing Persons Alert Course	Canadian	11/01
ALERT	AMBER, Blue, Silver and Endangered Missing Persons Alert Course	Memphis	11/02

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
ALERT	AMBER, Blue, Silver and Endangered Missing Persons Alert Course	Amarillo	11/03
MGT-315	Critical Asset Risk Management	Wichita Falls	11/07 - 11/08
AWR-147	Rail Car Incident Response	Levelland	11/11
G-300	Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents	Lubbock	11/13 - 11/14
T-600.b	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 2)	Brownwood	11/15
MGT-348	Medical Prep. and Response to Bombing Incidents	Abilene	11/29 - 11/30
H-100	HazMat Awareness	Brownwood	12/09
G-400	Advanced Incident Command System, Command and General Staff	Lubbock	12/11 - 12/12
H-200	HazMat First Responder Operations	Brownwood	01/06 - 01/07
H-500	HazMat Technician - Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) Certification	Brownwood	01/15 - 01/26
T-600.a	Disaster Accounting 101 (Module 1)	Vega	01/23 - 01/23

Region 6

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
G-317	Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Course	San Marcos	10/21, 10/28, 11/18
MGT-310	Jurisdictional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment	Austin	11/01 - 11/02
G-400	Advanced Incident Command System, Command and General Staff	Victoria	11/02 - 11/03
G-200	Texas Public Officials Workshop	Austin	11/03
ALERT	AMBER, Blue, Silver and Endangered Missing Persons Alert Course	Austin	11/07
G-608	Disaster Recovery Workshop	Austin	11/07
G-557	Rapid Needs Assessment	Victoria	11/08
MGT-315	Critical Asset Risk Management	Austin	11/14 - 11/15
G-141	Instructional Presentation and Evaluation Skills	Austin	11/14 - 11/16
G-300	Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents	San Antonio	11/14 - 11/16
MGT-414	Advanced Critical Infrastructure Protection	Austin	11/16
G-317	Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Course	New Braunfels	11/17 - 11/19
AWR-326	Tornado Awareness	San Antonio	11/28
H-501	NFPA 472 HazMat Technician - Pro-Board Certification	Cibolo	12/04 - 12/08
L-146	INDIRECT DELIVERY - Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Basic Course	Austin	12/05 - 12/06
G-318	Local Mitigation Planning Workshop	Austin	12/07 - 12/08
G-200	Texas Public Officials Workshop	Austin	12/08
G-610	Basic Emergency Management Workshop	Austin	12/12 - 12/13

Code	Course Name	Location	Dates
E/L-948	Situational Awareness and Common Operating Picture	Waco	01/15 - 01/18
AWR-213	Critical Infrastructure Key Resources Awareness Course	Austin	01/22
E/L-950	NIMS ICS All-Hazards Incident Commander (IC) Course	Austin	01/22 - 01/26
G-300	Interm. Inc. Command System for Expanding Incidents	San Antonio	01/23 - 01/25

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