A blue shield with a tower and text

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A picture containing text, snow, outdoor, transport

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**EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**TRAINING CONFERENCE**

October 28, 2023

Hanover Township Senior Center

240

S. IL Route 59

|

Bartlett, Illinois

**CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS**

## KEYNOTE

## 8:45AM – 9:30AM

During the presentation, Dan Eder from the Lake County Emergency Management Agency will provide a more in-depth discussion on some of the actions that took place during the initial response, the improvement and resiliency actions that have taken place over the last year, and the planning and preparation that took place for this year’s 4th of July event.   Chris Dodd, Disaster Services Planner with the Recovery Division of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, will give an overview of the States role in the response and recovery actions that took place in Highland Park.

# GENERAL SESSIONS

## 9:30AM – 10:30AM

*The following sessions will run concurrently:*

**Donations Management:** Donation management is one aspect of emergency management that is sometimes overlooked in training and planning for crises. When disaster strikes, people want to help. They donate funds, supplies, and service time to assist those in need. But if you don’t plan appropriately for these donations, the inundation of items can cause what is sometimes called the “second crisis.” This session will discuss tips and tricks to increase your planning capabilities in donation management.

**Illinois Search and Rescue Council:** This session explains the history, mission and future goals of Illinois Search and Rescue Council and search and rescue in Illinois. Attendees are provided explanation of how a law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over an incident can contact ISARC and what the organization has to offer.

## 10:30AM – 11:30AM

**Down and Dirty Incident Command:** Attendees will receive an overview of theRoles and Responsibilities of the Incident Commander, Strategy vs. Tactical Operations, Incident Commander Selection, Transfer of Command Unified Command, Command and General Staff Positions and Overview of an Incident Action Plan.

**DuPage County Communications Team: Interoperable Communications and Requesting Strategic Technology Reserve Assets:** This session will provide an overview of Interoperable Communications within Illinois with a focus on critical or expanding incidents and large-scale events involving responders from multiple agencies. Attendees will also learn about assets, in the form of equipment and personnel, available through the Strategic Technology Reserve.

## 11:30PM – 12:30PM

**National Weather Service**: Meteorologists will discuss the new Slack WeatherChat 2.0 and how learn how it will make collaboration more streamlined and engaging.  This presentation highlights the Weather Chat and services available from the National Weather Services aimed to increase situational awareness and support these critical decisions. NWSChat, allows for a steady flow of forecast information, direct access to meteorological expertise, and supports two-way communication between NWS staff and public safety partners.

**Legal Concerns for Emergency Services Units:** Do you know what your liability is as an Emergency Services Officer or member? Do you have a good idea of how to minimize exposure to liability issues for you and your agency? These are some of the topics that will be touched on by a local government attorney and litigator conducting the session.

***12:30PM - 1:00PM Box Lunch in Veterans Hall***

## 1:00PM – 2:00PM

**HTES Drone Team:** With the maturity of Small Unmanned Aerial Systems and technology, emergency response agencies are increasingly turning to the use of UAS systems during emergency responses. Agencies and private partners are using these systems for disaster intelligence gathering and data acquisition. During this presentation, attendees will gain a firsthand understanding of the opportunities to deploy UAV’s

## Roselle FD Canine Team featuring Ember

Ember is the newest addition to the Roselle Fire Department staff! Ember is trained to respond to missing or lost persons and to locate live persons as a result of natural disasters.

## 2:00PM – 3:00PM

**Review of the Drone Surveillance Act -** Elgin Police Department Drone team member Randy Fries will discuss the highlights of the new Drone Surveillance Act.

**Public Information Officer Fundamentals -** Mr. Kevin T. Sur provides the fundamentals to being an effective PIO and the positive impact a solid message can make during a disaster.

## 3:00PM – 4:00PM

**Overview of IEMA Recovery Operations –** Overview of the IEMA Recovery Bureau and the damage assessment process.

**Disaster Psychology -** Lip Service or Full Service? In the world of emergency and disaster response, we often speak to and train on self-care and team care. But have we institutionalized these concerns or are we just giving them “lip service”? As we recognize the increase in violence in our communities and the acceleration of heavy and wide-spread natural disasters, it is time for us to give stress management and emotional recovery Full Service.

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Participants can register on Sign-Up Genius by using a credit card. A service fee of 5% + $0.50 will be added to the $37.50 registration at checkout. Once registered, attendees should review the sessions, and click on the button to sign up.

Certificates will be distributed following the conference.

**For questions, please call (630) 837-0301.**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**BIOGRAPHIES**

KEYNOTE

A person in a suit and tie

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**Dan Eder**

**Keynote - Highland Park Active Shooter Incident**

**Lake County**

Danis the Manager for the Lake County Emergency Management Agency, with the organization since 2016. Prior to Lake County, he was the Assistant Director of Community Health Resources with the Kane County Health Department. Dan has a Bachelor of Science in Public Health and Environmental Health degree from Northern Illinois University, a Master of Public Health degree from Benedictine University, is a Licensed Environmental Health Practitioner (LEHP), and is also an Illinois Professional Emergency Manager (IPEM). He is also currently the Vice President for Region 4 for the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA).  Dan has responded to numerous incidents during his time at Lake County. He is passionate about utilizing strategic planning methods and forming strong partnerships to help develop projects and initiatives to help better prepare Lake County before, during, and after an incident or event.  He and his wife Melicia Eder, have two children, Logan, and Liana.

A person wearing glasses and a suit

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**Michael Airdo, Esq.,** Member,*Kopon Airdo, LLC*

**Session: Legal Concerns for Emergency Services Units & Hot Legal Issues and Questions in Emergency Services**

Mr. Michael A. Airdo is a founding Member of Airdo Werwas, LLC. His practice focuses on the handling of complex civil litigation matters, including healthcare litigation, catastrophic injury claims, local government legal matters, and cases involving not-for-profit entities, educational facilities, religious institutes, and trade associations. Mr. Airdo has a broad base of experience in representing the unique legal needs of local governments. He also has a wide array of experience in resolving matters through the alternative dispute resolution process. Mr. Airdo is a frequent lecturer on topics related to his legal practice. He served on the Board of Trustees for the Village of Bartlett from 2001 to 2011, and as Mayor of Bartlett from 2011 to 2013.

Mr. Airdo proudly serves as a general legal counsel to Hanover Township, Palatine Township, Shields Township, Dundee Township, and the Fox River Water Reclamation District. He is also national counsel for many religious institutes and societies of apostolic life. Mr. Airdo is a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel where he serves on the Foundation Board as Chair of the Social Justice Pro Bono Committee, and as Midwest Regional Chair of the Membership Committee.

A person smiling in front of balloons

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**Kevin T. Sur**, Director of Communications / Public Information Officer Illinois**,** Illinois Emergency Management Agency

**Session: Public Information Officer Fundamentals**

Mr. Sur is also an Instructor for the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center, and in the External Affairs Cadre at the DHS/FEMA in Washington, DC. Previously, he has served as an Emergency Manager for the DuPage County Office of Emergency Management, an Instructor for the State of Ohio EMA.

Mr. Sur was awarded the Ohio American College of Emergency Physicians’ EMS Star of Life Award for his deployment with the State of Ohio Task Force to Louisiana’s Lower 9th ward during the 2005 Hurricane Katrina/Rita in St. Bernard Parish. Mr. Sur served in the EOC during Hurricane Sandy, 2016 World Series, 2017/2018 NBA Finals, and 2016 Republican National Convention.

In 2020-2021, Mr. Sur was deployed as the FEMA PIO and Joint Information Center Manager to FEMA Region-1 covering Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont for all COVID Operations and Federal COVID vaccination efforts. And again in 2021 as the Joint Information Center Manager for the response/recovery for New York for Hurricane Ida. In 2014, Mr. Sur was invited to the White House for the Innovation for Disaster Response and Recovery Initiative and has been named Cleveland’s Top 10 Most Interesting Tweeps on Twitter from WKYC / MetroMix (NBC affiliate). Additionally, he has received numerous awards including Fire Officer of the Year and a Unit Citation award for Excellence in EMS care.

A person smiling at camera

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**Dawn Cook**, Director of Tazwell County Emergency Management

**Session: Donations Management**

Ms. Cook is currently the Director of the Tazewell County Emergency Management Agency and chairman of the Tri-County LEPC. Ms. Cook has over 20 years’ experience in both the public health and emergency management fields. She has served as a member of the State of IL Emergency Management Committee and was the President of the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association from 2018-2020. Ms. Cook currently serves as a longstanding Board Member for the Tazewell Public Health Foundation and Pekin Salvation Army 360 Life Center.

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**Joseph V Gaspirch,** Bureau Chief for the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness, Illinois Department of Human Services

**Session: Down and Dirty Incident Management**

Mr. Gasparich is presently serving as the Bureau Chief for the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness for the Illinois Department of Human Services. The bureau is responsible for the development and implementation of emergency planning documents and preparedness exercises for the 6 IDHS divisions.

In December of 2018, Mr. Gasparich served as the lead public information officer for the response to the tornado that struck Taylorville, Illinois.

Mr. Gasparich was the Homeland Security Program Director for the Illinois Fire Service Institute serving as lead instructor for the Command and General Staff Course and he also taught the IS 300/400 Courses and the position specific courses to support ICS implementation. Mr. Gasparich also is a “red carded” public information officer and planning section chief.

Mr. Gasparich was deployed to New Orleans in September of 2005 to work with the Illinois MABAS teams to help develop a workable command system for the New Orleans Fire Department. He has also assisted in the 2008 floods on the Mississippi River and worked with the Chicago Fire Department in the 2008 Election Night rally in Grant Park.

Previous to his employment at IFSI, Mr. Gasparich was the Exercise Training Officer for the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Gasparich worked in the agency 14 ½ years in the earthquake preparedness and local emergency planning areas as well as exercise design and evaluation. Joe was an integral part of the Illinois Venue Exercise Planning Team for the TOPOFF 2 exercise.

Mr. Gasparich spent 7 years teaching in the public school system and received his BA in Biology from Sangamon State University in 1983.

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**John Nebl,** Communications Director, DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

**Session: Interoperable Communications and Requesting Strategic Technology Reserve Assets**

Mr. Nebl joined the DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (OHSEM) in 2014. He is a state recognized Communications Unit Leader (COML) and DHS/CISA certified instructor for COML and AUXCOMM. Mr. Nebl oversees the 20-member DuPage Communications Unit (COMU) which is responsible for operating ITECS 4 and RapidComm 4 for the state as well as assisting UCP 3 when needed. Prior to joining OHSEM, Mr. Nebl has a 29-year career as a police officer, retiring as a Sergeant.

Randy Fries, Elgin Police Department Drone team. Mr. Fries is a tenured member of the Elgin Police department, serving as one of their cadre pilots. Mr. Fries is a certified FAA Part 107 pilot.

A police officer with a dog

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**Roselle Fire Depart Canine “Ember” and Canine Handler** **Jennafir Reidle**

**Session: Roselle FD Canine Team featuring Ember**

Jennafir is a fulltime firefighter paramedic with the Roselle Fire Department. She is also a canine handler with the Illinois Urban Search and Rescue-Task Force 1 (IL-TF1), as well as with the K9/Drone Search and Rescue Strike Team (SRST). Jennafir began training with the Illinois Task Force in October of 2022. Ember, the newest member of the Roselle Fire Department, was picked out from a breeder in Pennsylvania and brought home on April 1, 2023. Ember is a 9 month old German Shepherd that is training for search and rescue of live victims in disaster/collapse scenarios as a result of natural disasters. She is also training in tracking and trailing of missing or lost persons.

A person standing in front of a sign

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**Zachary Yack,** National Weather Service Meteorologist

**Session:** **National Weather Service Communication Tools**

Mr. Yack has had a passion for weather since he was four years old and really enjoys the challenges that comes with forecasting severe weather. Mr. Yack joined the ranks of NWS Chicago in 2021 after spending fourteen months as an on-air broadcast meteorologist for an ABC affiliate in West Virginia. Prior to beginning his professional career, he attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida where he obtained his Bachelor of Science Degree in Meteorology in May of 2020 with two minors in Geographic Information Systems and Applied Mathematics. While this is his first time calling the Chicago area home, he is very familiar with the crazy weather the Midwest has to offer as he was born and spent the majority of his life growing up in Flint, Michigan. Outside of work he is an avid car enthusiast and a huge Michigan Wolverine fan who loves watching football and motorsports in his spare time.

A person wearing glasses

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**Diane Logsdon,** Consultant

**Session: Lip Service or Full Service?**

Ms. Logsdon is a long-term disaster responder who has dozens of Federal disaster deployments and hundreds of local emergency and disaster responses. Her experience includes fatal, casualty and property destruction response working directly with the impacted community members and the responders. She also teaches the Self and Team Care block of instruction for the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy (SLEA) and Disaster Psych is her specialty in the CERT curriculum.

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**Chris Dodd**

Chris Dodd is the Manager of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security Recovery Division, Planning & Training Unit. He has over 15 years of experience in emergency management, including positions as a disaster services planner in IEMA-OHS Recovery Division, Deputy Director of Sangamon County Office of Emergency Management, and private sector work in the healthcare field. He is a 2013 graduate of Western Illinois University with a degree in Emergency Management.

**Kimerly Gotte**, ISARC Educator

**Session:  History, mission and future goals of Illinois Search and Rescue Council**

Ms. Gotte Kimberly has been involved in Search and Rescue in some way since 1975. Being born and raised in Colorado and owning horses, Search and Rescue came as a natural way to spend her volunteer time. She has been involved in ground, mounted and ATV Search and Rescue in Colorado, Arizona, Texas and now Illinois. She has been involved extensively in survival, navigation and other aspects of Search and Rescue throughout the years. Kimberly has been working with Illinois Search and Rescue Council since 2008 in one way or another. Kendall County EMA started a Search and Rescue team in 2013 and she was appointed Assistant Chief of Search and Rescue. She was promoted to Section Chief, Search and Rescue in 2016. She is also very involved in a multi-agency K9 group as a flanker and trail layer and has been for several years.