



# Lessons Learned Information Sharing

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Sharing information. Connecting experts.  
Improving homeland security.

## The Problem...

Protecting our nation against the threat of terrorism is an increasingly complex mission. Homeland security stakeholders, activities, exercises, and training programs are growing. Everyday, front-line responders at the local, state, and federal levels are creating new and innovative best practices to prevent, prepare for, and respond to acts of terrorism. Exercises and real-world incidents have produced valuable lessons learned for emergency responders—lessons that are often obscured or glossed over in “official” after-action reports. There has been no single resource for responders to effectively share lessons learned and best practices...until now.

## The MIPT/DHS Approach...

To fill this critical gap, the National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism (MIPT) in Oklahoma City, in cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness, has developed *Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS.gov)*. *Lessons Learned Information Sharing* is a national, online network of lessons learned and best practices designed to help emergency response providers and homeland security officials prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from terrorism. *Lessons Learned Information Sharing* will improve preparedness nationwide by allowing response professionals to tap into a wealth of validated front-line expertise on effective planning, training, equipping, and operational practices for homeland security.



## Network Features

**Secure:** All *LLIS.gov* users are verified emergency response providers and homeland security officials at the local, state, and federal levels. *Lessons Learned Information Sharing* uses strong encryption and active site monitoring to protect all information housed on the system.

**Peer-validated content:** The central component of *Lessons Learned Information Sharing* is a collection of peer-validated lessons learned and best practices. These lessons learned and best practices—covering the full range of homeland security disciplines and functions—have been conceived and developed by response professionals for their peers.

**Clearinghouse of information:** *Lessons Learned Information Sharing* serves as a central repository of relevant homeland security documents and events. The system is frequently updated with new reports and publications intended for homeland security personnel. The system houses an extensive catalog of after-action reports (AARs) from exercises and actual incidents. Authorized users also have access to an updated list of homeland security exercises, events, and conferences.

**Information sharing:** The system houses a directory of responders and homeland security officials, allowing users to see contact information for other authorized users. Individuals with functional expertise are identified throughout the system, allowing users to communicate with and learn from those with more experience and proficiency. *Lessons Learned Information Sharing* also includes online collaboration tools including secure email and message boards where users can exchange information.

**Self-sustaining network:** To sustain and develop the *LLIS.gov* system, users are constantly encouraged to provide feedback about the system's content through message boards and surveys. Users can also submit potential lessons learned, best practices, upcoming events, and AARs for inclusion on the system.