



# FEMA

## September 2007: Community Preparedness News



### The View from HQ

September is a big month for Citizen Corps. First, we are delighted to welcome Brock D. Bierman as the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) new Director of the Community Preparedness Division. The Citizen Corps Program is operated out of the Community Preparedness Division, as part of the FEMA reorganization that started in April 2007. Mr. Bierman is also FEMA’s Small State and Rural Advocate. A long-time supporter of community participation and volunteerism, Mr. Bierman has given his time and talents to numerous boards and community groups throughout his career. He entered public service as a representative in the Rhode Island state legislature, where he served three consecutive terms. Most recently, Mr. Bierman comes to us from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), where he was Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to the Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, since 2002.

Next, you may have noticed that we changed the name of the newsletter to better reflect Citizen Corps’ place in the new FEMA, and emphasize the community aspect of our mission.

Last, but certainly not least, September is National Preparedness Month! We hope that all of our readers will join or help sponsor preparedness events in their communities throughout the month. Inside, we have highlighted some of the incredible efforts that are already underway around the nation. Be sure to get counted—post your events on our Citizen Corps Calendar: <http://www.citizencorps.gov/cc/showEvent.do>. If you haven’t yet decided on an event, visit the calendar for ideas and inspiration.

### September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month is sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security and promoted around the nation through its *Ready* Campaign and FEMA’s Community Preparedness Division, as well as through thousands of partners. This special edition of the Citizen Corps Newsletter focuses on preparedness activities and tips from various organizations that are participating this year. Help bring this year’s National Preparedness Month slogan—“*Get a kit, make a plan, be informed and get involved*”—to life by actively supporting the four areas of preparedness selected as the focus each week this September:

- o September 1-8: Back-to-School
- o September 9-15: Business preparedness
- o September 16-22: Multicultural preparedness
- o September 23-30: Home and family preparedness including: pets, older Americans, and individuals with disabilities and special needs

### By the Numbers:

Citizen Corps Councils:	2,251
CERT	2,716
Fire Corps	674
MRC	695
NWP	14,791
VIPS	1,600
Affiliates	25

**THERE IS STILL TIME to register as a National Preparedness Month Coalition member and get involved through your Citizen Corps Council. Visit: <http://www.ready.gov/america/npm07/index.html>**

**To sign up, and to post your events on the Citizen Corps Calendar go to: <http://www.citizencorps.gov/cc/showEvent.do?submitCalendar>**

## Borrow These Ideas: New York City's National Preparedness Month Plan

The New York City Citizen Corps Council, in conjunction with the New York Office of Emergency Management, is carrying out a comprehensive plan to promote National Preparedness Month (NPM) 2007:

- On September 6, 2007, the New York City Citizen Corps Council will help kick off National Preparedness Month by distributing over 160,000 preparedness guides at major transportation hubs.
- The New York City Citizen Corps Council produced an NPM planning sheet with activities that individuals, community organizations and businesses can implement during NPM, such as family preparedness night, community preparedness fairs, or volunteer training.
- A preparedness message will be inserted in all City employee pay stubs.
- The NYC Office of Emergency Management has created two new age-appropriate *Ready New York for Kids* preparedness guides for elementary students and middle/high school students. The guides will be distributed to NYC's 1.2 million public school students and over 800,000 non-public school students.
- Through a partnership with Con Edison power company, storm safety and preparedness information will be included in the company's monthly newsletter to over 8 million customers.
- Through a partnership with area supermarkets, items appropriate for emergency supply kits will be highlighted in supermarket circulars.
- The Metropolitan Transportation Authority will distribute Ready New York branded metro cards.
- Multi-lingual advertising will be placed in community and ethnic newspapers to reach these groups with preparedness messages.

For more information on the Ready NY program, contact Amber Greene at [agreene@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:agreene@oem.nyc.gov). For more information on the NYC Citizen Corp Council, please contact Herman Schaffer at [hschaffer@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:hschaffer@oem.nyc.gov).

## Back to School Preparedness In Focus

There are many things that can be done at home and before kids go back to school to help family and friends get prepared for emergencies.

Here are just a few ideas:

- Ask teachers to have a family communication plan lesson, where everyone in the class prepares a plan on how parents can get in touch with their kids, and where they will pick them up if school is let out early during an emergency
- Contact a local [Citizen Corps Council](#) and ask them to send someone to talk about school safety and what people should do to prepare
- Invite a local fire professional to demonstrate basic fire safety tips at school and at home
- Help schools plan and practice an emergency drill
- Learn what kinds of hazards could affect the local school district—such as floods and tornados



Log on to:  
[www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov)  
 to find a Citizen  
 Corps Council near  
 you!



**September 15 – October 15 is National Hispanic Heritage Month.**

**Did you know.....**  
**As of July 1, 2006, the estimated Hispanic Population was 44.3 million. This also means Hispanics constituted 15 % of the total U.S. population.**

*Source: US Census Bureau*

**Did you know.....**  
**Home related injuries result in nearly 20,000 deaths and 21 million medical visits on average each year**

*Source:*  
[www.homesafetycouncil.org](http://www.homesafetycouncil.org)

**Business Preparedness In Focus**

Designed as a call-to-action for business leaders, the Ready Campaign has created Ready Business Mentoring Initiative. This new initiative is designed to help owners and managers of small and medium-sized businesses prepare for emergencies.

Ready Business Mentoring Initiative includes the Ready Business Mentoring Guides which are designed to teach business owners and managers about affordable ways to better protect their businesses. In addition, the Ready Campaign collaborated with the Education Disaster Extension Network (EDEN) to create presentation materials to support the Ready Business Mentoring Guides.

These materials assist business and community leaders in hosting and delivering business preparedness workshops and training sessions. These sessions and the Ready Business Mentoring Guides outline how businesses can plan to stay in business; talk to employees; and protect assets. For more information, visit <http://www.ready.gov/business/mentor/index.htm>.

**Multicultural Preparedness in Focus**

The National Association of Hispanic Firefighters is hosting its annual conference from September 26- 30, 2007, in Dallas, TX. This event stresses the importance of multicultural preparedness and multilingual resources to ensure the safety of all citizens—both English and non-English speaking.

To celebrate both NPM and National Hispanic Month, participants will distribute Spanish-language preparedness materials from September 15 to October 15 at places of worship, community centers and senior centers. Leaders in the Hispanic community are also encouraged to speak about the importance of preparedness at schools and community forums.

Conference workshops include *Mis Primeros Pasos*, designed to teach educators how to effectively present fire safety information to Spanish-speaking preschool and elementary school students, and *Los Buenos Recuerdos*, which offers caretakers of elderly populations ways in which to present fire safety information to Spanish-speaking senior citizens.

**Family Preparedness in Focus**

The Home Safety Council’s (HSC) mission is to educate people and families to be safer in and around their homes. As part of National Preparedness Month efforts, HSC, a Citizen Corps Affiliate, is helping elementary students and their families prepare for unexpected emergencies through the popular *Get Ready with Freddie!* program. HSC is distributing the program and its subsequent materials to over 13 million teachers, students and their families and network members representing other disciplines will distribute the same materials in an effort to reach more people in communities. HSC is also sponsoring the “*Kids Prepare America*” contest, that will be conducted in fall 2007, to showcase how students across America are driving family preparedness efforts in their own homes. If the *Get Ready with Freddie* program does not reach classrooms in your area, free downloadable materials are available focusing on family preparedness on the website for teachers at

[http://www.homesafetycouncil.org/home/home\\_jan06\\_w002.aspx](http://www.homesafetycouncil.org/home/home_jan06_w002.aspx). The materials were developed with the support of Lowe’s and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA. For home safety guides directed toward adult audiences go to [http://www.homesafetycouncil.org/safety\\_guide/safetyguide.aspx](http://www.homesafetycouncil.org/safety_guide/safetyguide.aspx).

## Focus on Faith-Based Communities: Secure Community Network

*Submitted by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Center for Faith Based and Community Initiatives*

Faith-based communities play an important role in personal and community preparedness. With their strong internal networks they can often quickly reach out to their constituents with alerts and warnings, or with a call to volunteer. In many instances, faith organizations have offered houses of worship as temporary shelters for mass evacuations and other care.

For the past two years, the Secure Communities Network (SCN) has worked to promote individual and community preparedness. Inspired in many ways by the Citizens Corps model, the SCN works with law enforcement and other agencies, but it focuses primarily on outreach to Jewish faith communities, rather than geographically based communities. SCN is currently working with DHS to coordinate the Department's Soft Targets Awareness Training for Places of Worship, an introductory terrorism awareness training course currently available to all religious groups throughout the United States. In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services has partnered with SCN to coordinate efforts and programs to increase awareness and preparedness for community-based planning in response to the threat posed by a pandemic flu outbreak.

As one of its core initiatives, SCN motivates and mobilizes the organized Jewish communities nationwide, providing them with the tools and guidance to take responsibility for their local communal safety and security; establishing a culture of safety, security, and preparedness. Through SCN, the organized Jewish community has established a coordinated approach for community wide notifications, crisis management and security measures emphasizing common standards for enabling Jewish communities throughout North America to embrace and evidence a culture of security awareness.

### *About SCN*

*SCN was established in 2004 as the first non profit organization officially recognized by the Department of Homeland Security and other state and local agencies for filling an information sharing and homeland security capacity building void in the Jewish-American Community. To contact and work with an SCN chapter in your area, please visit <http://www.scnus.org>.*

### FEMA RESOURCES:

#### Hurricane Preparedness

For information on what to do before, during and after a hurricane go to:

<http://www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/index.shtm>

#### Wildfire Mitigation

For information on what to do before, during and after a wildfire go to:

<http://www.fema.gov/hazard/wildfire/index.shtm>



The Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness Directorate has issued an information bulletin to clarify the use of Homeland Security Grant Program funds for CERT training. To read this bulletin, visit:

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/doc/IB-261-CERT20070802.pdf>

Help inform people in your community about the importance of including a NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards/Public Alert Radio in their emergency preparedness efforts.

To learn more about NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards and the Public Alert designation, Visit:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/allhazard.htm>

## DHS Announces \$1.7 Billion in Homeland Security Grants

The Department of Homeland Security recently announced the final Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) awards totaling \$1.7 billion, including a total of almost \$411 million to the nation's six urban areas at highest risk of a terrorist attack: New York City/Northern New Jersey; the National Capital Region; Los Angeles/Long Beach; the California Bay Area; Houston; and Chicago.

This program is comprised of five separate grant programs:

- State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) \$509,250,000
- Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) \$746,900,000
- Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETTP) \$363,750,000
- Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) \$32,010,000
- Citizen Corps Program (CCP) \$14,550,000

The MMRS and CCP programs receive formula allocations and were announced in January. The recent announcement outlines final competitive portions of SHSP, UASI and LETTP grants. All together, these grants fund a range of preparedness activities, including planning, organization, equipment purchase, training, exercises, and management and administration costs. The State Administrative Agency (SAA) is the only agency eligible to administer FY 2007 HSGP funds. A listing of each state's SAA is available at: [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/contact\\_state.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/contact_state.htm). Grant guidance stipulates that "SAAs must coordinate all citizen involvement in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response, and recovery funded with any source of HSGP funds with [the State Citizen Corps Program Manager]" (pages 65- 66). For more information on the HSGP and other DHS programs, visit [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov).

## NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards

An all hazards/public alert warning radio is a simple and affordable preparedness tool that anyone can obtain online and in many stores. When deciding on a radio, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)—a Citizen Corps Affiliate— suggests looking for receivers that carry the "Public Alert" logo. The Public Alert Standard (CEA-2009) was developed by the Consumer Electronics Association in conjunction with the National Weather Service. Devices carrying the Public Alert logo meet certain technical standards and come with a number of features, including:

- Tone alarm prior to a broadcast, which activates the radio receiver even if the audio is turned off.
- SAME technology, or Specific Alert Message Encoding, which allows users specify the particular area for which they wish to receive alerts.
- Events alert selection, which allows the user to turn off the alarm for certain events that may not be important to the user.
- Battery backup to provide constant coverage during power outages that often occur during storms.
- External antenna jack, which will allow users to connect to a larger antenna (indoors or outdoors) in areas where reception is less reliable.
- To learn more about NOAA All Hazards/Public Alert Radios, please go to <http://www.weather.gov/nwr/>.

## Partner Programs

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** educates citizens about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations.



**RIGHT NOW:** New CERT training efforts have focused on Train-the-Trainer, Teen CERT, and Campus CERT, as well as a specialized Teen Tribal CERT train the trainer course.

**Fire Corps** promotes the use of citizen advocates to enhance the capacity of resource-constrained fire and rescue departments at all levels: volunteer, combination, and career.



**RIGHT NOW:** New Fire Corps tools include 1-800-Fire-Line tool kit with forms instructing groups on how to conduct Public Service Announcements, tips for marketing, information used to order street signs, and training/awareness campaigns using the Fire Corps curriculum.

The **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)** strengthens communities by helping medical, public health, and other volunteers offer their expertise throughout the year as well as during local emergencies and other times of community need.



**RIGHT NOW:** MRC and its many units are advancing the priorities of the U.S. Surgeon General by helping to promote disease prevention, improve health literacy, eliminate health disparities, and enhance public health preparedness. Other units are focusing primarily on preparedness and response activities, for example: Duval, FL, volunteers participated with the local Health Department staff in a “Back-to-School Round-up”, providing physicals, TB tests and immunizations to local students.

**Neighborhood Watch/USA on Watch** incorporates terrorism awareness education into its existing crime prevention mission, while serving as a way to bring residents together to focus on emergency preparedness and emergency response training.

**RIGHT NOW:** USAonWatch group registrations have increased 17 percent in last six months to a total of 17,416 representatives around the US. One potential contributor to this increase is the popularity of the Apartment Neighborhood Watch program.



The **Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)** program works to enhance the capacity of state and local law enforcement to utilize volunteers by serving as a gateway to resources and information for and about law enforcement volunteer programs.

**RIGHT NOW:** VIPS is re-designing its website to provide a comprehensive site search tool, anniversary video, educational videos (and more resources). On-the-ground volunteers like those of Mesa, AZ, Police Department, staff the mobile traffic monitoring unit by keeping track of traffic, running license plates, watching for speeders, and responding to residents' speed complaints.



*The Partner Program Directors for Citizen Corps met with the Citizen Corps headquarters staff in early August.*



*From left to right: Rob Tosatto (MRC), Claire Reiss (PERI), Dean Trombley (MRC), Sarah Lee (NFVC), Melissa Speed (FC), Lori Moon (FC), Deborah Meadir (DOJ), Robbi Woodson (Neighborhood WATCH), Rachel Jacky (CERT) and Nancy Kolb (in attendance but not shown in this photo).*

**“Adopt a Senior”**

A new program in Pittsylvania County, VA, will help residents who live alone feel safer. Each resident will be paired up with a CERT volunteer.



*Kari Wood, Fire Corps Director for Johnson County, AR, Rural Fire District #1*



*New Jersey Citizen Corps volunteers, Joseph Geleta, Arlene Fogarty, Lynn Williams, Bob Hackett, Stephen Nebesni and “Rex” at the Radio Disney stop in New Jersey (from left to right).*

**Coming Soon: Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training for People who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

The Denver CERT is planning a 16-hour disaster preparedness and response training course that will include how to plan ahead for a disaster and teach basic response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations to those who are deaf or hard of hearing. At the completion of this training, participants are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in communities.

For more information or to reserve your spot: <http://www.denvergov.org/oem>, Carolyn Bluhm, OEM: 720.865.7600 V; [DenverCERT@denvergov.org](mailto:DenverCERT@denvergov.org); Lorrie A. Kosinski, DCPD, [lorrie.kosinski@denvergov.org](mailto:lorrie.kosinski@denvergov.org).

**Fire Corps Members Take First Place at National Leadership Conference**

Fire Corps members from the University of the Ozarks’ Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) business organization in Clarksville, AR, won first place in a competitive community service event at the PBL National Leadership Conference in June. Their project, the *Kidsfest Safety Fair*, was presented by Johnson County Rural Fire District #1 Fire Corps Director, Kari Wood. The Fair included a Fire Safety Parade, fire safety house, and Kidprint ID booth. Fire Corps will now be promoted as a national PBL community service project, accessible to 15,000 chapters across the US.

**CERT Olympians of Texas!**

The McKinney, TX, Fire Department will hold its 4th Annual McKinney CERT Olympics at Collin County Community College Fire-Rescue Training Complex September 7-8, 2007. This two-day event will consist of both individual and team skills, guest speakers, awards, hands-on training, and exciting competition.

**State and Local Citizen Corps Council News**

**Radio Disney Update: New Jersey Citizen Corps Educates Shoppers on Family Preparedness**

In July, New Jersey Citizen Corps and local CERTs partnered with the *Ready* Campaign to staff a preparedness booth and distributed emergency preparedness materials as part of the *Radio Disney* tour stop in Rockaway, NJ. While the tour focused on children’s health this year, New Jersey Citizen Corps took advantage of the opportunity to promote family emergency preparedness among the citizens of New Jersey and New York. Morris County Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator Rick Loock and Morris County CERT Coordinator Steve Donnelly helped recruit Citizen Corps volunteers from the Morris County Citizen Corps and Morris County CERT, Volunteers from CERT Teams in Roxbury Township and Kinnelon also helped.

## 8th National Conference on Preventing Crime

The National Crime Prevention Council is having its 8th National Conference on Preventing Crime October 3-5, 2007, in Atlanta, GA. The conference will feature three keynote addresses and more than 65 training sessions covering issues such as:

- Crime Prevention for Business
- Partnering with Government and Law Enforcement
- Promoting Crime Prevention and Personal Safety Basics
- Protecting Children and Youth
- Leadership in Crime Prevention Emerging Crime Trends

For more information or to register, visit:

[http://www.ncpc.org/trainin  
g/national-  
conference/registration-  
forms](http://www.ncpc.org/trainin<br/>g/national-<br/>conference/registration-<br/>forms)

## Affiliate Highlights

### Operation HOPE Promotes Personal Financial Preparedness

Operation HOPE has planned a number of activities to celebrate National Preparedness Month throughout September. Through a series of preparedness fairs in and around Los Angeles and outreach to other area emergency management and volunteer organizations, Hope Coalition staff will educate the public about financial preparation for and recovery from disasters and emergencies and distribute our reparation and recovery documents, the Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK) and the Personal Preparedness Guide (PDPG). For free online access to these documents, go to <http://www.operationhope.org/smdev/lf1.php?id=187>.

Hope Coalition staff in the Gulf Coast area will be holding preparedness and recovery seminars in Gulfport and New Orleans communities, in partnership with local and state government agencies, as well as similar events in several of HOPE Centers across the country: Los Angeles, Watts, Oakland, Harlem, and Washington, DC. For more information, email [hopecoalition@operationhope.org](mailto:hopecoalition@operationhope.org) or call Diane Sellers at 213-891-2900.

### First Civil Air Patrol Wing Completes CERT Training

New Jersey Wing members of the U.S. Civil Air Patrol (CAP) recently completed Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to become the first Wing to incorporate this training. CAP's programs usually entail aerospace education, Cadet training and emergency operations missions, such as aerial surveys of disaster locations.

Lt. Col. Richard Olszewski, Wing training director, organized the training campaign in coordination with Lt. Joseph Geleta of the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management. "New Jersey CERT is now over 10,000 members and CAP was a part of a large number of teams that completed training that placed us over the 10,000 mark," said Geleta, a New Jersey Wing member in his youth.

Training began in February and covered such topics as basic first aid, family disaster preparedness, CERT operations, disaster mental health, basic emergency management and working effectively as a team while under the stress of an emergency.

CAP Wings with CERT training can become a valuable asset to any state or local agency.

### Annual ARRL Simulated Emergency Test

The Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) has begun preparations for its annual Simulated Emergency Test to help demonstrate amateur radio's readiness and active participation in emergency communications. Starting the first weekend in October, the annual ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by ARRL Field Organization Leaders across the country. ARRL is joined in this exercise by the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®), ARRL National Traffic System, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and several other amateur radio public-service oriented groups. The Simulated Emergency Test gives participants the opportunity to focus on emergency-communication capabilities while interacting with public-service agencies, organizations and related emergency-response groups. Although the main Simulated Emergency Test weekend in 2007 is October 6 -7, local and ARRL section-wide exercises may be held throughout the upcoming fall season.



**Citizen Corps Affiliate Programs and Organizations offer communities resources for public education, outreach, and training; represent volunteers interested in helping to make their community safer; or offer volunteer service opportunities to support first responders, disaster relief activities, and community safety efforts.**

### **Affiliate National Preparedness Month Highlights**

Many of Citizen Corps' 25 National Affiliates are registered as NPM Coalition members and are actively planning for events in September for National Preparedness Month. Below are several examples of activities taking place.

- The American Legion is distributing 30,000 copies of a Disaster Preparedness Guide to their 14,000 Posts
- The American Legion Auxiliary will be promoting CERT training to all of their units throughout the country and conducting outreach to members throughout the United States
- The Civil Air Patrol will be distributing preparedness materials their 55,000 volunteers – 12,000 of whom are volunteer pilots.
- The Home Safety Council will distribute information to help families across the nation prepare for emergencies while they also get ready to launch “Get Ready with Freddie” – The Home Safety Council’s school safety education program
- MyGoodDeed.org is using its website to encourage visitors to post preparedness plans
- In addition to using media outlets to promote preparedness, The National Safety Council is offering free workshops titled "*Planning for Emergencies: Strategies for Small Businesses*"

### **Minnesota Bridge Collapse**

After the bridge collapse in Minneapolis, MN, in August, local Citizen Corps partners and Affiliates rushed to help. The American Red Cross operated a Family Assistance Center at the Holiday Inn Metrodome, where critical incident stress counselors provided support to those affected by the tragedy. About 40 Red Cross workers and 132 volunteers total provided assistance. The Minnesota State Citizen Corps and local Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) units also assisted. MRC behavioral health volunteers worked at the family center to provide crisis counseling. The Minnesota Department of Health’s “Minnesota Responds” medical professional database was accessed by the local Medical Reserve Corps to recruit credible health counseling professionals to volunteer at the family center that was established at the hotel.

### **The National Leader in Volunteerism**

Minneapolis leads the nation in volunteerism. A recent report from the Corporation for National & Community Service found that Minneapolis-St. Paul led the nation's cities with a 40.5 percent volunteer rate. Nearly 1 million residents chalked up 106.7 million hours per year between 2004 and 2006.

## Three-Month Outlook

Consider incorporating some of these themes into your community preparedness activities over the coming months.

### September

- National Preparedness Month
- September 11, 2007: Anniversary Attacks
- September 15-October 15, 2007: National Hispanic Heritage Month
- September 17, 2007: Citizenship Day
- September 23-29, 2007: Deaf Awareness Week

### October

- Crime Prevention Month
- Diversity Awareness Month
- Oct. 7-13, 2007: Fire Prevention Week

### November

- National American Indian Heritage Month
- November 4, 2007: Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 11, 2007: Veterans' Day
- November 22, 2007: Thanksgiving Day

## Editorial Policy

Citizen Corps welcomes your stories and best practices. If you would like to submit a story for consideration, please review our editorial policy.

- **Due Date:** All articles must be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be considered for the next newsletter.
- **Length:** Articles should be between 50 – 150 words, or one to three paragraphs.
- **Format:** Submit text in Word 12pt Times New Roman, or paste directly into your email. Articles submitted as PDF will be not be used.
- **Previously Published Articles:** If you wish to submit a published article, you must obtain and include written permission from the publication, to comply with copyright laws.
- **Photos:** If submitting a photo, attach it to your email as a JPG or TIF file. Include the names of people in the photo and a description of what they are doing and why. NOTE: Photos are assumed to be approved for publication.
- **Complete Information:** Be sure to include complete and accurate information, including city and state, name of people or organizations involved, date of activity, contact information for author, and other relevant information.
- **Changes:** Citizen Corps retains the right to edit all stories for length, clarity, and accuracy.
- **Acceptance:** Submissions are selected based on a variety of factors, including but not limited to: activities of national interest, timeliness, space available, completeness of information, relevance, and other criteria.
- **Where to submit:** Please submit your articles to your regional program managers, and copy your state Citizen Corps program manager. (For a listing of state contacts, please visit: [www.citizencorps.gov/citizenCorps/statepoc.do](http://www.citizencorps.gov/citizenCorps/statepoc.do).)
  - o Regions 1, 2, and 3 (CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NJ, NH, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands): Angela Heim: [angela.heim@dhs.gov](mailto:angela.heim@dhs.gov)
  - o Regions 4 and 7 (AL, CO, FL, GA, KY, MS, MT, NC, ND, SC, SD, TN, UT, WY): Stephanie Poore: [Stephanie.poore@dhs.gov](mailto:Stephanie.poore@dhs.gov)
  - o Regions 5 and 7 (IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, OH, WI): Jim Opoka: [james.opoka@dhs.gov](mailto:james.opoka@dhs.gov)
  - o Regions 6, 9, and 10 (AK, AR, AZ, CA, ID, HI, LA, NM, NV, OK, TX, WA, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands) Fred Bretsch: [fred.bretsch@dhs.gov](mailto:fred.bretsch@dhs.gov)
  - o Program Partners: Angela Palombaro [angela.palombaro@dhs.gov](mailto:angela.palombaro@dhs.gov)
  - o CERT: [cert@dhs.gov](mailto:cert@dhs.gov)



FEMA

