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The U.S. Fire Administration maintains the **Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC)**.

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.

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Law Enforcement Guidance for UAS Issues

Federal authorities have recently released new regulations regarding the use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), nicknamed “drones,” as well as issuing guidance to law enforcement agencies on handling unauthorized or unsafe UAS operations.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced a new, mandatory registration process for UAS. [All UAS must be registered by February 19, 2016](#), and UAS purchased on or after December 21 must be registered before they are put into use. [Up to 1 million new UAS were purchased for Christmas this year](#), putting a responsibility on these new “aviators” that they may not yet be aware of. The specifics and details about this new registration process are listed on the [FAA’s UAS Registration page](#). UAS operators who do not register could face civil or criminal penalties.

Following on the heels of this new requirement was [guidance for law enforcement agencies on how to handle suspected illegal, unauthorized, or unsafe UAS operations](#) (PDF, 710 Kb). Since the regulation above has such a short deadline, departments and law-making authorities don’t have much time to address how they will handle an unregistered UAS operator. The guidance presents the legal framework that will be the basis of action against unauthorized UAS operators or those operating them unsafely.

The FAA has also released a [2-page quick reference sheet](#) (PDF, 363 Kb) detailing the types of documentation different types of UAS need, where to find [Temporary Flight Restrictions](#), the contact phone numbers and email addresses of FAA Regional Operations Centers, and short step-by-step instructions on what officers should do if they suspect unsafe or unauthorized UAS operation. In addition, it provides a space to write in the protocol of your jurisdiction, making this an ideal tool for departments to hand out to officers during an upcoming brief or training on the new UAS regulations.

(Source: [FAA](#))

TRANSCAER 2016 HazMat Training Schedule

TRANSCAER released the 2016 training schedule for its online Chlorine Emergency Response Webinars and Rail Safety and HazMat Emergency Response Training Tour.

The 90-minute [Chlorine Emergency Response Webinars](#) (PDF, 104 Kb) are scheduled at different days of the week and times to better serve diverse time zones and

work schedules. The course is an awareness-level training for first responders, hazmat specialists, emergency managers, and other interested stakeholders.

The [Rail Safety and HazMat Emergency Response Training Tour](#) (PDF, 108 Kb) is targeting technicians and specialists. It will cover toxic gases (chlorine and hydrogen chloride), corrosive liquids (hydrochloric acid and caustic soda), and flammable gases (vinyl chloride). TRANSCAER will hold training in 16 locations between February and November, and most locations will host several 1-day trainings.

These free trainings are provided as part of TRANSCAER's mission to help communities prepare for the possibility of a hazardous materials transportation incident. TRANSCAER consists of voluntary members from transportation, chemical industry, government, distributors, and emergency response fields. Visit their website for more training, webinars, and tools.

(Source: [TRANSCAER](#))

Wildfire Mitigation Training Available for 2016

2015 was heavy in wildfire damage. The [National Interagency Fire Center](#) counted almost 56,000 fires burning over 9.8 million acres, which makes it the worst fire season on record in terms of acres burned.

Fire departments in areas prone to wildfires can use the [Wildland Fire Assessment Program](#) (WFAP) to strengthen their communities against the threat. The program is available to train departments to conduct home safety assessments in order to detect threats to buildings and educate the community on enhancing their preparedness.

The WFAP program includes a 4-hour train-the-trainer course, held either in-person or online; a toolkit; assessment tools to track assessments and recommendations made to residents; liability waivers; sample press releases; certificate templates; and marketing tools. There are also data tracking tools so departments can determine their impact.

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) and the U.S. Forest Service developed this program to help volunteer departments help their communities. Now is a great time to think about the 2016 wildfire season while the wildfire activity is relatively quiet. Those communities interested in hosting in-person training can [contact NVFC](#) to arrange it.

(Source: [NVFC](#))

Workplace Violence Guide for Healthcare Settings

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has updated their publication "[Guidelines for Preventing Workplace Violence for Healthcare and Social Service Workers](#)" (PDF, 4.5 Mb). The guide is written for a variety of healthcare facilities and discusses both how to reduce the risk of violence in the workplace as well as the impact to the sector.

OSHA has many more resources available on its [Workplace Violence website](#), including more information on prevention programs, guides targeting other industries and fields, statistics, enforcement, and information on anti-retaliation and whistleblower protection. There is also a [Hospital eTool](#) that provides prevention measures, physical security tips, and other resources.

(Source: [OSHA](#))

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