

FEMA



CDP Alumnus

Center for Domestic Preparedness – Anniston, AL

CDP Mission

The CDP develops and delivers training for emergency response providers from state, local, and tribal governments and, when appropriate, the federal government, foreign governments, and private entities.

CDP Vision

An emergency response community prepared for and capable of responding to all-hazards events.

CDP Training Tally

800,428 as of Nov. 30, 2013

Feedback

The CDP wants to hear from you. How can we make this newsletter better? Please e-mail suggestions to: newsletter_feedback@cdpemail.dhs.gov

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Healthcare professionals attending training at the CDP decontaminate a simulated disaster survivor. These responders are from New Jersey, preparing for Super Bowl 48.

New Jersey Uses CDP Training for Super Bowl 48

If past Super Bowls are any indication, Super Bowl 48 stands to pack more than 70,000 fans in the bleachers of MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. The Meadowlands Sports Complex will be the spectacle of the most popular program on television, Feb. 2, 2014.

With tragic memories of double explosions during the final leg of the Boston Marathon as vivid as if it happened yesterday, New Jersey emergency responders remain vigilant in preparation for the big game. Recently, more than 100 New Jerseyans, including firefighters, medical staff members, law enforcement, hazardous materials, and radiological responders joined together at the CDP in preparation for perhaps the largest sporting event of the year.

“This training is part of our preparation plans,” said Kelley Esposito, regional director of safety for Community & Kimball Medical Centers, Ocean County, N.J. “We work closely with the Burn

Medical Coordination Center (BMCC) located within the Barnabas Health system and have a staffing plan ready for the Super Bowl. This training will help assure the activation of the BMCC will run smoothly.”

The emergency workers each attended one of four CDP courses during the week—each having a focus on a catastrophic event resulting in mass casualties. At the end of training, the students were introduced to the CDP’s Integrated Capstone Event (ICE) where students from individual courses join forces in a single exercise; all of the students working together in a single response.

“If a large-scale event occurs during the Super Bowl, a portion of the resources that would respond are here,” said Jim Rapp, emergency response specialist from the New Jersey State Police Hazardous Material Response Unit. “Having the possibility for our agencies to work together to fine tune and hone



our response capabilities is an opportunity to prepare and perfect our plan.”

“The ICE provides an extra sense of realism to our game plan,” said Rodric Bowman, deputy chief of planning and project management for the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness. “This parallels real world. If a hazardous event occurs, we are going to work with other partners and agencies. The CDP training mirrored a real-life event and made us all more confident. This environment allows everyone to use the knowledge they have and also learn new ways to conduct business.”

CDP training focuses on incident management, mass casualty response, and emergency response to a catastrophic disaster or terrorist act. In addition to unique venues, the CDP offers the latest techniques and procedures and provides responders the chance to use a broad range of equipment during their training.

“Without preparedness you can’t respond and preparedness involves training and planning,” said Rapp. “Once the plan is put down on paper you have to make sure it is going to work. That is all part of the preparedness process. Training like this brings together the different players so they can see if their individual agency plans mesh with other



A simulated patient is decontaminated by response personnel from New Jersey, during training at the CDP. The emergency workers each attended one of four CDP courses recently—each having a focus on a catastrophic event resulting in mass casualties.

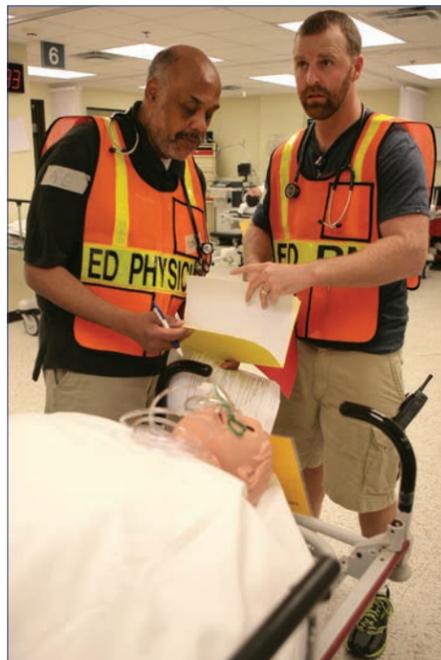
home organization and neighboring response units. These trainers deliver training in their jurisdictions and receive ongoing administrative support and certification from the CDP.

“We train together back home and the [TtT] course makes it possible for others to receive this training,” said Esposito. “This is a major benefit to bring back to our home agency in an effort to prepare more of our staff. We are better able to develop our plans for a Super Bowl emergency resulting in a mass casualty incident.”

In addition to the training received in Anniston, the CDP provided non-resident training to nearly 100 other law enforcement officers in the Garden State earlier this year. These emergency responders all have the ability to respond confidently and safely in the event of an incident during the Super Bowl. As the state prepares for the February gridiron showdown, they continue to plan and prepare others on their staffs, using CDP training, techniques and course materials in an effort to save lives and respond appropriately.

agencies.”

Training provided within states and local jurisdictions by state and local trainers is a critical component of national preparedness. A select few of the New Jersey response teams also finished the week with an eight-hour Train-the-Trainer (TtT) course, allowing them to continue training more emergency responders at home. Through qualified TtT programs, CDP graduates deliver TtT courses in their



Medical personnel monitor a Human Patient Simulator during hospital training at the CDP. Responders from the Garden State have attended multiple courses throughout 2013 in preparation for Super Bowl 48.



Emergency response personnel, representing law enforcement, radiological technicians, firefighters and healthcare, discuss a response scenario during CDP training.

CDP News

Mike King Selected as CDP Superintendent

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) National Preparedness Directorate’s (NPD) and National Training and Exercise Division announced Charles King (Mike) as the new Superintendent for the CDP.

Mr. King was sworn in as the new CDP Superintendent Dec. 16. Mr. King has been the Acting Superintendent at the CDP since May 2013. Tony Russell, Director, Training and Education, National Preparedness Directorate, administered the oath, as Mrs. Beth King held the bible.

“I am humbled and proud to be selected as the Superintendent of the CDP,” said King. “The CDP has enjoyed strong leadership over its history, and I am honored to be a part of that tradition. The CDP mission to train emergency response personnel across the nation is more vital than ever in today’s world. I am privileged to continue to lead a staff of immensely talented individuals who work daily to achieve a high standard of excellence in all operations, and I am confident that the CDP’s role as a premier national training center



Tony Russell (right), Director Training and Education, National Preparedness Directorate, administers the oath to Mike King, appointing him as the new CDP Superintendent, Dec. 16. Mrs. Beth King proudly holds the Bible as Mr. King is sworn in. Photo by Benjamin Crossley/CDP.

will continue to grow and develop as a result of their unparalleled efforts.”

“We are honored and excited about the future of the CDP,” said Russell. “It was a wide search and we selected the best person possible. The CDP is a national asset and important to FEMA’s re-

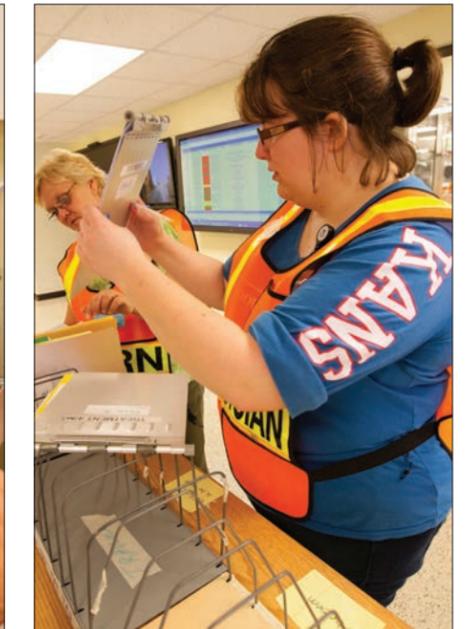
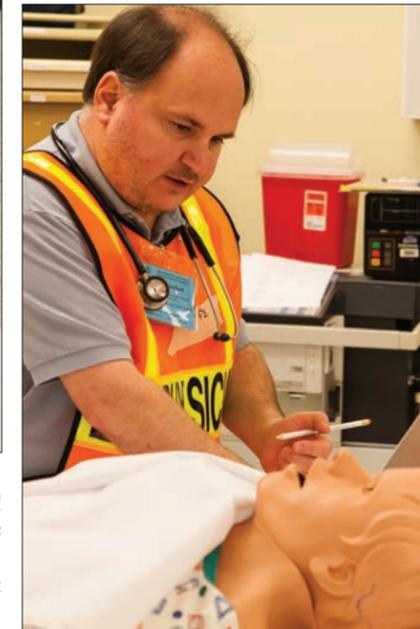
sponse and training mission. Mike will ensure the future of that mission.”

Mr. King joined the CDP in 2005 as the Director of Operations and Support after working seven years as a contract consultant to the United States Army. In October 2008, he was appointed as CDP Deputy Superintendent serving as the Chief Operating Officer for oversight and management of CDP. Mr. King retired from Army service in 1997, at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel after 21 years in the Military Police Corps.

Mr. King holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Resources from the University of Georgia and a Master of Science degree in Business Administration from Boston University. Originally from Macon, Georgia, Mr. King is married and has three children and four grandchildren.

We need your story. If you have used CDP training during a real-world event we want to know about it. You might be featured in future Stories From the Field. We will do the work. Just let us know. Email: pao@cdpemail.dhs.gov or call (256) 847-2212.

Kansas Regional Preparedness Group Trains at CDP



Hospital professionals from Kansas participate in the Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents (HCL) course at the Noble Training Facility (NTF) conducted by the Center for Domestic Preparedness. The NTF is the only hospital in the nation solely dedicated to preparing the healthcare, public health, and environmental health communities for mass casualty response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster. The group represented 19 counties and 31 hospitals from the Sunflower State. HCL is designed to assist healthcare professionals in generating decisions in response to a mass casualty incident. During the four-day class, the students trained to provide a realistic medical response in an actual treatment facility. The NTF provides the perfect setting to mirror an emergency department surge and the activation of a hospital's command center during a mass casualty healthcare response. Photos by Benjamin Crossley, CDP External Affairs.

The South Central Kansas Regional Hospital Preparedness Group attended training at the CDP during November. The group, 53 in total, attended the Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents (HCL) course, representing 19 counties and 31 hospitals from the Sunflower State.

“Disasters are never planned,” said Diana Lippoldt, Director of Nursing for Trauma, Critical Care and Emergency Preparedness at the Wesley Medical Center of Wichita, Kan. “This training places us in an environment we can very well expect in a disaster. [I think] the training helps us minimize chaos and deal with the emergency. It teaches us to communicate and manage an event.”

These healthcare professionals trained at the CDP’s Noble Training Facility (NTF), the only hospital in the nation solely dedicated to preparing the healthcare, public health, and environmental health communities for mass casualty response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster.

“We’re always preparing in Kansas,” said Tom Donnay, an Emergency Department nurse at Wesley. “The more we train, the more prepared we are. This was an opportunity for our group to work across disciplines and see how everyone comes into play during the process of leading a health-care facility. The beauty of this group is the diversity in professions and backgrounds. We have EMS, nurses, administrators, physicians, emergency managers, county coroners, spanning the crosswalk of the Emergency Support Function we work during a disaster.”

During the four-day class, the students trained to provide a realistic medical response in an actual treatment facility. The NTF provides the perfect setting to mirror an emergency department surge and the activation of a hospital’s command center during a mass casualty healthcare response.

“It’s very extensive and complete training,” said Melissa Shaw, the Emergency Preparedness and Training Exercise Coordinator from the But-

ler County Health Department in El Dorado, Kan. “I like that it gives hospital staffs a better picture of the roles others play in a disaster, such as public health and emergency management. We all support each other and need to communicate. This has been a great opportunity for our region to network, work together and recognize other agency resources.”

“I would encourage regions and hospitals to bring a [cohort] here,” said Lippoldt. “It’s hard to free up for training, but the large groups that train together build relationships and networks. I think it is awesome to come to Anniston and I appreciate FEMA for making these courses available.”

“This training has put us all into situations that many of us did not realize could happen,” said Shaw. “It provides us with more knowledge. This is priceless. We’ve seen a different side of an emergency and we know what other roles are played. It gives a broader perspective of what actually happens in an emergency.”

CDP News



Members of the Emergency Management Coalition of Eastern Alabama pose for a photo at FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP). The coalition recently toured the CDP during its quarterly meeting. Front Row L to R - Denise Cooey (Deputy Director EMA Etowah County.), Dr. Eric Best (JSU), Ashley Siskey (JSU Graduate Student), Crystal Cavender (Cleburne County EMA), Donnie Knight (Randolph County EMA Director), Jan Prescott (Randolph County EMA), Dr. Jeff Ryan (JSU) Back Row L to R - Jonathan Gaddy (Calhoun County EMA Director), Kent Latimer (CDP), Steve Swafford (Cleburne County EMA Director), Hub Harvey (Shelby County EMA Director), Melonie Carmichael (JSU), Brandon Whitman (ANAD Emergency Preparedness), Teresa Daugherty (Clay County EMA Director), Michael Posey (Deputy Director Dekalb County), Matt Carrier (American Red Cross), Dr. Gretchen Richards (JSU), Bernice Zaidel (CDP)

CDP Hosts Eastern Alabama Emergency Management Coalition

The Emergency Management Coalition of Eastern Alabama convened for its quarterly meeting at the CDP recently. The coalition was formed almost one year ago and consists of 25 members, representing more than 10 counties.

"Our intent is to engage emergency management professionals in the regional area," said Dr. Jeff Ryan, head of the Emergency Management Department at Jacksonville State University (JSU). "Our members are provided opportunities for professional development and enhance preparedness in the region."

"Those of us who live and work in Northeast Alabama are very fortunate to have both JSU and the CDP in our backyard," said Jonathan Gaddy, Director of Calhoun County Emergency Management Agency. "Increasing cooperation and communication to support training, networking, and teamwork helps work toward a common goal: protecting the public. The threats we face don't line up along jurisdictional boundaries. It's

critical to have a dialogue with our local, state, federal, and military partners. The Emergency Management Coalition provides us with a forum to accomplish that."

Since the coalition's establishment in February 2013, representatives from all levels of government have joined together. The coalition even includes volunteer groups. The coalition members hope to improve communication and cooperation among neighboring cities and counties and work together to establish best practices for response and recovery following a hazardous event.

Ashley Siskey, also representing JSU as a graduate student in the emergency management program, said she has always wanted to learn more about preparedness. She added, the coalition provides her a resource for networking and offers more opportunities to serve. "The coalition will only further boost public confidence in our local leaders of emergency management," said Siskey. "The public has a true asset in the coalition."

CDP News

CDP Integrates Training with Recruit Academy

The Prince Georges County (Md.) Fire and Emergency Medical Service Training Academy attended training at the CDP this past quarter. The academy sent more than 65 firefighter-medics to attend the Emergency Responder Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (ERHM) course. The recruits attended ERHM in three separate evolutions and made up two recruit classes.

"The CDP provides the recruits with vital information and a gateway for the title of 'Hazardous Materials Technician'," said Wilson. "This training provides the recruits with an extra level of knowledge that will be put to use to save citizens, fellow firefighters or themselves. Fire fighting is inherently dangerous but knowledge is the great equalizer."

The ERHM course provides a hands-on experience in identifying hazardous materials, using advanced survey and monitoring equipment, selecting appropriate levels of personal protection, and performing decontamination procedures, to include evidence preservation. The course introduces response personnel to the terrorist threat, the hazardous materials management system, responder health and safety, the Incident Command System (ICS), site management, information management, response objectives, and terminating the incident.

"I never thought I'd train like this," said Ryan



More than 65 firefighter-medics attended the Emergency Responder Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (ERHM) course, this past quarter. The ERHM course provides a hands-on experience in identifying hazardous materials, using advanced survey and monitoring equipment and performing decontamination procedures, to include evidence preservation.

Roberts, firefighter-medics recruit. "Firefighters collecting and preserving evidence is something we don't practice every day. But, I understand why we need to be trained to respond to events differently. This course is going to help all of us. The CDP provided realistic scenarios and scenes. We could literally visualize actual hazardous spills."

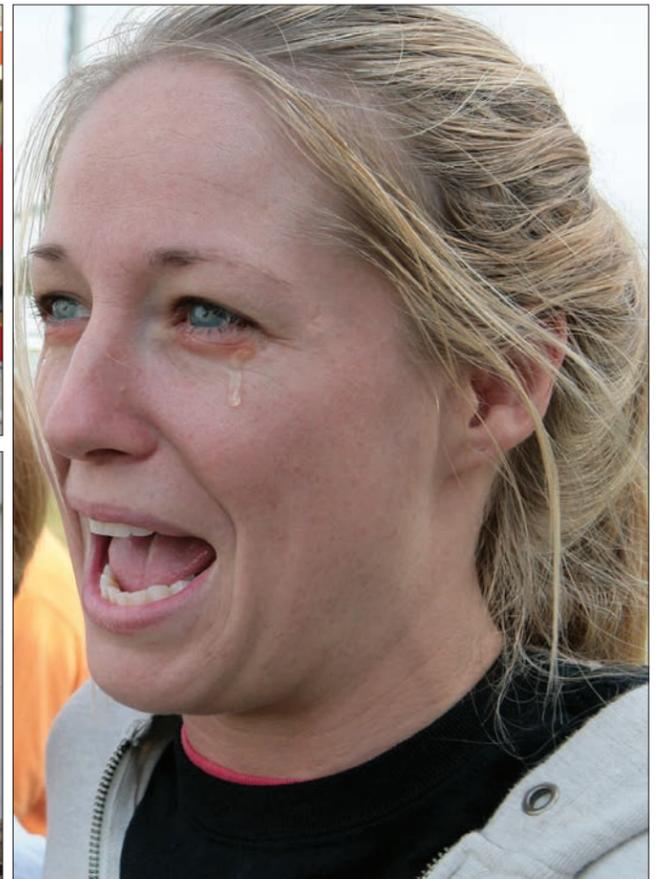
"The hands-on [training] has been helpful," said Brittany Frankfield, firefighter-medics recruit. "The training is in-depth and advanced. We've had discussions regarding hazardous materials from other HAZMAT technicians, but after being here, and doing it, now I feel like I am more familiar. CDP training reinforced everything we've been learning."

Among the many courses offered at the CDP for emergency response personnel, ERHM is a five-day class providing responders with a combination of lectures and advanced hands-on practical exercises. ERHM provides the necessary training to prepare response personnel to tackle hazardous incidents.

"Not only is the CDP a great place to train, these soon-to-be firefighter-medics have been introduced to a learning resource they can use after graduation," said Lt. David Wilson Sr., from the Fire and EMS Training Academy. "We intend to incorporate CDP training into all future courses."



Photos by Benjamin Crossley, CDP External Affairs



Role Players Offer Real-World Training Experience

American citizens depend on a skilled response force as their source of security during a threat or following a disaster or mass casualty event. Training at the CDP focuses on incident management and emergency response to a catastrophic disaster. This training requires the finest teaching methods and the best instructional and support staff available.

Since 2007, the CDP has employed Role Player/Actors (RPA) who support training in a variety of roles. RPAs simulate survivors in a variation of disaster scenarios depicting chaotic scenes of emergency response and tragic consequences.

“Everything here is based on making training real for the students,” said Craig Burt, an RPA controller. “RPAs bring the real world to training. It is more realistic when the responder students are working with a living person and all their emotion, as opposed to dealing with a mannequin or piece of cardboard.”

A city mayor, pregnant woman, injured traveller, inebriated patient, hostile father, gunshot victim, and a variety of other role players pack the inside of a hospital or scream for help following a subway railcar crash. Role players add to the chaos as emergency responders treat the injured, decontaminate survivors, and mitigate a disaster scene.

“Training that includes actual people in the emergency scenes [better] represents a crisis,” said Stephanie Horton, an RPA. “Explosions and bad things happen—it is the world we live in and first responders are the ones who rush to the call. I feel our participation is super important to training.”

“Our training is enhanced by the Role Player/Actors,” said Chuck Medley, assistant director of Training and Education. “Feedback from the most seasoned responders make our role playing program necessary. The attention to detail and genuine care for training is evident in our product and role players set the benchmark.”

Prior to 2007 role players were pulled from fulltime support duties and integrated into the training curriculum. This integration interfered with daily organizational responsibilities. The CDP now employs approximately 75 RPAs, who usually work 30-40 hours each month. Having a pool of RPAs allows instructional and other support staff to focus on training and adds a touch of realism to the scenarios and exercises played out on a weekly basis.

“We portray a scene emergency responders will deal with in an actual situation,” said Mary Smith, an RPA. “We make the students uncomfortable and they learn more. It is a wonderful job and I’m proud to do my part—we are helping.”



“I don’t believe anyone realizes the level of training going on here,” said John Cassell, RPA. “It is amazing and self-satisfying knowing I had a part in helping people train to save lives.”

“Our role players span between 19 and 77 years old,” said Burt. “It is hard to have a 19-year-old act the part of a 70-year-old and look realistic. We have the versatility to match the age to specific people.”

“Role playing makes the students stop and think and work a lot harder,” said Michael Peek, an RPA. “Our acting pushes them and stresses them and not just allow a student to go through the motions.”

“The emotion is intense,” said Smith. “Sometimes we are so into character we actually cry and the students do as well. When responders respond with tears, you know you are reaching them and they are giving it their all.”

Role playing isn’t for everyone and not all who are selected make it. According to Burt, the students are the best judge. Once selected, RPAs are trained in the application of moulage (makeup and molds depicting injuries), they observe the more seasoned RPAs, and study emotional responses and how most people act in a variety of situations.

“Our role players are passionate and take it very seriously,” Burt added. “We explain the vital role they play in training the first responders of our nation. They may be the difference between responding to a situation and saving lives or freezing up and costing lives. The first responders are our first line of defense here at home and deserve the best training.”

Worth Repeating

Tucson Hospital Finds CDP Training Helpful During Exercise

Submitted by **Ted Voss, Hazardous Materials Technician, Tucson Medical Center**

TUCSON, Ariz.—It was a little chillier than most days in Tucson, Ariz., when dozens of participants gathered on the grounds of Tucson Medical Center to apply lessons learned at FEMA’s Center for Domestic Preparedness.

The Dec. 5 event scenario involved two explosions – the first at the local community college and the secondary device a short time later at the hospital

Emergency Department entrance.

First responders to the secondary location determined the presence of organophosphate compounds which was confirmed by the hospital’s Decon Assistance Team prior to gross decon procedures.



One major goal was to conduct the drill outside of the HazMat/Emergency Response Team’s established comfort zones. The setting normally used for decontamination exercises was unavailable in this scenario, due to the explosion at

the hospital entrance. Therefore, the decontamination facility was set up in a park on the hospital grounds, which introduced new challenges to the standard operating procedures.



Healthcare professionals from the Tucson Medical Center form a decontamination line during an exercise simulating two explosions. The Tucson Medical Center used CDP training as the exercise unfolded. (Below) Role players from the Tucson area assumed a variety of roles that added more realism to the drill. Photos submitted by Ted Voss.

In addition to the TMC HazMat Team, participants included the local Rural Metro Fire Dept., Tucson Fire Dept., and Emergency Medical Technology students from Pima Community College acting as victims, who were outfitted with realistic wound

makeup before undergoing the decontamination process.

Leaders of the fire team at Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson and representatives from Davis-

Monthan Air Force Base acted as observers.

“Overall, the drill went well,” said Ted Voss, TMC HERT Captain. “However, important lessons were learned and will be addressed in the next exercise and in future planning. The training received through CDP enabled the team to be more comfortable in their PPE, understand the complexity of a MCI and concentrate on correct decontamination procedures.”



Worth Repeating

Preparing for the Real World

“This training perfects our current skills. We’re getting better and making improvements on what we already know. The hands-on and simulations allow us to make mistakes in a safe environment and learn. Disasters are never planned. This training places us in an environment we can very well expect in a disaster. [CDP] training helps us minimize chaos and deal with the emergency. [CDP] training teaches us to communicate and manage an event. I think it is awesome to come to Anniston and I appreciate FEMA for making these courses available.”

Diana Lippoldt, Director of Nursing, Trauma, Critical Care, Emergency Preparedness, Wichita, Kan.

Training Like We Work

“We work like we train, so we have to train like we work. Police work and firefighting, both of which I have first-hand experience, requires knowledge of the latest technology and maintaining our skills. Training helps us not only save other people’s lives, but its critical in saving our own life too. We’re in a people helping business and if you aren’t willing to take the time and effort to train you aren’t really helping anyone. Training is very important and the CDP makes each course a priority.”

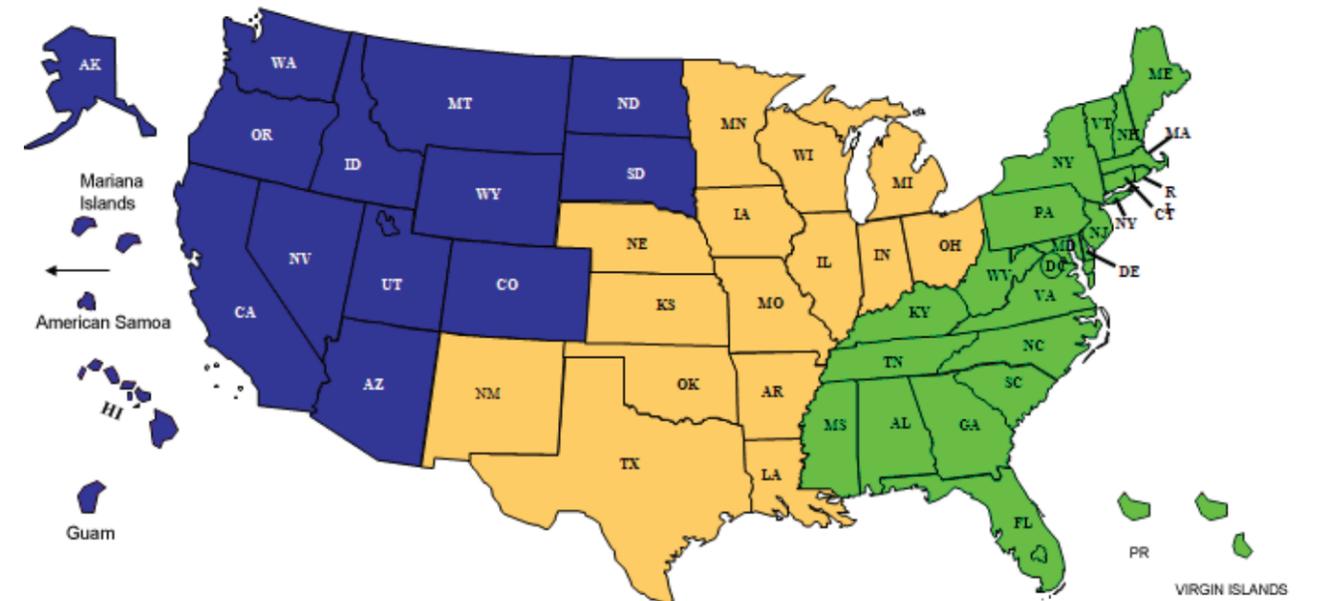
Eric Shipman, Police Commander, West Chicago, Ill.

Contact Us

Western Region
David Hall
1-866-213-9548
halld@cdpemail.dhs.gov
FEMA Regions 8,9,10

CDP Region Map

Eastern Region
Tom Tidwell
1-866-213-9546
tidwellt@cdpemail.dhs.gov
FEMA Regions 1, 2, 3, 4



Central Region
Dan Cody
1-866-213-9547
codyd@cdpemail.dhs.gov
FEMA Regions 5, 6, 7

Federal, Private Sector and International
Dan Cody
1-866-213-9547
codyd@cdpemail.dhs.gov