

CDP Alumnus

Center for Domestic Preparedness — Anniston, AL

Preparing for the biological threat
Training America's domestic frontline

Hazardous Materials Technicians
prepare with latest tools & techniques

CDP incorporates patient
identification technology

Accreditation reference guide:
Continuing Education Units



FEMA

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

839,645 as of Aug. 30, 2014

Cost

Training at the CDP campus is federally funded at no cost to state, local and tribal emergency response professionals or their agency. All tuition, lodging, meals and transportation are covered.

Training focuses on incident management, mass casualty response and emergency response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster. For more information or to register for CDP specialized programs or courses, please visit our web site at <http://cdp.dhs>.

Cover photo: Emergency responders training at the CDP use much of the latest detection technologies available to detect the presence of biological materials. The CDP has used biologicals in training since 2012. Photo by Benjamin Crossley.

Chatham County, N.C., 9/11 First Responder Memorial

Over four years ago when Joe Fraser, an Emergency Medical Technician in Pittsboro, N.C., read an article from a local resident suggesting a memorial honoring emergency responders, he was inspired to help out. The proposal was to erect a memorial honoring the men and women who serve as emergency responders and members of the armed forces, all who are dedicated to service and protecting the lives of others.

“My family has benefited from first responders, who leave their own families and respond when we are in emergent need at all hours of the day and night,” said Fraser. “I wanted to show my appreciation for what they do for us.”

EMT Fraser wrote a letter about the project proposal to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. His idea was to acquire a steel beam from the New York City Twin Towers destroyed in terrorist attacks in 2001. In March 2011 a New York federal judge responded with a letter of his own, awarding the town of Pittsboro and surrounding Chatham County an iron beam taken from the fallen World Trade Center structures.

In the letter, Fraser wrote: “The intended use of the beam will be as the centerpiece of a memorial to honor the brave American heroes and victims who lost their lives of the fateful day of September 11, 2001.”

Shortly after the approval, three residents drove to New York City in a heavy vehicle and hauled the 19-foot beam back to Chatham County. While a site to build the memorial was waiting approval the large beam has been shown in neighboring towns and counties and remained secured



A memorial honoring those who lost their lives Sept. 11, 2001, was recently dedicated in Pittsboro, N.C. The beam is from the site of the New York City attack and stands 19 feet.

in a covered location. In late 2013, the county approved a property purchase for \$1 and a 99-year lease for the memorial site.

“We formed a non-profit, the Chatham County 9/11 First Responder Memorial Foundation Corporation, and our mission is to recognize, honor and memorialize those dedicated men and women who unselfishly sacrifice their lives each day as first responders and members of the Armed Forces,” said Fraser.

A dedication ceremony

was held Sept. 6 and the memorial is located at 129 Sanford Highway in Pittsboro, N.C. The beam weighs 12,400 pounds and is tilted nine degrees and 11 minutes off perpendicular and is pointed 37.5 degrees Northeast to Ground Zero.

“This tragic event was seen around the world, faraway places grieved with us and brought many of us closer together,” said Fraser. “We must never forget the lives lost that day and never forget how giving first responders are, here in our own country and around the world.”



The 9/11 First Responder Memorial, in Pittsboro, N.C., is tilted nine degrees and 11 minutes off perpendicular and points 37.5 degrees Northeast to Ground Zero.

Facing the unthinkable, preparing for the biological threat

Biological training for America's domestic frontline defense

Threats to Americans exist throughout the world. Domestic hazards are all too common and growing concern that biological or chemical threats could contaminate small groups of people or larger populations have openly been addressed throughout government and the private sector.

Growing speculation that America's emergency responders are not prepared made headlines almost three years ago. The potential for biological attacks was identified in several key homeland security publications, including the October 2011 Bio-Response Report Card, which concluded, "The nation does not yet have adequate bio-response capability to meet fundamental expectations during a large-scale biological event," (Graham, Talent, Larsen, & Kidder, 2011).

Advances in science and technology allow Americans to enjoy the luxuries that human intelligence provides. However, a sharp acumen could come at the detriment of society—knowledge in the hands of those who intend to cause hostility on a small or mass scale requires preparedness and response capabilities. Readiness levels nationwide necessitate all facets of response to adopt plans that reinforce training



An emergency responder uses an immuno-assay (ProStrip) which detects known antigens that show a positive or negative result for the presence of biological contaminants.

and strengthen preparedness throughout the response community.

"The effective dissemination of a lethal biological agent within an unprotected population could place at risk the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. The unmitigated consequences of such an event could overwhelm our public health capabilities, potentially causing an untold number of deaths," (Council, 2009).

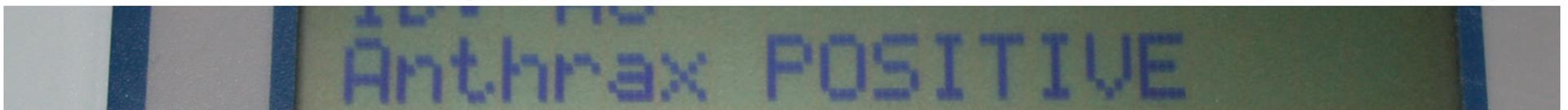
Training to face the threat: COBRA

In February 2012 emergency response providers from 23 states took the first step to ensure their preparedness and the readiness of their communities. For the first time in 14 years the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) incorporated biological materials into the training that already used deadly nerve agents, GB and VX.

Now more than 16 years after the CDP graduated its first class of emergency responders, nearly 53,000 students have completed CDP toxic agent programs and responders representing all 50 states and six territories have completed programs

that specifically include biological materials.

According to Andrea Higgins, CDP biologist, before anthrax and ricin could be used in training, plans, processes and procedures were developed. It took more than a year of testing before the materials could be used in the training environment. The CDP uses ricin A-chain and B. anthracis delta Sterne. These nonpathogenic



Biological training for America's domestic frontline defense



Students use various anthrax detection capabilities inside a mock mailroom.

forms maintain the safety of everyone associated with training and responders are able to detect biological proteins.

"I think the development stage was the most challenging because hands-on training of emergency responders in an environment with real biologicals is a lot different than training in a classroom. The hurdle of trying to figure out how to utilize the biological material in a way that would be safe for the students, trainers and staff was the most difficult. A lot of time was spent to perfect the package, transfer, pouring and [decontamination] processes employing the biologicals," (Higgins, 2014).

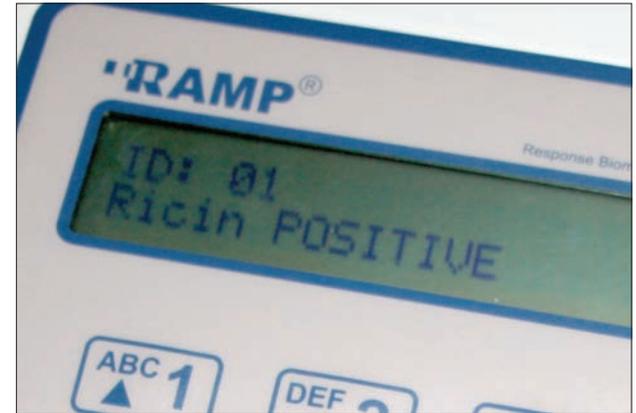
The CDP, located in Anniston, Ala., is the only federally funded location at which civilian first responders can train using nonpathogenic forms of anthrax and ricin in select courses. The courses provide responders a better understanding of how these toxins may be employed and how to protect themselves from exposure.

"Our law enforcement and homeland security

communities are a critical front line in recognizing, preventing and responding to the entire spectrum of illicit activities involving the life sciences or derivative materials, techniques or expertise. Whether the offender is seeking to poison someone or is part of a group that intends to contaminate a wide metropolitan area, federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement and security officials must be well positioned to receive and respond to tips, safely and successfully handle potentially contaminated material, conduct investigations and prosecute perpetrators and facilitators," (Council, 2009).

Shane Coulston, a lieutenant/paramedic outside Fort Worth, Texas, said training with live materials is a rare opportunity. He added, preparation is important and improves confidence.

"[First responders] can't conduct biological training just anywhere. If this opportunity was not available fire departments, police and other disciplines would not be prepared. We can always do more to prepare, but I think we are on the right track to handle an incident if it ever happened," (Coulston, 2014).



The CDP incorporates electronic assay readers into training to show the presence of biologicals.

The COBRA (Chemical, Ordnance, Biological, and Radiological) Training Facility is the nation's only toxic agent training facility for civilian emergency responders. Since 2012 more than 7,500 have graduated COBRA courses—of those more

than 3,650 completed training that includes biological materials anthrax and ricin. Curriculum to introduce biological training to COBRA courses required thorough examination and occurred incrementally over the past two years.

According to Eric Toner, an Internal Medicine and Emergency Medicine physician, and senior associate with the UPMC Center for Health Security, training first response is not always simple and organizations should prepare and take advantage of available bio-hazard instruction.

"Finding the appropriate training is difficult and usually expensive. By offering fully-funded, high-quality training to responders from around the country, the CDP is providing a valuable resource that makes our country better prepared," (Eric Toner, 2014).

After two explosions near the finish



Emergency responders use a detection method called a BioCheck 20/20 kit to detect the presence of proteins and acid base balance. Most biological agents will contain proteins.



Students use various ricin detection capabilities inside a mock restaurant. The CDP training venues depict real-world environments for student training.

line of the 2013 Boston Marathon, the Boston Police Department was immediately on scene. The previous year five members of the Boston PD had attended the CDP for training. “The knowledge and confidence we took away [from the CDP] allowed us to talk a common language with other first responders and proceed in a biologically contaminated site. We were able to process the crime scene and preserve evidence safely. I can’t express the importance of the availability of CDP training,” (Connolly, 2013).

“Bioterrorism, pandemics and other global threats to the nation’s health security remain major concerns. We must ensure that lessons learned locally, such as those of the Boston Marathon bombing or response

to Hurricane Sandy, are shared and implemented widely in U.S. states and cities with adequate funding and support,” (Ali Khan, 2014).

Going live in a HOT environment

The nation’s capacity to respond and communicate effectively has significantly improved with advances in technology and standardization across the variety of response disciplines. Collaboration between neighboring counties and across state lines enables law enforcement, fire community, healthcare, emergency management and multiple others to develop a bio response plan.

“If such a weapon were used, first responders would certainly be heavily involved. The personal protection needed and the treatment protocols vary depending on the agent. So, it is vitally important for first responders to get the training needed to be able to work safely and effectively in such an event,” (Eric Toner, 2014).

The CDP allows emergency responders the opportunity to apply response techniques typically practiced during routine calls on the job. However, response to potential bio threats cannot always be addressed as routine. The CDP places emergency responders in a toxic environment using pathogens that those with an ill will could use to kill and otherwise disrupt normal activities.

Historically, the CDP is popular for its “live-agent training,” a phrase commonly used by students. Nerve agents and biological

materials are both dangerous. Each requires different detection methods to determine their presence, since the equipment used to detect biological agents is different than the monitoring equipment for chemical agents.

According to Sean Feran, a firefighter from Denver, the CDP allows responders to practice with a broad range of technologies while verifying the effectiveness with both biological and chemical agents.



A first responder prepares a suspect biological material for testing.

“We were able to observe how different detection devices reacted to live products. Responders should never respond and see something for the first time [at a real incident]. We should know how to use our equipment and how to handle the hazards. I never realized the training here was available and after realizing the number of people who have taken it increased my level of confidence in the U.S. ability to respond to biological threats,” (Feran, 2014).

Training in a live environment is a unique experience that permits the responder to practice techniques using equipment and protective clothing they would find at an incident scene. Using simulants or artificial materials would not



Emergency responders carefully follow procedures for a bio detection device, commonly referred to as the ProStrip.

Preparing for the biological threat

yield the results required for an accurate test and CDP graduates observe actual positive results compared to theoretical knowledge.

“The primary means of defending the American homeland against bioterrorism is the capability to effectively respond after an attack has occurred,” (Graham, Talent, Larsen, & Kidder, 2011).

The objective of CDP’s live-agent training is for emergency personnel to trust in their ability to identify potentially harmful situations and protect the public, use detection equipment properly and trust that their personal protective equipment will shield them from exposure. Training properly in a lethal environment instills skills responders need when responding.

“The U.S. is more prepared because the responders are more prepared. Emergency responders participate in hands-on training with biologicals and chemicals and use the equipment they would have in a real-world situation. If biological or chemical materials were released in the environment, the people on the front lines – emergency responders – need to be trained so that the people affected by the event, the duration of the event and the environmental impact of the event are as low as possible. Training our emergency responders is the only way to achieve this,” (Higgins, 2014).



A student uses a Method B swabbing technique to collect a sample of suspect anthrax.

The motivation to harm

Many agencies conduct scientific studies using biological materials to understand their effects and discover cures for diseases or illnesses. However, those who wish to harm others by using biological materials as their vehicle do exist. Anyone with the motivation potentially has the capability to create and use biological materials. Materials and recipes are commonly available on the Internet and in agricultural supply shops around the

United States.

“Rapidly advancing science and technology is putting what once was sophisticated biology into the hands of people with limited training and expertise. Today, a crude biological weapon could be made in any college biology lab. People with ill intent could wreak havoc with such a weapon,” (Eric Toner, 2014).

In July 2014 a Texas woman, who sent ricin-laced letters to the President of the United States and the Mayor of New York, was sentenced to 18 years in prison for possessing and producing the biological toxin. It was later learned that she purchased the materials online.

Whatever the motivation or initiative, the possible threat alone requires the ability to safely respond and protect the nation’s response community. Preparation plays a critical role to act quickly and prevent further harm to those targeted.

“In an age of terrorism, biological weapons are perfectly suited for asymmetric warfare where the relatively low costs of producing such weapons combined with their potential for amplification through communicability have a disproportionately strong effect on targeted populations. Consequently, biological weapons are likely to remain very attractive to terrorists and fringe groups like millennial sects. Thus, the near horizon is likely to witness continued concern about low intensity use of biological weapons fashioned around known pathogenic microbes such as



A student uses a Method B swabbing technique to collect a sample of suspect ricin.

Salmonella spp. and B. anthracis, which have already been used in terrorism,” (Casadevall, 2012).

Training venues that mirror real world

Designing courses that are relevant to modern threats that affect America’s citizens is core to the CDP’s principles of prevention, deterrence, response and recovery. Responders return to their home jurisdiction with the confidence and knowledge to engage life-threatening events ensuring a more prepared force.

Before biological materials were introduced into the training environment, the CDP created scenarios similar to scenes where anthrax and ricin may be deployed. The CDP converted its training bays, commonly used with chemical-agent training, to a mailing or shipping office, a restaurant and an electronics store. The training bays add to the reality of the threat and provide first responders a realistic scenario to conduct an analysis of the biological material and demonstrate the appropriate response.

“Having a facility where responders can train



First responders enter the main corridor inside the HOT area for toxic-agent operations. The venue is designed to replicate a shopping center.

presence of biological threats.

“The CDP has made the training environment realistic. We had to work, search and find the hazardous substance and sample it. It was more real and not obvious in the center of the room waiting for us. You have to train in the real elements,” (Henson, 2014).

Quality professional development

CDP training focuses on incident management, mass casualty response and emergency response to a catastrophic natural disaster or terrorist act. Training for state, local and tribal responders is fully funded by FEMA, a component of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

In addition to unique chemical and biological venues, the CDP teaches the latest techniques and procedures and provides

in a realistic environment is very important,” (Eric Toner, 2014).

As students first enter the toxic or hot areas the training venue mirrors the main corridor of a shopping mall. Each training area is outfitted with detection equipment exclusive to determining the

responders with the opportunity to use a broad range of equipment during their training. The courses offered also provide Continuing Education Units (CEU) that may be used to fulfill professional requirements. All instructors at the CDP are required to have at least 10 years of emergency response experience before they are considered for a position. Qualified instructors are carefully selected based on experience, knowledge of national response elements and teaching ability.

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Technicians who support agent operations during training place biological materials in a variety of areas that students must locate and test.



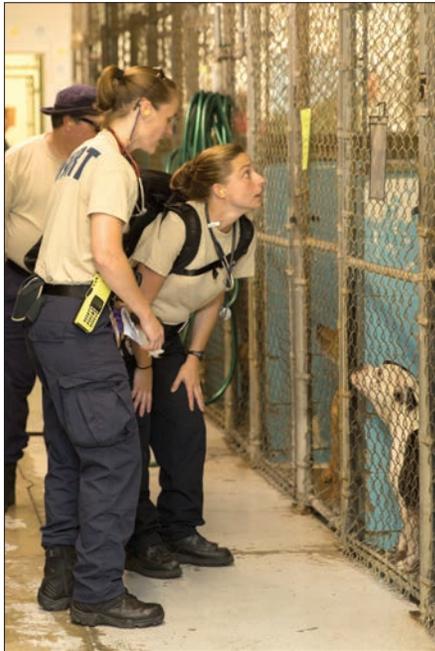
The COBRA (Chemical, Ordnance, Biological and Radiological) is the nation’s only toxic agent training facility for civilian emergency responders.

NVRT offers unique edge during multi-disciplined training

Earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes or even blizzards can wreak havoc on a region, city and community. Disaster has an influence on thousands or sometimes millions of citizens living in an affected area. Multiply the number of families affected with the number of pets and farm animals that may be displaced and the number affected could grow astronomically.

Recently, more than 30 members of the [National Veterinary Response Team \(NVRT\)](#) joined more than 100 state, local and federal responders from across the United States at the CDP. The NVRT is part of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) and specializes in supporting communities after a disaster by providing medical care for both large and small animals.

“One of our priorities is to support communities and we appreciate that animals are integral to communities as they respond and recover from a disaster,” said Dr. Andrew Garrett, Director of the National Disaster Medical System. “A person has to look at the whole picture of what



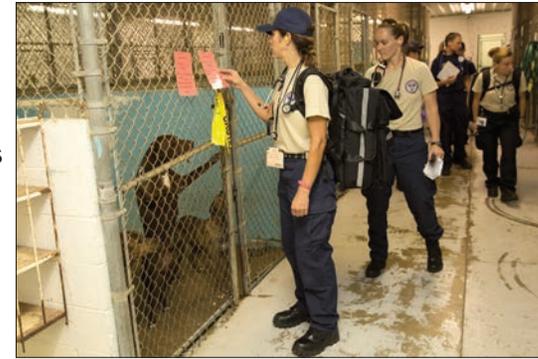
Members of the National Veterinary Response Team (NVRT) examine symptoms of pets following a simulated disaster. The NVRT joined more than 100 state, local and federal responders from across the United States in training at the CDP. The center was able to coordinate training with its local humane society to include live animals in the exercise. However, the animals were only observed and not physically examined.

a community needs and we try to meet those needs when requested to assist.”

The CDP incorporated the veterinary team into its Integrated Capstone Event (ICE), a culminating exercise that combines multiple courses and response disciplines. The CDP coordinated with the local humane society to include live animals in the disaster scenario. While other hospital or healthcare personnel worked to receive injured and care for human patients in one location, the local animal shelter helped simulate the veterinary mission following a disaster, in another.

“Building on knowledge-based skills is always helpful and it is important to know that the NVRT is distributed all over the country,” said Dr. Robin Brennen, Veterinarian and NVRT Team Commander from New York. “We don’t always train together. So coming here to a central point builds teamwork, allows us to work face-to-face and solve problems together. Training is critical because otherwise, short of a disaster, we don’t have this opportunity.”

“I’m excited that animals or pets are included in the exercises,” said Shelly Hunt, Calhoun County Humane Society director. “The [NVRT] is a valuable resource for communities. The fact they are receiving training [in our community] this week is a large benefit to us all because having live animals in the scenario



More than 30 members of the National Veterinary Response Team (NVRT) joined more than 100 state, local and federal responders from across the United States training at the CDP. These responders were training together at the CDP and were able to include the city’s local humane society in the training.

will hopefully increase their efficiency during a disaster.”

Pets and farm animals are a major part of daily life and agricultural business or farming. Care is required to relieve

household stress and also prevents disease from spreading throughout communities. This training was the first time the NDMS was able to include a local setting such as an animal shelter in training, including emergency responders from other disciplines.

The training provided an opportunity to share best practices and communicate in a simulated disaster response.

Editor’s Note: Although it’s unique to actually have real pets that make the scenario more realistic, these animals were only observed while the NVRT made medical diagnosis based on simulated symptoms. No animals were physically examined or handled.



Patient identification technology introduced at CDP

Students attending healthcare training at the CDP will soon have automated capabilities to track patients during mass casualty exercises. Patient tracking, oftentimes automated, is used in a variety of healthcare facilities throughout the United States and is a key component to incident response and management.

“We’re incorporating software that can be used on a majority of smart devices found on the commercial market today,” Jesse Giddens, CDP Healthcare Training Manager. “These devices allow students to input and record emergency casualty care data into an automated patient tracking system.”

The software includes the ability to scan barcodes on triage tags, linking patients directly to a specific number, ensuring that the patient is properly identified, especially when it comes to giving him or her medications. Additionally, photographs



A healthcare student records a patient's current health condition using patient tracking software incorporated into CDP training.

The software also allows students to securely transmit patient information to the incident command, hospital command center and public health

office, providing a common operating picture of the mass casualty incident, facilitating the community’s integrated response. The data transmission



Students are able to use a variety of handheld technology to scan and monitor patients using tracking software that displays the current status of survivors.

and hospital occupancy levels.

“CDP provides students with realistic training and exercise experiences appropriate to real-world events, using applicable tools and technologies available in the first responder community. The tools used during training and exercises increase realism and demonstrate the current technological capabilities, capacities and advances available to responders,” said Giddens. “CDP healthcare training is very popular and introduces modern technology which improves interdisciplinary facets of healthcare emergency management.”

Healthcare training at the CDP takes place at the [Noble Training Facility \(NTF\)](#). 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 CDP expects to fully incorporate the patient tracking technology into training over the next

office, providing a common operating picture of the mass casualty incident, facilitating the community’s integrated response. The data transmission can be used in conjunction with popular web-based programs found in a majority of first responder command and control elements. Data collection is vital throughout a mass casualty response, as it enables hospital leadership to maintain situational awareness, determine the number of

six months. The technology will be used in the majority of the healthcare courses. The full capability and efficiency of the devices will be implemented incrementally during each of the upcoming Integrated Capstone Events (ICE). The ICE promotes an interdisciplinary response to a mass casualty incident, where first responders

and receivers are challenged to manage multiple facets of the operation and – with the newly added technology – will manage patient tracking, transport and care.

The CDP builds realistic exercise scenarios into its courses. The NTF provides the perfect setting to exercise a patient surge in an emergency department and the activation of a hospital’s command center. The scenarios include role players with simulated serious injuries. Each scenario focuses on the foundations of CDP training—incident management, mass casualty response and emergency response to an all-hazards incident.

“Emergency responders, regardless of their profession—healthcare, fire, law enforcement – have a variety of new or modern tools and equipment,” said Mick Castillo, Technology Integration Coordinator at the CDP. “Patient tracking provides situational awareness, coordination of supporting agencies and accountability of patients and resources in an integrated response.”



Students use a triage tag barcode to identify patients following a simulated mass casualty event.

Native Americans prepare for disaster response

More than 12 tribes from six states met at the CDP recently. The 27 Native Americans attended the [Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents \(HCL\)](#) course and was the first time for the majority to combine with different tribes in a single training setting.

“Courses like this teach us how to plan and write required documents to bring our tribal communities in line with other government agencies,” said Belinda Brown from the Inter-Tribal Council of California. “We need levels of understanding between tribal and government agencies so we are all working together, on the same page, within the Incident Command System (ICS) using the whole community approach.”

Typically, Native American governments rely on their own response personnel and some have agreements in place for mutual aid and support with their surrounding local communities. A majority of those training consisted of healthcare personnel; however, others did represent the fire community, public works, safety and finance offices at different reservations. The students joined in training 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 communi-

ties for mass casualty response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster.

During the four-day class the students trained on providing a realistic medical response. The NTF provides the perfect setting to mirror an emergency department surge, the activation of a hospital’s command center and emergency operations in public health.

“Training is important to public safety and keeps our communities safe,” said Brown. “We need to be aware of the standardized policies, protocols and procedures. All of this is crucial to the safety of our communities because we are all working towards

the same goal and the tribes should be trained at the same capacity using common language as local emergency managers.”

“The majority of Native American communities are small and located in rural areas,” said Ronald Spang, acting Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator for the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, Lame Deer, Mont. “We do not have access to this type of training and I know all of the tribes here will benefit. I rarely see emergency simulations that reinforce the importance

of practicing our plans or implementing new plans if they are needed. I will recommend more of our tribal members attend this training.”



Representatives of different tribal communities occupy the Hospital Command Center as a mass-casualty incident surges the hospital during training.



Members of different tribal nations work together and plan during CDP training.



Healthcare providers monitor symptoms from a simulated patient during training. More than 12 Native American tribes trained together at the CDP recently.

The training is fully funded and came at no cost to Tribal Nations. Transportation, meals, lodging and tuition were all covered.

The CDP offers more than 40 courses that focus on incident management, mass-casualty response and emergency response to a catastrophic natural disaster or terrorist act. Courses apply to all response disciplines such as hazardous materials, law enforcement, fire fighters or health-care.

“I hope to work closer with local governments to include Tribal Nations in emergency planning and drafting Emergency Operations Plans for individual tribes,” Brown added. “My goal is to have the leaders attend CDP training. Close collaboration needs to occur between local, state, tribal and federal jurisdictions.”

“Communication and planning are critical during and after a disaster,” said Chuck Medley,

CDP Assistant Director for Training Delivery. “The HCL course stresses both factors during simulated mass casualty exercises, providing a model for tribal nation healthcare professionals to emulate. The HCL course also provides a good venue for tribes and other jurisdictions to train alongside local governments from their surrounding area.”



A tribal healthcare member reads a patient medical record during a training exercise.

Training registration pilot seeks to simplify CDP enrollment

The CDP has incorporated measures that reduce the enrollment process for emergency responders attending training. The new process simplifies admission steps, decreases the paperwork burden and automates the ap-
Prior to Sept. 15, 2014

Registration Process

- Registration Process
- State Coordinators
- Student Handbook
- Resident Program List
- Contact a Coordinator
- Frequently Asked Questions

Step 1
Visit <https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid/> to register for or retrieve your FEMA SID number. Once you have your FEMA SID continue on to step 2.

Step 2
If this is your first time attending a CDP training course please log on to the CDP's Training Administration System (CTAS) using your FEMA SID (above) account login credentials and fill in all required fields.
Note: If you have in the past completed CDP training it is recommended you revisit CTAS and update your information. If you experience any difficulties during this process please contact our help desk at 855-213-9599. Thank you.

Step 3
State, local and tribal students should complete the Training Course Application (PDF) and Medical Screening Form (PDF), filling in the electronic form(s) and printing before submitting. Federal, international and private sector students should read the Private, Federal, & International Sector Training page.
Note: Federal, international and private sector students should read the information on the Private, Federal, & International Sector Training page.

Step 4
Process the application through your chain of command/local approval authority.

Step 5
Submit the completed application to your State Coordinator.

Step 6
The State Coordinator will review the application and forward it to the CDP for scheduling.

Confirmation of Scheduled Training Classes:

- State-approved applicants will receive a confirmation e-mail with class dates from their CDP Resident Training Coordinator.
- Approximately two-to-three weeks prior to the approved class dates, the applicant will receive a "Travel Documents" e-mail with instructions to log in to the CDP Training Administration System (CTAS) to retrieve all associated paperwork and travel documents. **Note:** You will need your FEMA SID number and Password to enter this site.

Registration Forms

- Training Course Application (PDF)
- Medical Screening Form (PDF)

ment process that required first responders to complete paper documents and route them through their chain of command for approval," said Chuck Medley, CDP Assistant Director for Training Delivery. "The new application process allows students to complete all documents electronically. The system notifies their supervisor and state training officer who can approve the training request through the Internet and expedite their attendance. "

The first phase of implementation of the new online application process is exclusive to Resident Training and will incorporate Non-Resident and Indirect Training in the future.

The new application process went live Sept. 15 and will not affect enrollment applications using the former six-step process. Applications submitted via the six-step paper process after Sept. 15 will still be processed.

The CDP requests student feedback over the next several weeks to further improve the enrollment process. To apply for CDP resident training, visit: <https://cdp.dhs.gov> . If you have a suggestion on how to improve the CDP online application process email: support@cdpemail.dhs.gov.

Click Here
for the registration process
and enroll.

New process after Sept. 15, 2014

proval process for students attending training.

The new online application process will replace the six-step process previously used to enroll in CDP courses. The pilot project is also being studied by other FEMA and National Domestic Preparedness Consortium training providers.

"This is an upgrade to the current enroll-

Responder Name (0000000000)
Your name is retrieved from your FEMA SID account. To update your FEMA SID account go to the FEMA SID website.

Specify a Course Catalog Number, Code, Title, or Program

SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Personal Information

I am a U.S. Citizen I am a Permanent US Resident

Gender
 Male Female

Home Address

Street
Street 1
Street 2
City State Zip
City State Zip

Contact Information (optional)

Home Phone Cell Phone Personal Email
(555) 555-5555 (555) 555-5555 user@domain.com

Travel Information

How will you be travelling?
Flying

Airport of Departure
Atlanta Aniston Metropolitan Airport

(Optional) Race & Ethnicity (Check all that apply)

This information will be used only for demographic purposes and will not be viewed by those who are reviewing your application.

American Indian or Alaskan Native
 Asian
 Black or African American
 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 White
 Hispanic or Latino

HAZMAT technicians receive hands-on, one-of-a kind experience

The hazardous materials technician profession evolves constantly and HAZMAT techs must stay abreast of the latest techniques and tools to respond safely. The threat of intentional manmade incidents requires persistent vigilance, but accidental HAZMAT incidents occur throughout the United States almost daily, some are life-threatening and many harm the environment.

An ammonia leak at a meat-packing plant near Fayetteville, N.C., hospitalized more than a dozen people in mid-June. In December, a train spilled 400,000 gallons of crude after colliding with another train in Casselton, N.D., causing the 1,400 residents to be displaced during the evacuation. These are just two recent incidents of many. Hazardous materials are manufactured, used or stored at an estimated 4.5 million facilities in the United States, according to Ready.gov.



A HAZMAT technician samples possible biological threats during the HT course.

The Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT) course at the CDP allows emergency

response personnel to share a dynamic training experience. The course, first offered in April 1999, conveys complex concepts using hands-on learning models offering realistic scenario-based exercises.

“We go through a pretty intense HAZMAT technician course for the state,” said Patrick Burroughs, a fire fighter from Delray Beach, Fla. “It’s about a two-month course, but the CDP training was so hands-on it compared to two

months. We worked with real materials and used up-to-date equipment—it was invaluable.”

The HT course expanded in late 2012 from three days to five days. The subsequent curriculum improvements make the course even more beneficial to HAZMAT techs. In the expanded course, students have more opportunities to operate equip-



The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) includes a multiple car subway train in the HT course. Emergency responders are provided unique scenarios and respond to incidents that may possibly be radiological, biological or chemical.

ment and exercise their ability to respond to an all-hazards event. In addition to more advanced response tools, the course now includes advanced training venues that expanded the CDP’s ability to offer students an even more realistic training experience.

“The CDP collaborates with agencies nationwide and around the world,” said Chuck Medley, assistant director for Training Delivery. “We work hard to understand the latest threats impacting homeland security ensuring the response community is prepared. The HT course is developed for emergency response and designed around the framework of several disciplines.”

The course is designed for personnel working

in emergency management, emergency medical services, fire service, governmental administrative, hazardous materials, health-care, law enforcement, public health, public safety communications and public works. Over the past 15 years nearly 18,000 emergency responders have completed the HT course; of those more than 11,500 are fire service,



Emergency response personnel collect evidence in a mock postal center at the CDP.



The five-day HT course provides hands-on training for a majority of the course. The CDP has also crafted an indoor street scene and uses the training venue for many different scenarios, such as a vehicle accident carrying radiological material.



HAZMAT technicians sample suspected hazardous materials in all scenarios during the HT course.

over 2,500 law enforcement and more than 3,500 make up other disciplines.

HT challenges the hazardous materials technician with an extensive hands-on training experience.

The course provides students an overview of both international and domestic threats, with a spotlight on identification and decontamination of biological, chemical, radiological and explosive hazards. The 40-hour course includes training at the [Chemical, Ordnance, Biological, and Radiological training facility \(COBRA\)](#). The COBRA is the only civilian facility in the nation conducting training exercises using nerve agents GB and VX and also includes biological materials, Anthrax and Ricin.

“When you first step through the doors at COBRA, it’s an intense feeling. It all becomes very real,” said Burroughs. “When you get that positive hit for nerve agents or you move to the biological



Emergency responders survey the scene of a simulated biological threat at the CDP.

materials, where we got a positive hit for Anthrax, it really brings it all home. It’s a little intense but it’s amazing.”

The training venues used include a large indoor street scene with live radioactive sources and a subway train system. Dressed in protective equipment, the students move through smoke-filled, dark passageways searching for survivors while carefully preserving crime scene evidence. A mock post office, distinctive lighting and sound effects help to simulate a more realistic incident to enhance the learning environment

“As a small department, we don’t have the capability for this type of venue that’s almost

real life—from streets, offices, to shopping centers—it’s very realistic and helps drive home what we learned,” said Larry Robison, fire fighter from Tremont City, Utah. “To be able to train and get the hands-on experience is hard to come by, especially with the live-agent training. This type of training is very important and very critical to build confidence and the capability needed to respond to emergencies.”

“We’re trying to take a more proactive



Multiple response disciplines join together during the Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT) course at the CDP. These technicians also dress in all levels of protective equipment during training and practice during a variety of training scenarios.

role in assessing certain packages that we receive or items left unattended around the facility,” said Jason Brasgalla, a United States Marshal who works at a federal facility in Manhattan, N.Y. “This course specifically opened the doors to handle CBRNE incidents.

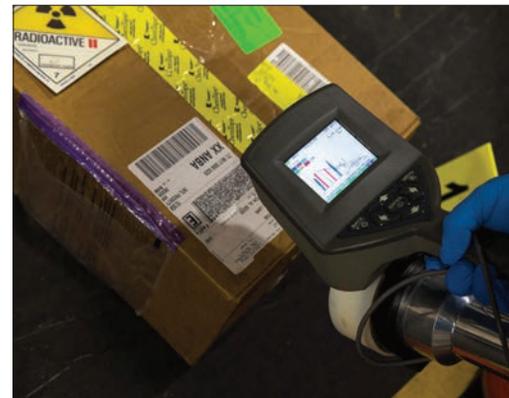
[The CDP] gives you the confidence in your equipment and tools. And if that day

ever comes where you have to handle a CBRNE incident, like we’re training for and preparing ourselves for, we will be successful.”

Ensuring HAZMAT technicians receive specialized and current training is a function of emergency management. HAZMAT incidents do not always result in a disaster, but knowledgeable and trained HAZMAT emergency personnel are a critical component of a safe response and mitigation.

“The risk from hazardous materials incidents on the American home front is real,” said Medley. “We

can’t forecast accidents or intentional incidents so our response personnel must have the ability to safely respond and save lives. The HT course is versatile and offers skills that a variety of responders and their communities will benefit from.”



Students attending the HT course are introduced to many different types of survey and monitoring equipment and receive extensive hands-on training.

Homeland Response Force, National Guard prepares to support state

The 185th Military Police (MP) Battalion, 49th MP Brigade, California National Guard, took advantage of training at the CDP recently. The battalion spent two weeks honing their skills employing crowd control measures, countering protester tactics, learning to manage incidents and performing their military police duties in an area contaminated with chemical and/or biological hazards.

“This is excellent training for our soldiers. The first thing I observed is how engaged, interested and how challenging our soldiers found the training,” said Col. Kelly Fisher, brigade commander. “They love this kind of training and it gives them perspective of what may be expected of them if and when they get called



A role player, serving as a protester or demonstrator, challenges members of the California Army National Guard's 185th Military Police Battalion during training.



Protesters release smoke canisters that could contain simulated toxic chemicals during a training scenario at the CDP.

up for a domestic response. Our number one priority when called upon is saving lives and mitigating human suffering and loss of critical infrastructure. The CDP is key to ensuring we are well prepared for these potential events.”

U.S. Army National Guard units support their respective states throughout the nation. Guard units provide a variety of state support to include engineering, urban search and rescue, law enforcement, firefighting support

and healthcare. The mix of talent and technologically skilled Guard members create units that are ready to support their region. Most importantly, they are assets to the emergency responders in cities across the United States.

“An emergency incident will involve several different aspects of public safety—from fire to police to healthcare,” said Lt. Col. Robert Paoletti, commanding officer of the 185th Military Police. “Having a place where we can train and experience different scenarios in a contaminated environment is great. We trained with all disciplines, learning a common set of operations and we all left with a better understanding of the [National Incident Management System], making

our unit better in our [Homeland Response Force] role supporting our state.”

The United States has established 10 HRFs selected to support the 10 FEMA regions. The Army National Guard and Air National Guard are the primary HRF members and assume roles based on current threats with a principal focus on Chemical, Bio-

logical, Radiological and Nuclear response.

The unit's primary role in California is to



The California Army National Guard's 185th Military Police Battalion march to form a line protecting a facility from possible illegal protest.

support civilian authorities and quickly respond to emergencies. The battalion trains to provide disaster relief following earthquakes, fires, floods and terrorist events or civil unrest.

“I understand more about the roles and responsibilities at different levels,” said Spc. James Hernandez. “This was my second time to train at the CDP and I left with more confidence than; this time it is even better. Observing the different levels of response and working more closely with the command structure was my biggest takeaway.”

The 185th sent more than 110 soldiers to CDP training—all part of the state’s HRF. The unit collectively attended more than 10 courses over the two-week period and completed their training cycle by participating in an Integrated Capstone Event (ICE). The ICE is a one-of-a-kind training experience that blends multiple courses and disci-

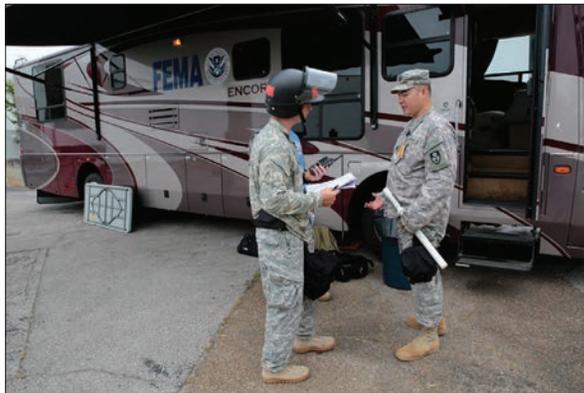


Members of the Military Police Battalion work to free demonstrators from protester devices during training. The protesters are draped to protect them from injury while Guardsmen work to open the device.

plines into a single end-of-course exercise.

“This is a great way to utilize skills and implement them with civilian agencies especially in the ICE,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jessamyn Sobeckiengle. “We started at a rapid pace and every class built on the next. This is going to enhance our capability to perform as a civil support unit in the state of California.”

“Classes like these where we work together and observe other first response capabilities are a large benefit,” said 1st Lt. Antomia Ambrie. “Communication is important and when there are multiple levels of response, terminology must be consistent. The courses



Members of the battalion man the Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV) as sections of the unit respond in the field. The MCV provided a location for command and control following a simulated hazardous incident.

demonstrated how we fit into the response picture and communicate with each other and the state and locals.”

The CDP incorporates realistic venues into its hands-on training. Updated training areas enhance a modern learning environment including sound effects, role players performing in mass demonstrations, protester extrication tools, and training in a toxic environment using nerve agents GB (Sarin) and VX and biological materials, anthrax and ricin. The scenarios simulate the rescue of citizens, illegal demonstrations, evidence preservation and locating and identifying the toxic substances.

“I enjoyed the level of instruction and experience from the instructors,” said Sgt. John Lafaver. “We spent very little time in the classroom and were hands-on most of the time. I definitely feel more prepared. Anyone coming here, with the level of instruction and with the way this program is run, will find it impossible to walk away and not learn. More need to take advantage.”

Tell us 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.

E-mail: pao@cdpemail.dhs.gov or call (256) 847-2212.

Accreditation Continuing Education Units

The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) has been accredited as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). In obtaining this accreditation, the CDP has demonstrated that it complies with the ANSI/IACET Standard which is recognized internationally as a standard of good practice. As a result of their Authorized Provider status, the CDP is authorized to offer IACET CEUs for its programs that qualify under the ANSI/IACET Standard.

Courses Offered	Course Hours	IACET	Nursing ABN	NEHA	CA REHS ONLY	CME UAB
Advanced Public Information Officer: Health & Hospital Emergencies (APIOHHE)	32	3.2	32			
Advanced Radiological Incident Operations (ARIO)	40	4				
Crime Scene Management (CSM)	8	0.8				
Division of Strategic National Stockpile DSNS SNS Preparedness Course (SNS)	27	2.7				
Emergency Medical Operations for CBRNE Incidents (EMO)	32	3.2	32			
Emergency Responder Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (ERHM)	40	4				
Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response Operations (EHTER OPS)	32	3.2				
Field Force Command & Planning (FFC)	24	2.4				
Field Force Extrication Tactics (FFE)	24	2.4				
Field Force Operations (FFO)	24	2.4				
Framework for Healthcare Emergency Management (FRAME)	32	3.2	32	32	32	32
Hazard Assessment & Response Management for CBRNE Incidents (HARM)	25	2.5		25	25	
Hazardous Materials Evidence Collection for CBRNE Incidents (HEC)	16	1.6				
Hazardous Materials Emergency Response (HMER)	8	0.8				
Hazardous Materials Emergency Response – Hands-on-Training (HMER - HOT)	8	0.8				
Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents (HCL)	32	3.2	32			32
Hospital Emergency Response Training for Mass Casualty Incidents (HERT)	24	2.4	24			24
Hospital Emergency Response Training for Mass Casualty Incidents Train-the-Trainer (HERT TtT)	8	0.8	8			
Hands-on-Training for CBRNE Incidents (HOT)	16	1.6	16			
Intermediate Hands-on-Training for CBRNE Incidents (HOT I)	8	0.8	8			
Hands-on-Training for Law Enforcement (HOT LE)	8	0.8				
Hazardous Material Technician for CBRNE Incidents (HT)	40	4				
Incident Command: Capabilities, Planning & Response Actions for All Hazards (IC)	24	2.4			24	
WMD Complexities Incident Response (ICR)	8	0.8	8			
Initial Law Enforcement Response to Suicide Bomb Attacks (ILERSBA)	8	0.8				
Instructor Training Certification (ITC)	40	4				
Law Enforcement Protective Measures for CBRNE Incidents (LEPM)	8	0.8				
Law Enforcement Protective Measures for CBRNE Incidents Train-the-Trainer (LEPM TtT)	16	1.6				
Law Enforcement Response Actions for CBRNE Incidents (LERA)	8	0.8				
Mass Antibiotic Dispensing Train-the-Trainer (MADT)	24	2.4		24		
Pandemic Planning & Preparedness (P3)	24	2.4	24	24	24	24
Radiological Series, Train-the-Trainer (RAD TtT)	32	3.2				
Radiological Emergency Response Operations (RERO)	40	4	40			
Respiratory Protection: Program & Administration (RP)	24	2.4	24			
Standardized Awareness Authorized Trainer Program (Train-the-Trainer) (SAAT TtT)	24	2.4	24			
Standardized Awareness Training (SAT)	8	0.8	8			
Strategic National Stockpile Preparedness (SNS)	24	2.4		24		
Technical Emergency Response Training for CBRNE Incidents (TERT)	32	3.2	32	32	32	
Vehicle-Borne Improvised Device Detection (VBIED)	8	0.8				

IACET - International Association for Continuing Education and Training

ABN - Alabama Board of Nursing (Nurses Only)

CME - Continuing Medical Education (Physicians and additional Allied Health fields may be able to apply)

NEHA - National Environmental Health Association

UAB - University of Alabama Birmingham

CA REHS - California Department of Public Health Environmental Health Specialist Registration Program / Registered Environmental Health Specialists

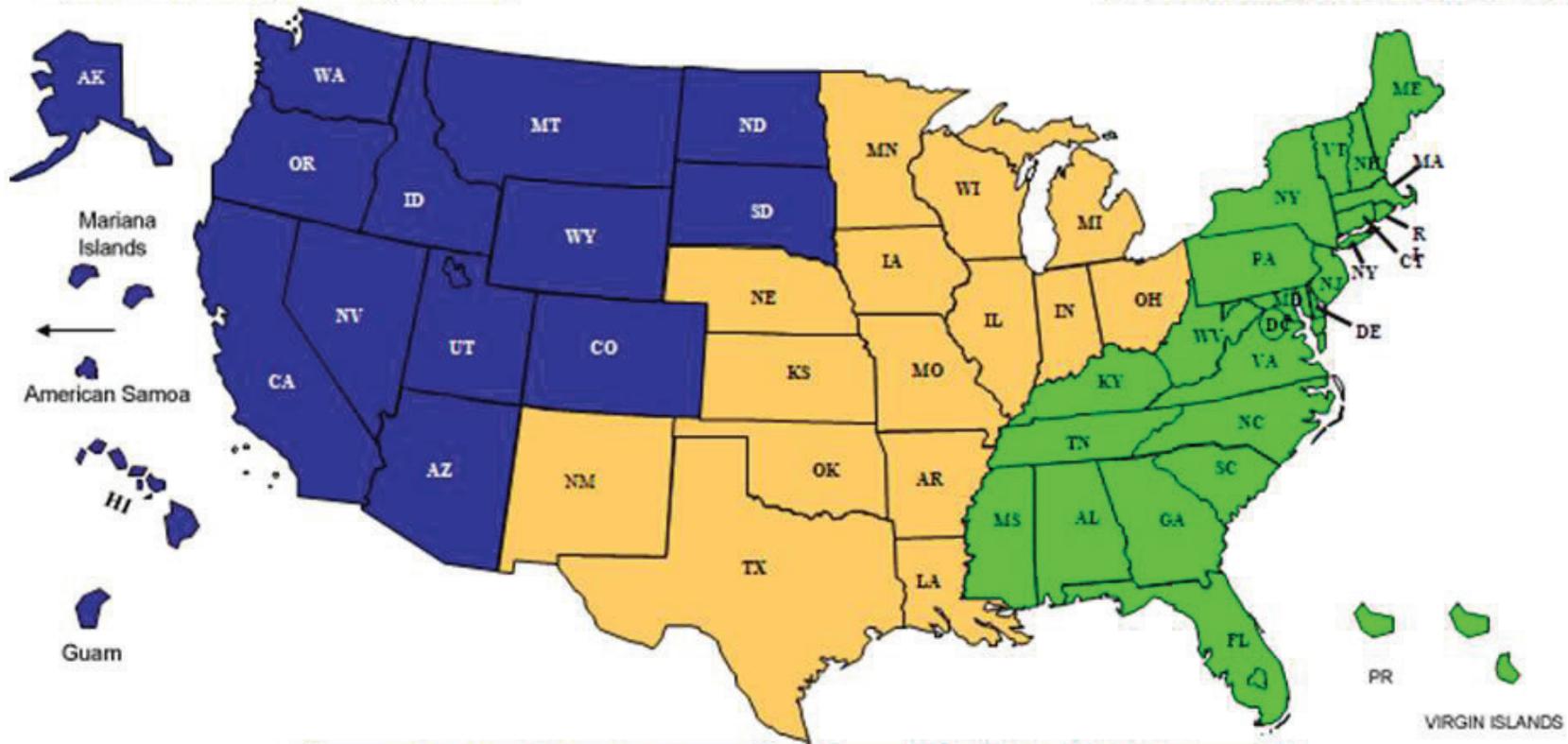
CECBEMS – Continuing Education Coordinating Board for EMS

POST – Police Officer Standards & Training

CDP Region Map

Western Region
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**Federal, Private
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The CDP wants to hear from you. How can we make this newsletter better? Please email suggestions to: newsletter_feedback@cdpemail.dhs.gov