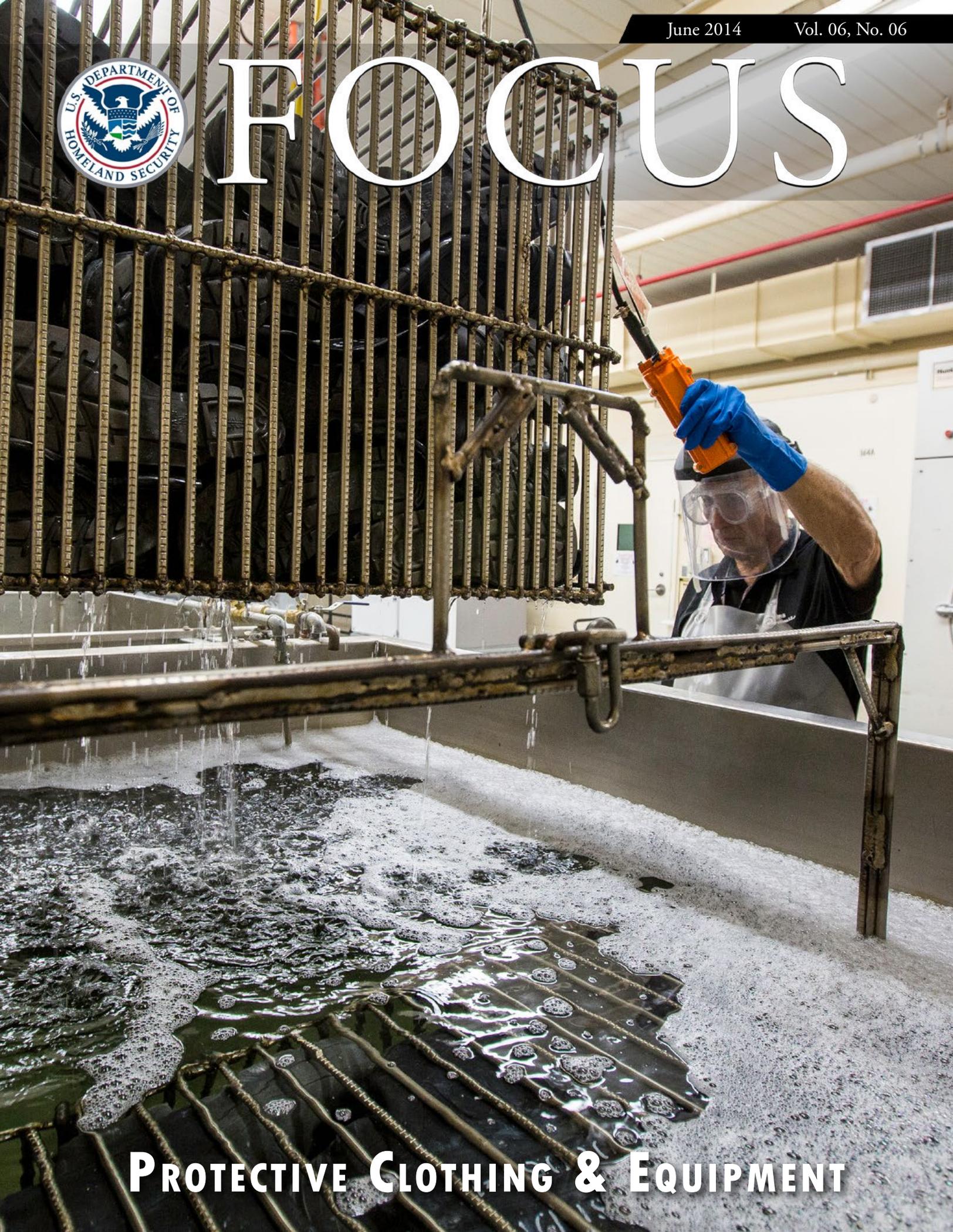




FOCUS



PROTECTIVE CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT



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What “respectable” animal did Benjamin Franklin recommend as our national bird?



Focus Newsletter accepts suggestions and submissions in writing. All submissions must be submitted by the 1st of the month prior to publication. All submissions are subject to review and screening. “Focus” is an authorized publication for Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) employees and families. It occasionally includes articles expressing views and analyses by individual authors. The contents of those individual articles do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Homeland Security, or the Center for Domestic Preparedness and publication herein does not imply endorsement.

Please email your answer to crossleyb@cdpemail.dhs.gov for a chance to win two free movie tickets by **June 23**. The email should have “MOVIE TICKET GIVEAWAY” as the subject and the answer in the body.
This is a contest and by submitting a correct answer by June 23, your name will be entered into the random drawing for the free movie tickets.

ON THE COVER:

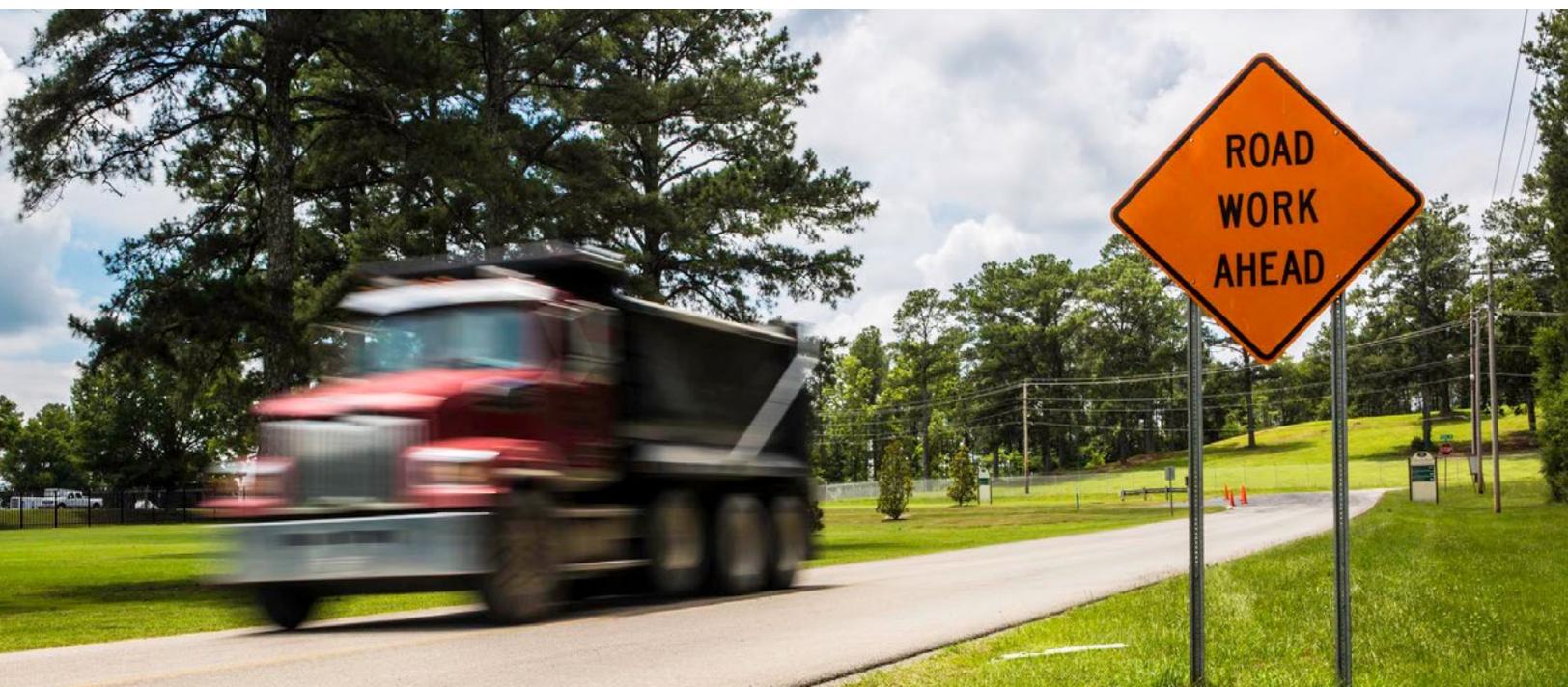
Richard Henderson removes boots from the sanitation bath at the COBRATF after washing for an hour at 140 F. Boots will be rinsed and examined for holes and then dried overnight before being returned to the racks for student use.

PC&E sanitized more than 1,250 boots in the month of May.





Sandra Pagan, Nicole Knight and Charlie Williams were recently recognized by FEMA for their outstanding performance in support of this year's Incident Management Assistance Team Hiring Assessment.



As a result of the continued redevelopment on McClellan, CDP employees will see more industrial vehicles traveling on the McClellan roadways. According to Bruce Greene, assistant director of Operations, motorists should be on the lookout for speeding vehicles, inattentive drivers, rocks and other debris on the roads, as well as damaged roadways that

cause severe damage to your vehicle.

In addition, the CDP has several paving projects in process on various roads and parking lots around the campus that will impact normal traffic flow patterns. Greene will continue to send notices of changes in traffic patterns and temporary access closures by e-mail.

Behind the Scenes *with* Dorothy Simmons

Story by Wendi Feazell Photo by Benjamin Crossley

As a Quality Management Analyst, Dorothy Simmons helps develop and implement techniques for systematic investigation, collection, analysis and evaluation of facts including a critical review of factors that may have a bearing on an effective Quality Management System.

All of these are part of her average work day as she reviews and monitors various CDP programs and processes for the purpose of identifying existing problems, potential problems, and corrective action to ensure adequacy of Risk Mitigation.

This requires a review of regulations and technical requirements pertaining to systems/processes being evaluated to assess compliance and evaluate risk. She conducts process reviews as scheduled or by special request to determine the degree of effectiveness of specific programs or processes and develop recommendations for process improvements/corrective actions and the adequacy of corrective actions taken.

The collection and documentation of all written processes (an ISO 9001 requirement) helps to eliminate variance and establish standards. "My average work day is challenging," said Simmons.

ISO 9000 is a series of standards, developed and published by the International Organization for Standardization that define, establish and maintain a quality assurance

system for manufacturing and service industries. She is a Certified ISO 9001-2008 lead auditor. Her responsibilities include assisting with implementing CDP Document Control System, assigning numbers to CDP directives and forms, as well as revising and assigning numbers to all CDP directives.

Simmons also serves as the alternate Contracting Officer Representative (COR) to Alabama Department of Rehabilitations Services (ADRS) Food Service Contract and assists in the absence of the primary COR. In addition, she assists CORs with special projects and other contractor areas of concern.

Simmons joined the CDP staff in September 2003. Prior to coming to the CDP, Simmons worked as an executive administrative assistant for the Division of Social Sciences and Education at Talladega College for 17 years.

In her 11 years of service at the CDP, her deployment to New York following Hurricane Sandy was the most rewarding job she has done, Simmons said.

Simmons deployed along with 34 other CDP staff members in support of Hurricane Sandy recovery in November 2012. She spent 45 days working as a Community Relations Representative in Brooklyn.

In May, Simmons added to her resume when she graduated from the Leadership Calhoun County (LCC)



program. LCC is a Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce program designed to prepare and build upon leadership resources within the entire county. Classes are comprised of leaders and emerging leaders from this area. Together they receive an intense view of the county's civic and governmental leadership through direct contact with a wide spectrum of institutions that keep Calhoun County moving forward.

"Working at the CDP the past 11 years, I have come to appreciate the many aspects and challenges that my job requires of me. I am open to new changes, ideas and techniques to improve myself and my relationships with others here at CDP," Simmons said.

Bring Your Family to Work Day Tips



Wear comfortable shoes and appropriate

summer clothing

No phones or cameras

No bags

Lunch will be provided

Sponsors must meet family members at the guard house upon arrival

Be punctual

Option 1: Check in at 8am for tour, lunch & visit

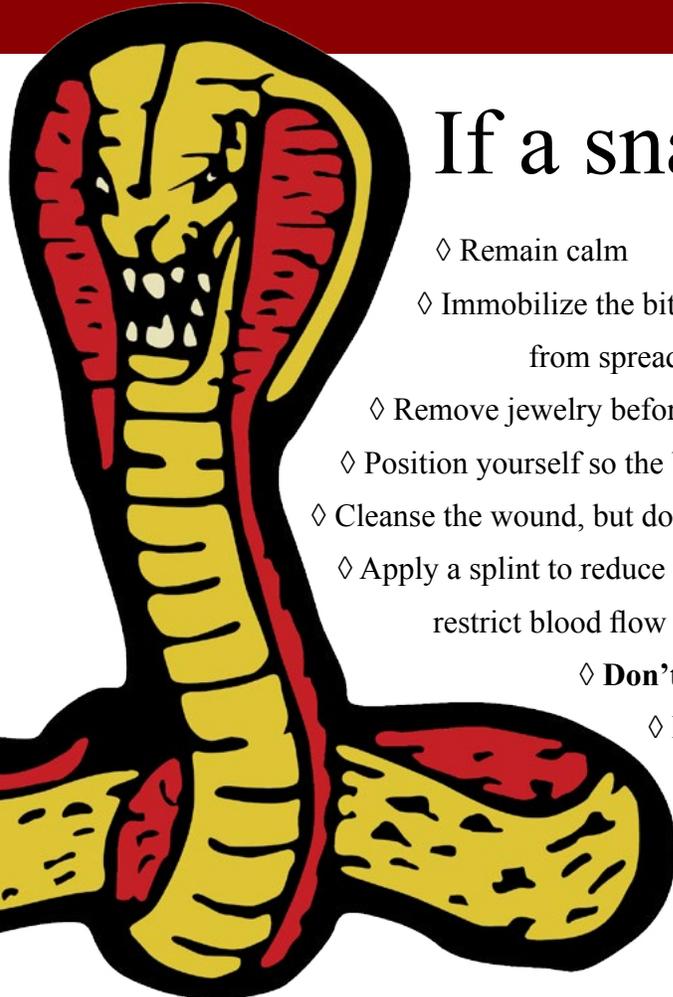
Option 2: Check in at 11am for lunch & visit



The U.S. Army's Cholinesterase Monitoring Program (CMP) performed an audit on May 20 of the CDP Cholinesterase Testing Program. The CMP found the CDP's lab to be in *exceptional condition*. The laboratory is efficiently managed and documentation was found to be in excellent order, according to the audit. The data received by the CDP Cholinesterase Laboratory is within acceptable limits and no deficiencies were noted. Another successful audit for the CDP Cholinesterase Laboratory!

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

If a snake bites you...

- 
- ◇ Remain calm
 - ◇ Immobilize the bitten arm or leg, and stay as still as possible to keep the poison from spreading through your body
 - ◇ Remove jewelry before your limb begins to swell
 - ◇ Position yourself so the bite is below the level of your heart
 - ◇ Cleanse the wound, but don't flush it with water, and cover it with a clean, dry dressing
 - ◇ Apply a splint to reduce movement of the affected area, but keep it loose enough so as not to restrict blood flow
 - ◇ **Don't** use a tourniquet or apply ice
 - ◇ **Don't** cut the wound or attempt to remove the venom
 - ◇ **Don't** drink caffeine or alcohol
 - ◇ **Don't** try to capture the snake, but try to remember its color and shape so you can describe it, which will help in your treatment

CDP begins paving project

Story by Benjamin Crossley

The CDP is set to begin a multi-month paving project that includes roads surrounding the main training facility, resurfacing existing paved areas, and adding a new paved training area at the Advanced Responder Training Complex.

The multi-month project is planned to only affect employee parking during the first few weeks.

The paving project will assist logistics, training and future projects, but will create a parking shortage around Building 61 while they pave the roads.

The roads around Building 61 are being completely redone. The roads will be ground up and repaved during the project so employees need to be mindful of the lack of parking. More than 85 parking spaces will be unavailable during the entire process.

“Be sure to follow and read all of Bruce Greene’s emails about proper traffic flow and parking areas as things will change with weather and other possible delays,” said

Michael Vice, assistant director of infrastructure. “Staff members with questions can contact me or Mr. Greene.”

The project will significantly impact current parking and traffic movement. Militia Road, Federal Way and Freemont Road will have restricted movement during the pavement removal process. Federal Way and Militia Road will be completely closed once paving begins.

“To park on Freemont Road, drive to the end where it intersects with Militia Way and turn around,” said Bruce Greene, assistant director of operations. “Then park in the first available diagonal parking space. By parking in the first available parking spot, we will reduce the bottleneck of the narrow road.”

“We recommend arriving to work early for the next month to ensure parking,” added Greene. “You may have to park at Noble and walk over.”

Currently, there are no plans for

shuttles from Noble to the main building. The walk is about 10 minutes so employees should plan ahead.

“CDP employees should keep in mind that the parking arrangements will shift throughout the project,” said Greene. “Once the back parking lot opens up, we will be shutting down Freemont Road for a resurfacing so be on the lookout for updates.”

If employees require the use of government vehicles, the vehicles will be parked at the Noble Training Facility, but the keys and checkout will remain in CDP Asset Management in Building 61.

“We understand that this is very inconvenient for everyone. We just ask that we all be patient and courteous on the roadways,” said Greene.

Greene urges all employees to be flexible and patient as the completion rate for the project is at the mercy of the elements and severe weather can delay the project.





CDP selects new deputy superintendent

Story by Lisa Hunter

The CDP's Legal Counsel, Kent Davis, has been selected as the new CDP deputy superintendent.

Davis will assume his new duties June 29. In his current position, Davis is assigned to FEMA's Office of Chief Counsel, in Washington, DC., with duty at the CDP. He has served as the CDP's legal counsel for more than eight years. As the legal counsel for the CDP, Davis is responsible for all legal matters involved in the operation of the center, with over 700 personnel and an annual operating budget of more than \$62 million.

"I am truly honored and humbled to be able to continue to serve the great men and women here," said Davis. "The CDP is an incredible national asset with a dedicated staff that is committed to the mission of training America's emergency responders. I have been fortunate to have the privilege to serve as legal counsel for the CDP for more than eight years. In that role, however, I

was on loan from the [FEMA] Office of Chief Counsel in Washington, D.C. I am even more honored now to be a member of the actual CDP staff."

The CDP deputy superintendent position has been vacant since December, when the former deputy superintendent was promoted to superintendent.

"This is a momentous occasion for all of us at the CDP," King said. "Kent has been a member of the CDP family for more than eight years. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position. He will continue to be a valuable asset as the CDP's mission continues to grow. Kent has an unmatched reputation throughout FEMA for his quality work and he is a very active member of the Anniston community."

Davis is a native of Montgomery, Ala., but he grew up in Atlanta and New Orleans. He graduated from Louisiana State University in 1985 and was commissioned as

a Supply Corps officer in the U.S. Navy in 1986. After eight years of active duty, he transferred to the Navy Reserve while pursuing a law degree at Georgia State University. In 1998, he returned to active duty via interservice transfer to the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps, where he was promoted to major.

In 2001, Davis returned to the Navy Reserve. Since then, he has deployed to Qatar in 2006 and Afghanistan for most of 2012. Davis was promoted to Rear Admiral (lower half) in 2013.

Prior to joining FEMA's Office of the Chief Counsel, Davis served as an attorney-advisor for the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Ga., for three years.

Davis is married to the former Lisa Rogne. They have two children, Olivia and Turner.

Protective Safety and Clothing & Equipment Confidence for all



URS Protective Clothing and Equipment members Ronald Antoine, Randy Brooks, Victor Williams, Richard Henderson and Michael Whitsit pose in their space. These are five of the nine qualified to certify PC&E at COBRA.

Story and Photos by Benjamin Crossley

When students are about to enter a hazardous environment at COBRATF, safety is one of the main concerns. Their willingness to step into a situation that could prove deadly comes from confidence: confidence in their training, confidence in their instructor and confidence in the equipment.

For the employees of Protective Clothing and Equipment (PC&E), student and instructor safety at the COBRATF is their job. The PC&E staff is responsible for the strict maintenance regimen and safety certification of every piece of personal protective equipment (PPE) from the Lanx chemical suits to the air purifying respirators (APR).

There are a lot of moving parts when it comes to supporting training at COBRATF and all of them offer their own challenges. PC&E takes care of some of those challenges by making sure the instructors' and students' personal protective equipment is cleaned and maintained.

"Team URS supports the CDP/COBRATF through every training

mission that is asked of us," explained Doug Lipsey, Team URS, project manager. "We assist in the training at the COBRATF by providing the protective clothing and equipment to all of the staff and students in order to train in Northville and the toxic agent area."

The PC&E staff members are employed by URS and are all certified on maintaining the essential equipment. Currently, PC&E has nine qualified and certified employees.



Randy Brooks poses at the mask inspection station. This is the last step before bagging the APRs.

"PC&E personnel have to be certified through Pine Bluff Arsenal in order to test and certify all of our equipment," said Lipsey.

"The PC&E crew is very knowledgeable of the service and maintenance requirements concerning personal protective equipment and each person takes the responsibility for ensuring that each aspect of the job is performed correctly and to the best of their ability very seriously," said Victor Williams, PC&E Lead.

The PC&E employees always have something to do, added Williams. APRs need to be quality checked and shelved, orders need to be filled and maintenance is always required.

"I don't have to watch over their shoulders," said Williams. "They all know what needs to be done and they do it. It is satisfying to know I can trust them as they always come through in a crunch."

When students file through equipment issue, they may not realize the amount of time that goes into making sure that each piece of equipment is serviceable and

they have everything they need to enter the COBRATF. PC&E, like logistics, is the driving force behind the scenes at the COBRATF. Because of this, the students never see the PC&E employees, nor do they know how many hours of work PC&E employees put into preparing equipment for a group of students to enter the toxic-agent environment.

PC&E employees are responsible for maintaining and rotating the more than 850 APRs in stock at the COBRATF. The CDP keeps 500 APRs readily available for student and instructor use.

“Even though we don’t have much interaction with the students, we know that our mission in PC&E is to provide equipment needed [to] ensure the safety and success of the training mission. That takes priority over anything else,” said Williams. “In essence, being behind the scene takes second place to the safety and success of training objectives.”

“Every mask (APR) will be sanitized, inspected and certified after every use and if it sits on the shelf for six months, it will be put through the same process,” said Randy Brooks.

After students drop off the APRs in the hot area, the PC&E crew brings them out to begin the sanitation process. The APRs are washed for an hour in a 140 F bath, soaked in a bleach mixture and washed out. After



Ronald Antoine performs a seal check on a mask. More than 450 APRs were certified in the month of May.

drying overnight, the PC&E staff begins the certification process where they check the masks’ seals, drink tubes and exhale diaphragms. They then record and log the masks’ serial numbers, completely wipe the masks clean and examine them once again. During the last step the employees perform a final inspection where they examine every component of the mask, log the mask and eventually bag it with the maintenance cycle recorded on the bag.

Once on the shelf, PC&E members will rotate the newest to the back and bring the oldest forward to keep the cycle going. And just as quickly as they entered the PC&E space, the APRs are placed in bins filling orders for the next class.

The APR, just one element of PPE,

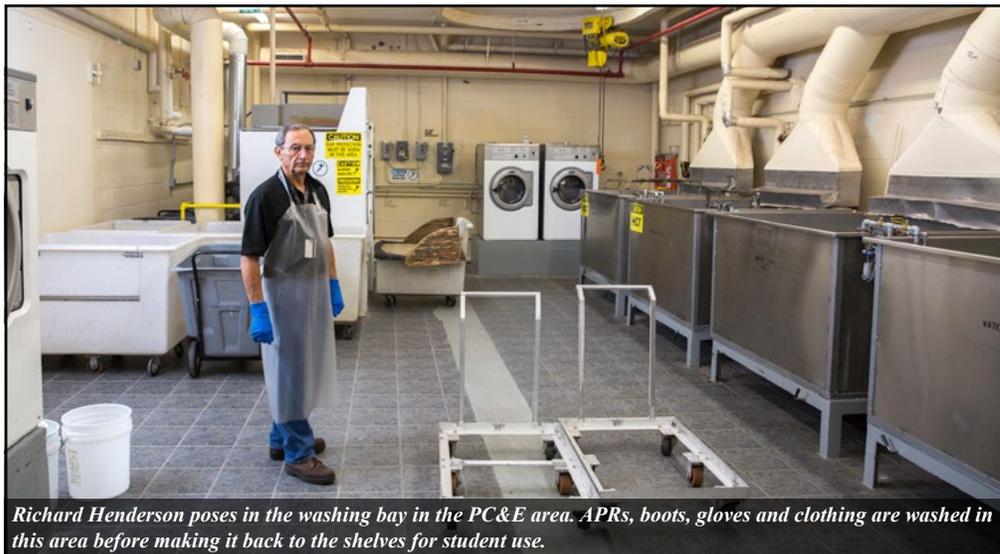
will go through more than two hours of hands-on maintenance, inspection and certification before it’s in the hands of a new student. PC&E also washes and sanitizes all of the suits and clothes that are used during COBRATF training.

“A lot of effort goes into what we do, whether it is certifying equipment or washing and drying clothes, we take our job and mission seriously,” said Williams. “Whatever it takes we are willing to do.”

“Anticipating equipment needs for training activities and prioritizing equipment processing to ensure all equipment is ready are two of the biggest challenges we face,” said Williams. “We meet that challenge every week and always are ready with whatever they need.”

Facing challenges is part of the job, but ensuring CDP students have the best equipment is what keeps the PC&E crew working hard.

“Knowing that the protective clothing and equipment is in the very best condition is part of a vital role for preparing and building confidence in the first responder community; this is the most rewarding part of my job,” said Williams. “It is very rewarding and satisfying to know that we have played a role in better preparing emergency responders throughout America.”



Richard Henderson poses in the washing bay in the PC&E area. APRs, boots, gloves and clothing are washed in this area before making it back to the shelves for student use.

Cycling Information

Bicyclist Fatality Rates

Bicyclist fatalities per 10k bicycling commuters

In States		
1	Montana	1.0
2	Maine	1.1
3	Vermont	1.5
4	Oregon	2.6
5	Massachusetts	2.7
6	Colorado	2.8
7	Rhode Island	3.1
8	Washington	3.2
9	Alaska	3.7
10	Wyoming	4.0
11	Minnesota	4.4
12	Hawaii	4.5
13	South Dakota	4.6
14	Wisconsin	4.7
15	Idaho	4.8
16	North Dakota	5.1
17	Kansas	5.1
18	Nebraska	5.5
19	Missouri	5.5
20	Utah	6.0
21	Pennsylvania	6.3
22	California	6.3
23	Illinois	7.0
24	Iowa	7.2
25	Virginia	7.3
26	Indiana	8.0
27	New Mexico	8.2
28	Arizona	8.9
29	Nevada	9.5
30	Maryland	9.7
31	New York	9.8
32	New Jersey	10.3
33	Ohio	10.5
34	New Hampshire	10.6
35	Connecticut	11.2
36	West Virginia	11.2
37	Kentucky	11.3
38	Michigan	13.5
39	Texas	15.9
40	Oklahoma	16.7
41	Tennessee	16.9
42	Louisiana	17.0
43	Georgia	18.3
44	Florida	21.1
45	South Carolina	21.2
46	North Carolina	21.8
47	Alabama	22.7
48	Delaware	26.0
49	Arkansas	29.0
50	Mississippi	70.4

Bicycling and Walking in the United States 2014 Benchmarking Report from the Alliance for Biking & Walking



Steady cycling burns approximately 300 calories per hour. Cycling for 30 minutes a day would burn 11 pounds of fat in a year. Cycling also boosts your metabolic rate long after you've finished your ride.



RIDE TWO ABOARD, AS LONG AS YOU DON'T OBSTRUCT TRAFFIC.



KEEP YOUR EYES ON TRAFFIC AROUND YOU AT ALL TIMES.



NEVER ASSUME YOU HAVE THE RIGHT OF WAY IN TRAFFIC.



WEAR A WELL-FITTED HELMET WITH EVERY RIDE, NO MATTER YOUR AGE.



RIDE IN THE SAME DIRECTION AS TRAFFIC, NEAR THE RIGHT CURB.



REFLECTIVE GEAR IS A MUST, ANY TIME OF DAY OR NIGHT.

MOST COMMON INJURIES DUE TO OVERUSE



48.8% Neck

41.7% Knee

36.1% Groin/Buttock

31.1% Hands

30.3% Lower Back

Injuries on bicycles result in 580,000 emergency department visits each year



1 in 8 bicyclist with reported injuries have a traumatic injury



Two-thirds of bicycle accident deaths are from traumatic brain injuries

BIKE HELMET FACTS



91% of bicyclists killed in 2008 were not wearing helmets.



Helmets reduce the risk of head injury by 85%, brain injury 88%, and severe brain injury by more than 75%.



22 states require drivers to keep 3 feet away from bicyclists at all times. Alabama is not one of these states.

Farewell FEMA Corps



FEMA Corps group: FEMA Corps Summit 5 members joined the CDP staff. One or more of the team members worked in nearly every CDP directorate. Left to right: Patrick Blinkhorn, Arisa Salvino, Emily Davis, Marcos Martinez, Derek Miller, Rachael Hoxsie, Jeanne Kelley, Faith Palmreuter, Ashanti Gillespie and Anthony Newkirk.

Story by Lisa Hunter

Photo by Benjamin Crossley

Ten members of FEMA Corps Summit 5 just completed their tour of service at the CDP, a first for the team members and for the CDP staff.

The team deployed to the CDP for 50 days as the last assignment in their 10-month tour. The team immediately jumped in to support CDP staff in nearly every area of the center's mission.

"The support we received from [FEMA Corps members] Ashanti Gillespie, Rachael Hoxsie and Arisa Salvino was exactly what we needed when we needed it, said CDP IT project manager, George Smitherman. When the team came on board, the FEMA Student ID Help Desk was receiving a substantial increase in calls and emails requesting assistance. Help Desk specialist Shayla Simmons spent a few hours training Gillespie, Hoxsie and Salvino. "They were a great asset and blessing to me," Simmons said. "They never complained and they were one step ahead of me sometimes." Because of their assistance, the Help Desk saw an immediate improvement in their response time and backlog. "They definitely made a positive impact on our help desk operations...to the point I wish their assignment lasted longer," Smitherman added.

Other team members were as helpful in other directorates. FEMA Corps members Faith Palmreuter and Emily Davis helped develop and execute the scenario for one of the CDP's multi-

course Integrated Capstone Events (ICE). They also helped to compile and edit the after action reviews for five of the ICEs. In fact, the entire team got involved in the ICE events as role players, taking on the parts of survivors, family members of survivors, reporters and even suspected criminals, according to Mallory Lowe, ICE developer.

In the CDP External Affairs Office, FEMA Corps member Marcos Martinez quickly became a jack of all trades. Among the many projects Martinez took on in the EA office, Martinez scanned in and documented more than 5,000 photos to build the CDP's photo archive. He also updated the CDP's extensive media list and built a news story database that archives and documents every external news story about the CDP from print publications. In doing so, he took External Affairs a step closer to a paperless office and created a searchable database for the EA team.

"The Peace Corps is two years. This is one year and it's domestic," said Martinez, age 25. "So, I figured it's the best way to give back to communities within the states."

Martinez, a native of Edinburg, Texas, is majoring in Communications and plans to continue his studies in order to teach English as a second language.

"Marcos was such a help to us in External Affairs," said Wendi Fezell,

the CDP protocol officer. "He jumped right in and when he finished one project, he'd go looking for another project to work on. We really wish he didn't have to leave."

In CDP Asset Management, FEMA Corps member, Jeanne Kelley helped with inventory and issuing equipment. But, her major achievement, the legacy she leaves behind is the Excel spreadsheet she developed. The spreadsheet comes complete with pivot tables and drop-down menus that will automatically keep an up-to-date total of property disposal transactions, government purchase card transactions and information on the CDP's government vehicles.

"Jeanne did a great job for us," said Dave Grooms, lead for CDP Asset Management. "The spreadsheet she developed helped us to streamline a lot of processes and information. Now, whenever we get a data call, we can just go right to that spreadsheet and instantly access that information."

Working at the CDP gave the FEMA Corps team an opportunity to see a different aspect of the FEMA mission, said Rick Dickson, director of mission readiness integration. "At the CDP, we are training state, local and tribal emergency responders to make their communities more resilient. Our training is very hands-on. All of the Summit 5 team members jumped right in. Not only did they get to see the training, they supported the training and got to be a part of the training.

"All of the CDP staff was so impressed with the team. Here are young people who have committed to public service," Dickson said. "I really appreciate their energy and the new perspective they bring to projects."

"The 10-month commitment is pretty hard, but it's definitely worth it in the end," said Kelley, a native of Pierre, S.D. Kelley said that the college money she earned while working with FEMA Corps is a nice bonus. And, as a result of her experience with FEMA Corps, the 19-year-old is now considering a career in emergency management. "[Through FEMA Corps] you get a great travel experience and it's a great way to see what your options are."

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MEAL?



“Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, mac & cheese and corn on the cob.”

Scott Lindsey
Quality Manager,
HME

“My grandmother’s poppy seed chicken casserole with wild rice and cream corn and for dessert, her chocolate ding dong cake – all of which is homemade and oh-so delicious!”



Renée Mach
Paralegal
Specialist, FEMA



“Barbeque pork sandwich and strawberry banana pudding. I make it and it is delicious.”

Rosa Montgomery
Lead, ADRS

“Mac & cheese!”



Ashley Fletcher
Paramedic, STEM



“Sweet potato french fries with barbeque sauce.”

Mike Aguilar
Registrar, FEMA

“Taco burger from Struts with a side of sweet potato fries and a Coke followed by fried Oreos. Not healthy at all but tastes amazing.”



Keith Ham
Helpdesk Support
Technician, SAIC