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Left: Members of the Lafayette Technical Rescue team use power tools to cut their way to potential victims during the Tipton Twister Exercise held in September 2013.
From the Executive Director

Governor Pence has made the safety of Hoosiers his highest priority, and this past year has yielded both natural and man-made challenges for our state.

As a concept, ‘public safety’ is well understood. As a definition, its meaning and connotations are straightforward. As a real-life implementation, however, it’s far from simple, because the challenges and demands of this diverse field are complex, intricate, and constantly changing.

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security has been tasked with bridging the gap between the concept of ‘public safety’ and its implementation. Our mission of providing leadership to help protect the state of Indiana is our highest priority.

Creating such a network requires countless hours of research, planning, preparation, and sweat.

It took several months to prepare for Vibrant Response 2014—the largest exercise ever conducted in North America—but thousands of federal, state, and local emergency personnel gained invaluable training for responding to a nuclear disaster. Another significant achievement was the state’s testing of the dual command function among military and civilian components to a large-scale disaster, which was made possible through coordination with Indiana’s National Guard and U.S. Army North.

With intense research and detailed analysis, IDHS pored over Indiana’s risks and emergency response capabilities to create the Threat Hazard Identification Risk Assessment and State Preparedness Report, which will help guide our state’s efforts as it seeks continual improvement.

In the following pages you will find a selective rather than exhaustive look at the ways IDHS has been working for the safety of Hoosiers over the past year.

As we move forward into 2015 and beyond, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security will continue to carry out its duties with vigilance in order to secure a brighter future for the state of Indiana.

Sincerely,

John H. Hill, Executive Director
State of Indiana’s Radioactive Response Capabilities

Report to the State Legislature on the transportation of High Level and Low Level Radioactive Waste, IC 10-14-8 and the transportation of Highway Route Controlled Quantity Radioactive Material, IC 10-14-9.

Pursuant to IC 10-14-8-4, “The director shall report to the general assembly each year on the status of the plan prepared under subsection (a) and the ability of the state to respond adequately to a radioactive waste transportation accident in Indiana.”

There are two primary types of radioactive shipments currently traversing the state: Low-Level Radioactive Waste and Highway Route Controlled Quantity (HRCQ). During the 2014 fiscal year, 120 shipments of low-level radioactive waste were permitted by IDHS and traversed the state of Indiana. Additionally, Indiana began permitting HRCQ shipments during fiscal year 2014 and 36 shipments of HRCQ material have been permitted and transported through the state during FY 2014.

There are several routes commonly used to transport radioactive material and waste throughout the state. There are 50 counties that these shipments traverse on a regular basis; including all counties that host Interstates 80/90, 70, 65, 74, 64, 94, 69, and 465.

Indiana relies on the Indiana Radiological Transportation Plan as the state’s guidebook for a response to any transportation accident involving radioactive waste and/or materials. The Indiana Radiological Transportation Plan was exercised in 2013 and this state plan is currently undergoing the beginning stages of revision. The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) will be working with all federal, state, and local partners, to improve the current plan. Lessons learned from hosting the 2013 Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program exercise and from information provided by the experiences of other states will be used during this update.

A critical element in Indiana’s ability to respond to a “radioactive waste transportation accident” is the number of trained responders statewide. During FY 2014, 280 responders were trained in response to a radioactive transportation incident. Of the 50 counties that radioactive materials and waste are commonly used for transport through Indiana, responders from 25 counties received training during fiscal year 2014. Figure 1 shows the 25 counties that were in attendance during the training sessions.

Another vital element to Indiana’s radioactive response capabilities is the consistent coordination with the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs). Indiana is very fortunate to have a strong LEPC environment in its local communities.

To maintain and improve on the state’s abilities to respond to a radioactive materials/waste transportation incident, IDHS is developing a three-year training calendar and on-line training materials. IDHS will focus training on the areas of need based on type and frequency of transports as well as the number of trained responders within these jurisdictions.
Vibrant Response 2014

From July 21-25, 2014, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security coordinated the state of Indiana’s participation in a full-scale exercise known as Vibrant Response 2014 (VR14), which simulated a nuclear detonation in Speedway, Indiana. The exercise involved local, state, and federal personnel from 28 states. VR14 was the largest exercise of its kind ever held in North America.

“The opportunity for local, state, federal, and military personnel to participate in an exercise of this size and complexity is an invaluable learning experience for everyone involved,” said Joseph Romero, director of Planning and Assessment and director of Preparedness and Training.

The exercise provided an opportunity to practice response capabilities to a catastrophic event in a major metropolitan area. A nuclear detonation would have cascading events involving radiation spreading hundreds of miles and affecting the health of thousands of citizens and animals. Training included urban and aerial searches, rescue missions, simulated radiological decontamination operations, airlifts, disaster communications, public information and warning, emergency policy formation and coordination, and medical training.

During the exercise, Indiana’s top three priorities were life-saving activities, infrastructure protection, and environmental protection.

The Indiana Government Center South held two critical functions of VR14: the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Joint Information Center (JIC). The JIC’s responsibilities were to answer simulated media phone calls, emails, social media requests, and to produce clear, accurate content for social media posts, press releases, and press conferences.

The IDHS District 5 Incident Management Team was deployed to the Muscatatuck Urban Training Complex (MUTC) to manage the on-scene incident. Personnel were deployed to Camp Atterbury to simulate county emergency operation centers (EOCs) for all affected counties. The EOC coordinated the emergency response from Indianapolis with direction from the policy group and executive leadership. The creation of both an after-action report and an improvised nuclear detonation plan is currently in progress.

“I have never experienced a level of training that better prepares our responders for large-scale emergencies than exercises like VR14,” said Michael Pruitt, IDHS District 5 Public Information Officer. “It gets us as close to the real thing as possible.”

Chris Royce (left) of the EPA and Stan Capobianco (right) of IDHS demonstrate how a radioactive soil sample is taken.

Participants from 28 states
30 public/private organizations
The Indiana Homeland Security Foundation

About the Foundation

The mission of the Indiana Homeland Security Foundation is to benefit the future of public safety in the state of Indiana through the promotion of adequate response capabilities, responder safety, volunteerism, outreach, and teamwork, and provide for enhancement of Indiana’s public safety intellectual capital.

The Indiana Homeland Security Foundation promotes first responder safety in Indiana through sales of the Secure Indiana license plates (bottom right). License plate sales directly fund public safety grants.

Grant awards made by the foundation continue to increase. The foundation made the policy change of capping an award at $4,000 to ensure more local communities are receiving the benefit of this program.

Fiscal Year 2014 (July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014)

For FY 2014 the available budget was $408,810.34. License plate sales have decreased while grant requests have increased.

Foundation Scholarship Program

The Foundation Scholarship Program exists for high school and college students interested in pursuing a degree in higher education and meet the following criteria: currently volunteer for a local public safety organization, attend or will attend an accredited Indiana college, and have a grade point average of 2.8 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Full-time students (at least 12 credit hours) are eligible for a $2,000 scholarship. Part-time students (at least six credit hours) are eligible for a $1,000 scholarship.

This year, the Foundation awarded scholarships to eight students attending Valparaiso University, Vincennes University, Hendricks Regional Paramedic Program, Purdue University, Anderson University, Indiana State University, and Ivy Tech Community College.

2014 Grant Approvals by County

Total Grant Awards $404,427
Total Scholarship Awards $14,000

Sales of the Secure Indiana license plates directly fund public safety grants.
Secured School Safety Grant Fund

About the Secured School Safety Grant Fund

Directly after the 2012 election, but before taking office, Governor Mike Pence charged a working group with the task of assessing school safety in Indiana and providing recommendations. Once in office, Governor Pence acted quickly with the Indiana General Assembly to secure $20 million in funding for the Secured School Safety Program beginning in July 2013.

The enacted legislation limited grants to three purposes:

- Employing a School Resource Officer (SRO),
- Purchasing equipment or technology to restrict access to school property or expedite notification of first responders, and
- Conducting threat assessments.

Funding and Expenses

Since the law went into effect on July 1, 2013, there have been two grant cycles: one in the fall of 2013 and one in the spring of 2014. The following breakdown includes the totals from both the fall and spring grant disbursals.

- 434 received full funding (the total amount of their request),
- 54 received partial funding,
- 29 were denied funding.

Distribution and Impact

The above map demonstrates the geographic distribution of Secured School Safety grants in Indiana. In the 2013-2014 school year there were 1,041,311 students enrolled in public schools in Indiana. The total enrollment of entities receiving grant awards divided by the total number of public school students indicates that 77% of the public school students in the state were impacted by the Secured School Safety Grant.

$20 Million
For the School Safety Program
Planning and Assessment Division

About the Division

The Planning and Assessment Division coordinates policy and research initiatives for the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and maintains essential strategic, operational, and tactical plans for state-level agencies and local emergency management programs.

This section highlights the Planning and Assessment Division’s accomplishments and activities from the 2014 fiscal year.

Child Care Preparedness Guide

IDHS, in collaboration with the Family and Social Services Administration and the Indiana Association of Child Care Reference and Referral, created the “Indiana Emergency Response Planning Guide for Child Care Providers” (right), and developed an online training guide based on the material. The guide and the online training provide basic information for child care providers to begin development of a child-care center’s emergency plans.

THIRA & State Preparedness Report

IDHS prepared Indiana’s Threat Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) and State Preparedness Report and submitted it to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in December 2013. The report assessed the state’s strengths and weaknesses in the areas of planning, organization, equipment, training and exercises in the context of Indiana’s most concerning threats including pandemics, flooding, tornadoes, earthquakes, and cyber attacks. The report’s results contribute to the guidance for program priorities, resource allocation, and community actions.

Disaster Housing Plans

IDHS and the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDCA) developed Disaster Housing and Emergency Service Plans for each of the 10 IDHS districts that encompass Indiana. Each district’s plan provides the basis for preparing and responding to a sudden loss of housing and other basic needs after a disaster. Each plan addresses short-term, intermediate, and long-term housing options for individuals and families following a disaster.

Business Emergency Operations Center

IDHS implemented the Business Emergency Operations Center (BEOC) in order to facilitate communication between the public and private sectors during a disaster. The BEOC provides businesses with situation and infrastructure status reports during emergencies. Participating businesses can share best practices, and industry leaders can coordinate their businesses’ response efforts, which is key to facilitating regional recovery.
Preparedness and Training Division

About the Division

The Preparedness and Training Division provides and coordinates training opportunities, continuing education, and exercises for the state’s public safety professionals. The division updates an online training calendar and offers Professional Emergency Manager certification.

This section highlights the Preparedness and Training Division’s accomplishments and activities from the 2014 fiscal year.

Tipton Twister Exercise

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), with assistance from several state and local agencies, planned and executed a multi-jurisdictional, integrated exercise at the Muscatatuck Urban Training Center from September 23-27, 2013. The exercise situation was a tornado and flooding disaster, which emphasized life-saving and life-sustaining missions. IDHS and its exercise partners practiced mass search and rescue operations, on-scene security, operational coordination and communication, public health and medical services, and public information outreach.

Vibrant Response 14 Exercise

In the months leading up to July 2014, IDHS planned and implemented Indiana’s participation in the Vibrant Response 2014 (VR14) national exercise, which primarily took place in Indianapolis and the surrounding counties, but included participants from 28 states. VR14’s scenario was the detonation of a 10-kiloton improvised nuclear device in Speedway, Indiana. Personnel participated in the simulation at Camp Atterbury, Muscatatuck Urban Training Center, the Indiana Government Center, and other out-of-state locations. VR14 gave participating agencies the opportunity to hone life-saving skills, emergency infrastructure management, and environmental protection strategies.

Catastrophic Earthquake Plan and Capstone Exercise

IDHS facilitated Indiana’s participation in Central United States Earthquake Consortium’s 2014 Capstone Exercise, June 16-20, 2014. The situation for Indiana was response and recovery from a 7.1 magnitude earthquake, centered in Mt. Carmel, Illinois, which caused catastrophic damage in Indiana. The After Action Report from Capstone 2014 indicated that Indiana’s strength was operational coordination, while capabilities needing improvement are public and private service resources and mass care.

*The number of personnel trained and courses offered includes emergency management and counter-terrorism training, firefighters trained, and fire and EMS certifications awarded.
Fire and Building Safety Division

About the Division

The Division of Fire and Building Safety investigates suspicious fires, promotes fire prevention, administers building plan reviews, enforces fire and building safety codes in all public buildings, regulates and coordinates emergency services, emergency medical services, and hazardous material response, conducts inspections of child-care facilities, boiler and pressure vessels, and elevators and amusement rides.

This section highlights the Fire and Building Safety Division’s accomplishments and activities from the 2014 fiscal year.

Hosted 2013 NASFM Conference

The 2013 National Association of State Fire Marshals Conference was conducted in Indianapolis during August of 2013. Fire marshals from 25 states converged on the city for a three-day event that was hosted by Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson, who was also elected to the NASFM board during the conference.

Free Smoke Alarms to VFDs

The Fire and Building Safety Division joined a new grant program made possible by State Farm Insurance in May 2014 that will provide Indiana’s volunteer fire departments with free smoke alarms to distribute to Hoosiers. Applicants to the program will be provided new smoke alarms that come with 10-year batteries.

Free CPR/AED Training

The IDHS Emergency Medical Services branch has been offering state employees the opportunity to take free classes to obtain CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and AED (automated external defibrillator) certification. Since the beginning of the program, more than 700 state employees have become certified at no cost to them.
Emergency Response and Recovery

About the Division

The Division of Emergency Response and Recovery assists local emergency management agencies and other response leaders who coordinate or support local responders’ incident management, assists individuals and local jurisdictions with recovery from disasters, and coordinates mitigation programs designed to prevent or reduce the impact of future disasters on communities.

This section highlights the Emergency Response and Recovery Division’s accomplishments and activities from the 2014 fiscal year.

January 5-9 Winter Storm Response

In early January 2014, Indiana was struck by an intense winter storm that paralyzed entire regions of the state for more than a week. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) activated and coordinated the response of numerous agencies. In the months following the conclusion of the storms, the Emergency Response and Recovery Division worked with local and county officials to document $11.1 million in damage. Governor Mike Pence’s persistent appeals to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) resulted in public and/or snow assistance for 30 Indiana counties.

Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

In April of 2014, Response and Recovery submitted and received approval from FEMA for the Indiana State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, which allows Indiana to receive public assistance for infrastructure repair and mitigation funding to assist in building state resiliency.

Upgraded WebEOC Software

WebEOC is the state’s crisis management software. Response and Recovery upgraded

WebEOC this past year to include advanced mapping capabilities, increased accessibility at the local level, and enhanced customization capabilities. The software upgrade required a substantial amount of time to complete, since 3,100 users statewide had to receive new account information. The upgrade allows WebEOC to be further customized to fit the specific needs of emergency management and public safety personnel across Indiana.

November 2013 Severe Storms

Response and Recovery conducted and coordinated damage assessments for Indiana counties affected by severe November 2013 storms. The assessments helped Governor Mike Pence secure a disaster loan program declaration from the U.S. Small Business Administration for the benefit of affected Indiana counties.
Mission

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security will provide statewide leadership, exemplary customer service, and subject matter expertise for the enhancement of public and private partnerships and the assurance of local, state and federal collaboration to continually develop Indiana's public safety capabilities for the well-being and protection of our citizens, property, and economy.

Contact

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