



SERVICE
TO STAFF AND COMMUNITY

INTEGRITY
IN ALL WE DO

RESPECT
FOR ALL PEOPLE

April 6, 2022



FDIC Conference

FDIC International is taking over the Indiana Convention Center from April 25-30! This conference offers firefighters from around the world the chance to learn from world-class instructors, attend workshops and get hands-on training on the latest products and services available to the industry.

Several speakers from Indiana are taking the stage to lead a variety of classes.

Check out the schedule of events for [Indiana speakers](#).



Cybersecurity A Priority as Russian Aggression Continues

The ongoing turmoil in Ukraine continues to have a rippling effect across the world as Russia's aggression shows no signs of slowing down. From fuel prices to international diplomacy, the conflict has the potential to bring us to a new dawn in global relations.

In addition to its nuclear arsenal, Russia also has significant weapons at his disposal to wreak havoc on the cyber world. Experts predict ongoing cyberattacks on Ukraine, the United States and other allies—some of which could impact the world like never before.

The federal government has been explicit in its warnings that Russia operatives are planning to attack the infrastructure of the country as a way of fighting against the many economic sanctions placed on Russia by the United States.

[U.S. President Biden recently warned](#) the U.S. needs to take cybersecurity risks seriously, because it's not a matter of if, but a matter of when.

IDHS can provide assistance on updating your cybersecurity plans. Read the [full story here](#) to learn who to contact to help you with these updates.

Register for the FDIC

JEMS Conference & Expo

In tandem with the FDIC, the JEMS Conference & Expo is making its debut this month at the Indiana Convention Center from April 25-30.

The conference brings together paramedics, emergency medical technicians, medical directors and executives from EMS providers including state and private agencies, third service and fire. This conference provides education, training, peer-to-peer sharing and networking opportunities.

Register for JEMS Conference and Expo

Recovery Reckonings

FEMA is still accepting submissions for project applications associated with the COVID-19 disaster declaration, also known as DR4515. The 100% cost share has been extended through July 1, 2022. After July 1, the federal cost share will become 90%.

Government entities and private nonprofits that have not applied for assistance through the PA program may still do so. Visit the [FEMA Grants Portal](#) to register and begin an application. No deadline exists at this point for the submission of a request for public assistance.

Organizations with questions regarding this disaster event, or the PA program in general, can visit the [IDHS PA webpage](#) for more information.

CyberStart America Deadline

The logo for CyberStart America (CSA) features the letters 'CSA' in a bold, white, sans-serif font against a solid blue square background.

The deadline is coming soon for kids in your community to sign up for CyberStart America. This program gives students in grades 9-12 free access to the world-renowned

CyberStart game. It is an immersive cybersecurity training game for high school students, with more than 200 unique security challenges that students can solve as cybersecurity agents investigating criminal gangs.

The deadline is April 26, 2022. [Learn more here](#) about how kids can earn scholarships by participating in this program.



Local Fire Chiefs Empowered to Ensure Fireworks Shows Are Safe

Firework shows are a staple of celebrations for many Hoosiers. State Fire Marshal Joel Thacker wants to keep it that way.

“Everyone loves a good fireworks display, but they need to be safe,” said Thacker.

All public fireworks displays, even those organized by local fire departments, must receive an Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) permit, per [Indiana Code 22-11-14](#) and [675 Indiana Administrative Code 12-9](#). The permit authorizes the use of professional grade fireworks but is not effective until the local fire chief approves the operator of the show and inspects the display site to determine the display site

Run with Shears 5K

Put on those running shoes! The Run with Shears 5K is coming up.

The race is hosted by the Indiana EMS Memorial Foundation. The foundation is raising money to add an EMS section to the Indianapolis memorial honoring firefighters and police officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Runners and walkers of all abilities are welcome to participate in the race along the Downtown Canal.

Where:
Indiana State Museum
South Lawn
650 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

When:
Saturday, May 14, 2022
9 a.m.

[Register for the Run with Shears 5K](#)

Low-Head Dam Awareness Month

April is Low-Head Dam Awareness Month. Public safety and emergency management agencies looking to increase public awareness of the dangers of these dams can find information on the Low-Head Dams page on GetPrepared.in.gov. The webpage includes links to a map of known dams, Indiana documentaries and other resources.

and plan are safe.

“Many people call and ask the State Fire Marshal to shut down fireworks shows, but that’s really the local fire chief’s responsibility,” said Thacker. “IDHS handles the display permits, but the local fire chief has the ultimate authority to approve displays, or not.”

[Click here to read more](#) about what fire chiefs should be looking for during a fireworks inspection.

Fireworks Sales Inspections

All fireworks manufacturers, distributors and sellers in Indiana are required to receive IDHS and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) permits. IDHS inspects these locations as part of the permitting process. In 2021, the agency inspected more than 600 fireworks sales locations. Local building officials often inspect these stores too, since they are considered hazardous locations and most appear for a short time.



The most common retail violation found by IDHS is the location being over its weight limit. The ATF is looking for illegal explosives. [Click here](#) to continue reading about the violations each agency should monitor.



PFAS Foam Collection Program Prioritizes Firefighter Health

Governor Eric J. Holcomb called on fire departments across the state to take advantage of Indiana’s new foam collection program, which offers free collection and disposal of PFAS foam, a known contaminant.

“Indiana has chosen to be a leader in this PFAS foam



National Flood Insurance Program

When It Rains, It Floods.

Flooding is one of the most common natural disasters that occur in the United States, and Indiana experienced 103 flooding or heavy rain events in 2021 alone. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), \$282.46 million of FEMA flood insurance claims have been paid in Indiana since 1978. There are more than 2.5 million households in Indiana, but only 17,390 insurance policies in effect, per [FEMA](#).

To reduce the number of homes financially devastated by flooding, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Indiana Department of Insurance and FEMA encourage all Hoosier homeowners and renters to purchase flood insurance protection. While purchasing flood insurance might seem costly, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is available to help provide citizens affordable flood insurance coverage based on the area they live in.

Learn more at www.in.gov/floodinsurance.

program, because, frankly, firefighting is hard enough without having to worry about these hazardous chemicals,” Holcomb said. “We hope more departments will sign up so we can do all we can to protect Indiana firefighters.”

About 200 fire departments have already signed on to participate as of April 1, and about 50,000 gallons of foam has been identified that will be safely disposed of at no cost to the departments. Representatives from U.S. Ecology will be contacting departments in April to arrange pickup for PFAS material to prepare it for disposal.

[Read more](#) about the PFAS foam collection program and how you can report your foam to be picked up.



Clinton Co. Sheriff's Deputy Receives Award from State Fire Marshal

Deputy Yoder Receives Certificate of Appreciation

One of the core reasons first responders sign up for the job is to help Hoosiers. Police officers, firefighters and EMS personnel go out every day to assist people in need ... often without a second of hesitation. It's the urge to do what's right that the State Fire Marshal wants to highlight in the first responder community—even when the outcome is tragic

In February, Clinton County Sheriff's Deputy Jared Yoder received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office for his actions when



Noblesville Fire Officer

A Noblesville Fire Department lieutenant is now among an elite group of firefighters. Lt. Scott Hunter is one of only 602 firefighters in the world to complete and receive the Fire Officer (FO) credentials from the Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC).

The designation is a voluntary program designed to recognize individuals who demonstrate their excellence in seven measured components: experience, education, professional development, professional contributions, association membership, community involvement and technical competence. Continue [reading here](#) about what Hunter says continually motivates him to keep excelling in his career.



Center Grove School District Opens EOC

Crisis events at schools have unfortunately become more common in the U.S. No community wants to think about whether it could "happen here."

The Center Grove Community School Corporation is making sure it is prepared for anything. Center Grove

he was first to the scene of a fire.

On Jan. 14, Yoder received a call about a house fire with entrapment at a rural home. As he pulled up to the scene, he could see large flames and heavy smoke coming from the house. A family member, who had made it out of the house, told him there were two children trapped inside. Yoder immediately went into the house to try to find the children.

[Read more here](#) to find out the struggles he had to deal with and why Yoder says this event was a wake-up call.

In Memoriam

Crown Point Fire Chief Dave Crane



IDHS mourns the loss of a Hoosier hero, Crown Point Fire Chief Dave Crane. Crane took the helm of the fire department in May 2017. He was the the department's first full-time fire chief to also be a certified paramedic.

Crown Point Fire Rescue says Crane always wanted to be firefighter. He started the Lake Dalecarlia cadet program at only 16 years old. He then began 41 years of fire service in Lake Dale before joining the City of Crown Point.

The thoughts and prayers of the IDHS team are with the Crane family and the Crown Point Fire Department.

The 2022 Legislative Session

The 2022 Legislative Session is complete. The House and Senate passed two bills that affect IDHS and

already has an established police department in their school system. This year, the school corporation teamed up with White River Township Fire Department and the Bargersville Community Fire Department to build an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on school grounds.

The Center Grove EOC provides central monitoring for nearly 700 security cameras, alarms and severe weather conditions.

[Click here](#) to see a slideshow of the first-of-its-kind EOC.

2022 North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) National Workshop

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and the Crawfordsville Police Department are hosting the 2022 NAPWDA National Workshop. The workshop will cover all phases associated with patrol, including tactical techniques and scenario-based training.

Learn more about this workshop and register on the [NAPWDA event webpage](#).

Upcoming Events



[National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week](#)

- April 10-16

stakeholders. Descriptions of the two bills are below.

HEA 1314, Public Safety Matters

- Requires IDHS, IDOH, the Statewide 911 Board and the Integrated Public Safety Commission to make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding ways to increase 911 system operability between counties and how to improve trauma care in Indiana.
 - Increases the amount of money in the Regional Public Safety Training Fund by reallocating how funds collected from the Public Safety Fee are distributed.
 - Changing the distribution of funds will allow IDHS to offer more education and training opportunities to the public safety community in Indiana.
- Increases benefits for IDHS fire investigators
 - It makes it easier for IDHS fire investigators to obtain death benefits if they die in the line of duty by granting a presumption of death in the line of duty for certain cancers and illnesses.
 - Allows their surviving spouse and children to receive healthcare insurance from IDHS.

SEA 381, Regulation of Radioactive Material

- Allows IDHS to become an "Agreement State" with the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
 - Enables IDHS to assume regulatory responsibilities for certain radioactive materials in the state and partner with the industry to ensure these sources are used safely.

Recent Legislation Moves Indiana toward NRC Agreement State

Governor Eric J. Holcomb signed Senate Bill 381 into law on March 7, 2022, setting the framework for Indiana to enter into an agreement with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). An agreement would allow state officials to assume regulatory authority over industrial, medical, academic and general use of radioactive materials.

IDHS is now taking the lead in making this agreement official with the NRC. It is going to require a heavy lift. Continue [reading here](#) to learn about the strict



[Arson Awareness Week](#)

- May 1-7



[Building Safety Month](#)

- May



[EMS Week](#)

- May 15-21



[CPR/AED Awareness Week](#)

- June 1-7



[Fireworks Safety Month](#)

- June

requirements of the NRC and why Gov. Holcomb says this is a priority for Indiana's future.

FEMA Provides More Than \$2 Billion in COVID-19 Funeral Assistance

Assistance is still available!

As of April, FEMA had distributed more than \$2.1 billion in financial assistance given to families who've lost a loved one to COVID-19. \$43 million of that amount went to Hoosier families. But the program is not done yet. FEMA still has financial assistance available.

Financial assistance is available for COVID-19 related funeral expenses incurred after Jan. 20, 2020. IDHS highly encourages people to use this benefit to ease the monetary burden created by losing a family member to COVID-19.

More than 22,000 Hoosiers have died from COVID-19, but only 6,200 families have applied for and received funeral assistance.

A list of the conditions that must be met to receive assistance is [available here](#).

Update from IDHS Grants Section

[IntelliGrants Purge](#)

IDHS will be purging cancelled grant applications and in-process applications that were never submitted in IntelliGrants. Declined or denied applications will be kept in the system.

IDHS now has a form to delete unwanted applications in IntelliGrants. Before filling out the form, please be sure that you have the document ID number for each application.

A maximum of five applications at a time can be requested on one form. Enter only one application name to be deleted per field. If you have more than five applications to delete, please submit multiple forms.

[Access form here](#)

This form is on the IDHS website as well. The developer will purge the applications by the following quarter end dates:

- 6/30/2022
- 9/30/2022
- 12/31/2022

Upcoming Trainings

Trainings in April and May include courses like Public Information Basics, ICS 300, ICS 400 and State Fire Marshal Interchanges.

You can find a comprehensive list of [upcoming trainings here](#). Register for all classes on the [Acadis Portal](#).

Public Safety Jobs Dashboard



Check out all the current openings on the [IDHS Public Safety Jobs dashboard](#). If your agency is hiring and would like to promote the job, submit your information below the dashboard. It's free.

Quick Links

[iGMS](#)

[IntelliGrants](#)

[Acadis Training Portal](#)

[IDHS Calendar of Events](#)

• 3/31/2023

If you have any questions, contact the IDHS Grants Section by filling out a [grants support ticket](#).

DUNS Number Change

As of April 4, the federal government is no longer using the DUNS number to uniquely identify entities and instead using the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) created in SAM.gov. To receive federal funding, an entity must have an active UEI number. Any grants awarded from IDHS now require an active UEI number. Please prepare accordingly to have an active UEI prior to applying for grants.

This change allows the government to streamline the entity identification and validation process, making it easier for entities to do business with the federal government.

Current SAM.gov registrants already have been assigned their UEI and can view it within SAM.gov. This includes inactive registrations. The UEI can be found below the DUNS Number on your entity registration record. Remember, you must be signed in to your SAM.gov account to view entity records.

IDHS recommends that applicants review the [SAM.gov database](#) to ensure their UEI number is updated and active.

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