



2022 Year in Review



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Mission and Core Values

The Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) is the lead agency for the support and coordination of emergency preparedness, training, response, recovery and mitigation to save lives, protect property, and reduce the impact of emergencies in Delaware.



PREPARE:

We prepare by training and engaging Delawareans through community outreach to know and understand threats and hazards in our state.

SUPPORT:

We support our government and private partners by planning, training, and assisting during emergency response.

RECOVER:

We recover from disasters by facilitating and coordinating access to state and federal aid for our communities in need.



Delaware Emergency Management Agency is committed to serving all of Delaware.

Message from the Director

I am pleased to provide the **2022 Year In Review** for the Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA). This report presents a snapshot of the agency's work over the last year—providing details of programs and initiatives designed to keep Delawareans safe.

"This year has been challenged by a shifting focus back to planning and preparedness after the intense response to an unprecedented pandemic."



DEMA Director A.J. Schall

Photo by Jerry Habraken, courtesy Delaware Online

DEMA is the lead agency for the support and coordination of emergency preparedness, training, response, recovery, and mitigation. Through this focus, we work to prepare, support, and help facilitate recovery of those impacted. In addition, we administer the Comprehensive School Safety Program (CSSP). This critical program created by the Omnibus School Safety Program is designed to promote a cohesive and coordinated approach during a critical incident in a school.

For many residents, life has thankfully begun to return to "normal" following COVID-19. However, the agency remained at a high tempo managing three open disaster declarations simultaneously, one of which was the activities associated with continued pandemic recovery.

This year has been challenged by a shifting focus back to planning and preparedness after the intense response to an unprecedented pandemic. The dedication of a well-trained team along with great partners from other federal, state, and local organizations including many volunteers has allowed us to refocus efforts on preparedness for all potential hazards that might impact the citizens of Delaware.

It has been my honor to lead this great team and interact with our many partners during 2022. Together we remain committed to serving all of Delaware!

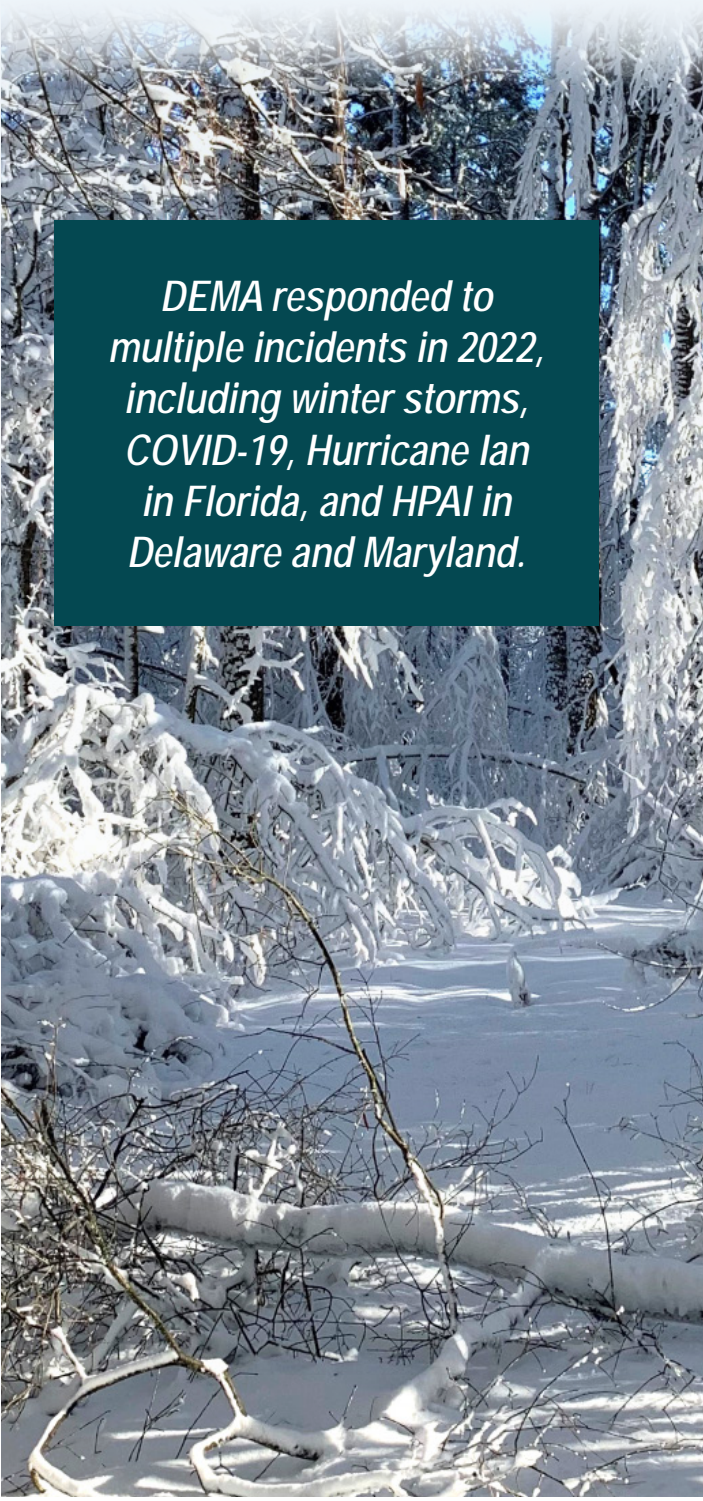
Sincerely,



A.J. Schall, Director
Delaware Emergency Management Agency

Response and Support Activities

More than 14 inches of snow fell near Ellendale during a January storm that resulted in a State of Emergency for Kent and Sussex counties.



DEMA responded to multiple incidents in 2022, including winter storms, COVID-19, Hurricane Ian in Florida, and HPAI in Delaware and Maryland.

January Winter Storms

Two winter storms impacted Delaware during 2022. The first storm on January 3 closed state offices. The second, on January 29, brought heavy snowfall to the southern part of the state. Governor Carney declared a State of Emergency (SOE) that authorized the Delaware National Guard to assist state and local authorities with winter storm response efforts, while directing motorists to stay off the roads. A Level 2 Driving Restriction in Kent and Sussex counties and a Level 1 Driving Warning in New Castle County was also issued. A Level 1 warning encourages motorists to “exercise extra caution” and not to operate a motor vehicle unless there is a significant reason to do so.” A Level 2 restriction permits driving only for “essential personnel,” such as snow removal operators, government and public safety personnel, health-care workers, and those who provide food and fuel deliveries during a state of emergency.

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

In cooperation with the Office of the Governor and Delaware Department of Health and Social Service’s Division of Public Health, DEMA continued to support Delaware’s COVID-19 emergency through the first six months of 2022 until it was deactivated on June 30. Governor Carney first declared a State of Emergency for COVID-19 on March 12, 2020, and the public emergency has been extended to allow financial assistance and health support to continue.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

In February 2022, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was detected on a Delaware poultry farm. HPAI is an airborne respiratory virus that spreads easily among chickens by wild birds, contact with infected poultry, equipment, and on workers’ clothing and shoes. Subsequent cases were detected that resulted in the depopulation of millions of birds. From February 22 to March 18, DEMA deployed three planners, a logistics section chief, and support personnel to assist in the joint response for the Delaware and Maryland Departments of Agriculture in cooperation with the USDA, DelDOT, county emergency officials, and private sector stakeholders.

Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) Support Requests

Barge Fire in the Delaware Bay

On May 23, a cargo barge caught fire nine miles off Port Mahon in the Delaware Bay. Bowers Fire Company led the response along with area fire companies and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) and U.S. Coast Guard. Governor Carney issued a state of emergency for Kent County, which allowed DEMA to request a special firefighting boat and crew from New York City under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). The fire burned for 26 hours before it was extinguished.



Hurricane Ian in Florida

On September 28, Hurricane Ian slammed the southwest Florida coast as a devastating Category 4 storm, causing a destructive storm surge that resulted in 149 deaths and billions of dollars in catastrophic damage.

DEMA's deputy director and four planners went to Florida's Division of Emergency Management in Tallahassee to assist with post-storm response and recovery. Delaware Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (DEVOAD) and Team Rubicon also deployed to help clear structural and vegetative debris.



From left, DEMA Deputy Director Paige Fitzgerald, Planner Philip Cane, and Planner Mike O'Malley at Florida Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee.



Delaware's Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (DEVOAD) and Team Rubicon assisted with response and recovery after Hurricane Ian.



Team Rubicon members went to Florida to take on the challenge of clearing debris and helping residents begin the long recovery process.

Western Wildfire Support

DEMA's PIO joined the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center near Denver, Colorado for two weeks in July 2022 as an intelligence support specialist to assist wildfire response efforts in the West.

Special Event Support

PGA Golf Event in Wilmington

Two planners activated to provide planning assistance to New Castle County for the PGA Golf Tournament, August 2022. Partner agencies included state, local, and private Sector entities such as Delaware State Police (DSP) DIAC, New Castle County and City of Wilmington emergency management officials, and the PGA.

Firefly Music Festival

The Firefly Music Festival held its 10th annual multi-day concert event in September 2022 at the Woodlands, part of the Dover Motor Speedway complex. Before the event, several DEMA staff participated in a one-day active shooter tabletop exercise and also provided incident management support services for the actual event.

November Election Task Force

In November 2022, DEMA staff provided coordination and planning assistance to the Department of Elections for the 2022 Elections.

DEMA Deputy Director Paige Fitzgerald, Senior Administrator Sharon Bryson, and Planner Mark Dworkin activated for the day and supported a Joint Information System to monitor and respond to any potential election-related issues.

Partner agencies included federal, state, and local entities such as the Delaware State Police (DSP) DIAC, Department of Technology and Information (DTI), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Elections, and county OEMs.



DEMA's John "JP" Petersen served as an intelligence support specialist at the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center.



From left, Justin Puchalsky, Mike Rinehart, Eric Morgan, and Joseph Mriss attended the Firefly Tabletop Exercise at Dover Motor Speedway.



DEMA staffers Eric Morgan and Mike O'Malley attended the Firefly Tabletop Exercise in Dover.

Terrorism Preparedness Section

*The **Terrorism Preparedness Section** manages statewide and emergency readiness in response to acts of terrorism that impact the State of Delaware. This mission is carried out by the Homeland Security Grant Program, Nonprofit Security Grant Program, State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program, and Port Security Grant Program.*

DEMA awarded \$2.4 million for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program on behalf of 24 nonprofits, of which 20 were first time recipients.

Homeland Security Grant Program

The Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) includes a suite of risk-based grants to assist state, local, tribal and territorial efforts in preventing, protecting against, mitigating, responding to and recovering from acts of terrorism and other threats. This program provides resources required to implement the National Preparedness System and meet the goal of a secure and resilient nation. In FY22, DEMA awarded \$4.84 million for the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) on behalf of 68 projects and 14 disciplines. DEMA is currently managing six open grant years and 150 total projects to help build preparedness and response capacity for homeland security activities.



Nonprofit Security Grant Program

The Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) provides funding for target hardening and other physical security enhancements and activities to nonprofits at high risk of terrorist attack. The goal is to integrate nonprofit preparedness activities with broader state and local efforts. It is also designed to promote coordination and collaboration in emergency preparedness activities among public and private community representatives, as well as state and local government agencies. In 2022, DEMA awarded \$2.4 million for the NSGP grants on behalf of 24 nonprofits, of which 20 were first time recipients.



A Nonprofit Security Grant was used to install security cameras and forced entry-resistant windows at this location in Wilmington.

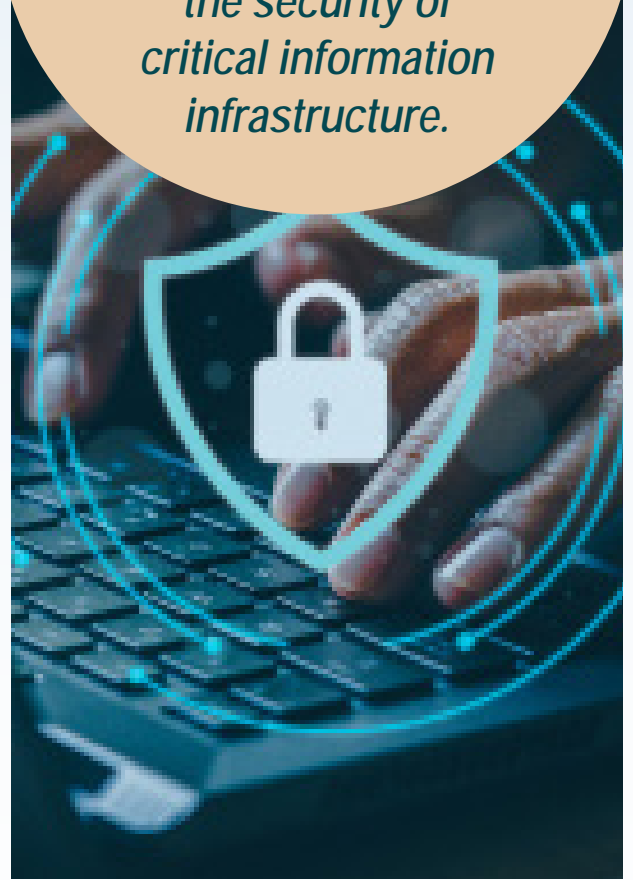
State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP)

The State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) provides funding to eligible entities to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats to information systems owned or operated by, or on behalf of, state, local, or tribal governments.

In 2022, DEMA was awarded \$2,224,644 for the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) on behalf of state and local subrecipients to bolster the security of critical information infrastructure, and improve the resilience of the services these entities provide to our communities. DEMA is responsible for managing the State of Delaware's SLCGP application and award, in coordination with the Department of Technology and Information (DTI) and the new Cybersecurity Planning Committee.

Funding was provided through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and jointly implemented by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). To meet the new program needs, a contractual position was created within the Terrorism Preparedness Section to support the administration and management of the drastically expanding NSGP and new SLCGP. A statewide cybersecurity plan is required under the SLCGP. Along with managing and administering this program, the Terrorism Preparedness Section supports the State and Local Cybersecurity Working Group in developing the state's plan.

*In 2022,
DEMA was awarded
\$2.2 million for the State
and Local Cybersecurity
Grant Program to bolster
the security of
critical information
infrastructure.*



Terrorism Section Program Accomplishments

- Completed the annual Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and State Preparedness Report (SPR).
- Completed review and update of the DEMA COOP plan and Business Continuity Interagency Coordination (BCIC).'
- DEMA staff attended the Higher Education Symposium at EMI in June 2022.
- Represented the State of Delaware at the quarterly Delaware Bay Area Maritime Sector Committee (AMSC) meetings and assisted with the development and evaluation of FY22 PSGP project applications. Also represented the State of Delaware on the Delaware Bay AMSC Unmanned Threats Subcommittee, a newly created subcommittee to the Delaware Bay AMSC.
- Supported the Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP) in 2021 to complete the Delaware Drinking Water Quality and Distribution System assessment project in partnership with the Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency (CISA) and THE Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS).
- Supported Public-Private Partnership (P3) coordination calls hosted through FEMA Region III to reinforce regional partnerships and support the development and growth of P3 programs.

Recovery and Mitigation Section

*The **Recovery and Mitigation Section** focuses on planning, mitigating, responding, and recovering from all naturally occurring events such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and long-term ecological events such as coastal erosion.*

Program Overview

The Recovery and Mitigation Section administers Public Assistance, Individual Assistance, and Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs on behalf of FEMA.

In 2022, DEMA supported Sussex County's county mitigation plan update. Local governments and county partners must have a mitigation plan to maintain eligibility to apply for federal grants to support hazard mitigation efforts. DEMA also began the process of finalizing its own five-year Hazard Mitigation Plan update, to be adopted in 2023.

Public Assistance Grants

FEMA's Public Assistance Grants provide funding for state, local governments, and certain private nonprofit organizations, for emergency protective measures and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by a declared disaster. In 2022, DEMA administered Public Assistance grants for three federal disasters: Tropical Storm Isaias, Hurricane Ida, and the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

FEMA's COVID-19 public assistance grant funding provides financial reimbursement for emergency protective measure costs related to the state's COVID-19 pandemic response under the federal disaster declaration approved on April 5, 2020. Eligible expenses included testing, masks, gloves, signs, hand washing stations, and transaction barriers for resumption of in-person activities, as well as supplies and food assistance for at-risk individuals to protect public safety. In 2022, DEMA administered \$123.9 million in Public Assistance funding for the COVID-19 public health emergency.

*"Looking to the future,
leading every recovery"*

DEMA and DeIDOT set up a drive-thru COVID testing site at the Mid-County DMV near Delaware City in January, 2022.



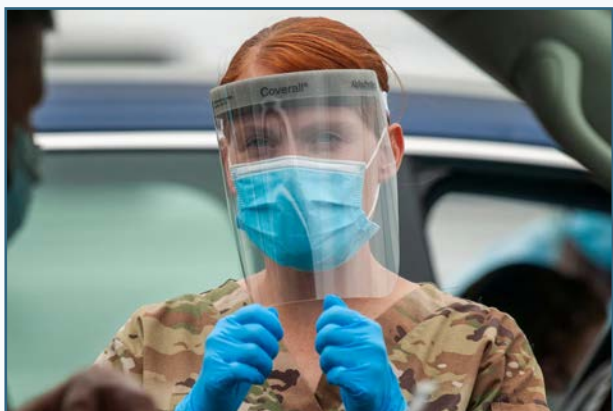
**DEMA
administered
\$123.9 million
in FEMA Public
Assistance funding
for the COVID-19
health emergency
in 2022.**

Stockley Center in Georgetown

DELAWARE NATIONAL GUARD MISSION: STOCKLEY CENTER

Gov. John Carney issued an executive order on May 22, 2022 calling on the Delaware National Guard (DNG) to serve on state duty status at the Stockley Center (left) in Georgetown. Managed by the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), the center is a 50-bed Medicaid-certified intermediate care facility that provides nursing care for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. DEMA provided logistical and financial support for this important DNG mission.

Below, a DNG member completes an accelerated CNA training program at Delaware Technical Community College.



**The Delaware National Guard
staffed many COVID testing sites.**



Photos by Delaware National Guard

Governor Carney honored the Delaware National Guard in May for their work on COVID-19.

COVID Public Service Recognition Event

RECOGNITION CEREMONY FOR PUBLIC SERVICE DURING THE COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY

Governor John C. Carney, Jr. hosted a ceremony on May 26, 2022 in Smyrna to honor staff of the Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, and Delaware Emergency Management Agency for their hard work and dedication during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic that began in March, 2020.

At right, DEMA Director A.J. Schall and Public Health Director Dr. Karyl Rattay received the “Order of the First State” from Governor Carney for leading the unprecedented COVID response efforts.



Isaias and Ida Public Assistance

In 2020, Tropical Storm Isaias spawned a record 31-mile tornado that caused damage during the period from August 4 to 7 in Kent County and New Castle County. On October 2 of that year, a federal disaster declaration was approved for both areas. In 2022, DEMA administered \$999,786 dollars in Public Assistance funding for Isaias.

In 2021, the remnants of Hurricane Ida caused record rainfall and severe flooding from the Brandywine River in Wilmington. On September 17, 2021, Governor Carney requested a Major Disaster Declaration in response to the damage, which was approved on October 24 by President Biden. FEMA authorized federal assistance for New Castle County to supplement state and local recovery efforts in those areas. In 2022, DEMA administered \$240,835 in Public Assistance for the Ida flooding.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) assists eligible applicants in implementing long-term hazard mitigation planning and projects. Eligible projects include home elevations, acquisition of hazard-prone homes and businesses, flood protection, retrofitting, and slope stabilizations. Recovery and Mitigation Section staff conducted many outreach efforts in 2022 with local and county governments to identify projects for HMGP funding.

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant Program

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grants (formerly the Pre-Disaster Mitigation or PDM) help applicants implement pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation projects by awarding planning and project grants to mitigate future damage before disaster strikes. In 2022, DEMA administered \$144,321 in BRIC/PDM projects.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grants

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grants are competitive grants that provide funding to eligible applicants for projects that reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings insured by the National Flood Insurance Program. In 2022, DEMA administered \$196,160 in Flood Mitigation Assistance grants.



ISAIAS TORNADO: Tropical Storm Isaias in 2020 spawned a record 31-mile tornado that damaged this bridge on Barley Mill Road in New Castle County.



DEMA
administered
almost \$1 million in
Public Assistance for
Tropical Storm Isaias
and over \$240,000
for flooding from
Hurricane Ida.

HURRICANE IDA: Flooding from Hurricane Ida caused extensive damage to areas in downtown Wilmington.

Technological Hazards Section

*The **Technological Hazards Section** is responsible for managing the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program and supporting the State Emergency Response Commission.*

Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP)

In partnership with the Division of Public Health, DEMA restarted Potassium Iodide (KI) Distribution in 2022 at two community events on April 6 and October 13. A total of 11,769 doses were distributed: 1,131 doses in April and 9,849 doses in October.



MIDDLETOWN KI DISTRIBUTION: DEMA Planning Supervisor Will Hayes and Planner Steven Phillips of DEMA checked in attendees at the Middletown KI event.



PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF: Environmental scientists Mandula Borjigin and Mike Zdradzinski (from left), with Robert Brinsfield, the Director of the Office of Radiation Control at the DHSS Division of Public Health.

“Preparing radiological and state emergency responses”





GRADED MEDICAL SERVICES EXERCISE

New Castle County Paramedics and Odessa Fire Company staged a successful medical services radiological exercise in October, 2022.

Graded REP Drills and Plume Exercises

To maintain preparedness, REP staff completed the following drills and graded exercises in 2022:

- **Graded REP Drills and Plume Exercise**
 - March 29, 2022 – 38 participants
 - May 10, 2022 – 74 participants (FEMA graded)
 - August 17, 2022 – 35 participants
 - December 8, 2022 – 34 participants
- **Graded REP Medical Services Exercise**
 - October 11 and 12, 2022

Emergency Siren Tests

In cooperation with the Delaware State Police, DEMA conducted quarterly tests of the Salem/ Hope Creek Nuclear Generating Stations Alert and Notification system on January 4, April 5, July 5, and October 4. The 37 sirens within ten miles of the plants, known as the Emergency Planning Zone, are activated for three to five minutes followed by emergency alert system (EAS) messages on radio. If an emergency occurred, the public would be alerted to tune their radios to local EAS stations for emergency instructions.

Community Events

DEMA held two community events for area residents on radiation, notification, and protective measures. There were 113 attendees at Bayberry South, and 55 attendees at Silver Maple.

Other Accomplishments

- Held the annual Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) calendar contest for area schools in the Emergency Planning Zone.
- Submitted the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Annual Letter of Certification (ALC) to FEMA Region III in January 2023. The ALC was reviewed and found compliant with requirements in the FEMA REP Program Manual.
- Established the capability to conduct Technical Assessment Center (TAC) Operations trainings, drills and meetings.

THANKS FOR YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE



Director A.J. Schall thanked Administrative Assistant Patty Smenkowski and Planning Supervisor Will Hayes. Both retired in 2022 after many years of service to DEMA.



Will Hayes (left) and principal planner Edward "Tony" Lee.

Comprehensive School Safety Program

*“Enhancing public safety
in Delaware schools”*

School Safety Program Overview

Since March 2019, the Comprehensive School Safety Program has been managed by two trained individuals with over 50 years combined experience in law enforcement, school safety, behavioral sciences, and mental health.

The Comprehensive School Safety Program (CSSP) oversees Omnibus School Safety Act compliance. The goal is to enhance public safety in all Delaware public and charter schools by using comprehensive, site-specific, National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant safety and emergency preparedness plans and requiring each public and charter school to hold one tabletop exercise and two lockdown/intruder drills per school year. The program’s focus is also on promoting a cohesive and coordinated approach between emergency responders, education professionals and support agencies during a critical incident at a school.

School Safety Program Activities

The team oversees 231 Public and Charter Schools and six voluntary alternative schools for a total of 237 schools. In addition to requirements for two annual lockdowns and one annual tabletop, they support training on active threat situations, mental health topics, prevention strategies, mitigation strategies, conducting in-depth school infrastructure assessments. In February 2020, CSSP was also tasked with approving school plans in accordance with House Bill 49 (HB 49), which requires the CSSP team to review all new construction or renovation of \$1 million or more to determine if the prescribed school safety requirements are fulfilled. In 2022, the team approved 14 new construction and renovation school plans for required security features in accordance with House Bill 49 requirements.



Doug Scheer (above) and Nicole Shuler-Geer (below) have more than 50 years of combined law enforcement and school safety experience. Together, they administer Delaware’s Comprehensive School Safety Program.





John-Michael Keyes (above), who founded “I Love U Guys” Foundation in 2006 with his wife Ellen, speaks at Dover High School.

Delaware was the first state in the nation to implement Standard Reunification Method training in all schools and districts.

In August 2022, Delaware held statewide training in all three counties on the “Standard Reunification Method” that reunites students with their families in an emergency.

Statewide School Reunification Training

In August of 2022, Delaware became the first state in the nation to adopt the “Standard Reunification Method” by the I Love U Guys Foundation, considered the gold standard in reuniting students and their parents or guardians during any type of crisis: fire, flood, tornado, power outage, bomb threat, accident, or act of violence. The statewide training involved teachers, school administrators, law enforcement, and first responders and was carried out over three two-day seminars, one in each county. The first was held at Brandywine High School in New Castle County, followed by Dover High School in Kent County, and then Sussex Academy of Arts and Sciences in Georgetown.

Each training culminates with a hands-on “Standard Reunification Method Exercise,” which shows staff and response personnel their capabilities for handling, organizing, and reunifying staff and students during an emergency. After the training, attendees will create a team in their district or school to implement reunification during a crisis.

The I Love U Guys Foundation began in 2006 by Ellen and John-Michael Keyes following a school shooting in Bailey, Colorado that took the life of their daughter, Emily. For more information on the work of the foundation, visit <https://iloveuguy.org>

School Safety Initiative – New Maps

Delaware is investing almost \$1 million to enhance school security statewide by providing accurate and uniform maps for all of Delaware’s 19 public school districts and charter schools to enable law enforcement and first responders to react swiftly during emergencies in unfamiliar environments. Delaware’s General Assembly provided the funding as part of a \$10 million allocation to the School Safety and Security Fund, originally established in 2018. Delaware is partnering with Critical Response Group, a New Jersey-based firm that specializes in collecting and digitizing school building blueprints and making them available to first responders. The maps are built upon the same tactical and operational framework used by highly trained military units. Featuring a gridded overlay map of school buildings and grounds, CRGs provide simple visual communication tools to coordinate emergency response.





NEW SCHOOL MAPS: Delaware is investing almost \$1 million in new maps to allow law enforcement and first responders to act swiftly in a school emergency. From left, Deputy Director Christopher Murtha, CSSP Planner Douglas Scheer, Critical Response Group CSO Alex Carney, CRG CTO Ethan P. Killeen, CRG President Philip M. Coyne, Deputy Director Paige Fitzgerald, and CSSP Planner Nicole Shuler-Geer.

Other CSSP Accomplishments in 2022

- Improved stakeholder relationships by increasing school email list to over 769 individuals, which is critical for information sharing, transparency, and compliance.
- Trained 152 persons, many remotely due to COVID-19, on the Navigate Emergency Management Suite and Omnibus requirement topics
- Remotely trained 266 persons on Behavioral Threat Assessment, Risk Assessment, Self-Care, Threat Preparation and Suicide Prevention
- Worked with Delaware State Police (DSP) to create and implement dual threat preparation training for 18 people.
- Continued to establish a network among schools and determine ways for them to share information and collaborate among one another
- Completed website redesign to be more informative and transparent regarding the duties, responsibilities, goals and successes of the program and schools. Also added information on H.B. 49 approvals on security features.



SAFETY DRONES: DEMA Planning supervisor Christine Beste and Planner Doug Scheer use a drone to map the layout of a school campus.

Training and Education Program

*The **Training and Exercise Section** prepares the Delaware Emergency Management Agency and the all-hazard response community by providing training, conducting exercises, and coordinating National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance to save lives, and reduce the impact of emergencies.*

DEMA trained 1,670 state, local, and private sector personnel statewide in all-hazards, DHS, and in-residency training courses.

“Continuous learning and improvement”

Training Certifications and Standards

In 2022, the Training and Education (T&E) Section completed the Delaware Emergency Management Agency Training and Exercise Plan, Delaware Homeland Security Training Plan, the Delaware Homeland Security Exercise Plan, Integrated Preparedness Plan, CPR/AED certification, and met EMAP compliance standards.

Training Program Accomplishments

DEMA trained 1,670 state, local, and private sector personnel statewide in all-hazards, homeland security, and in-residency training courses. Courses included:

- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Behavioral Threat Assessment
- Disaster Management for Public Services, Business Continuity Planning
- Hurricane Preparedness & Web-based HurrEvac
- Physical & Cybersecurity for Critical Infrastructure
- Tornado Awareness
- Crisis Management for School-based Incidents
- Sport Venue Evacuation & Protective Actions
- Understanding and Planning for School Bombing Incidents (UPSBI)
- All-Hazards Planning Section Chief
- Critical Infrastructure Security & Resilience Awareness
- All-Hazards Planning for Animal, Agriculture and Food Related Disasters
- WebEOC, DENS and EOC-101 courses

The T&E Section continued to train DEMA staff on Joint Qualification Standards (JQS) training for position-specific areas as well as new personnel on the core JQS, Sheltering/American Red Cross capabilities, HazMAT flow, AED/CPR, first aid training, WebEOC, REP program, EMAC, and RAVE training. Staff also attended professional development at EMI or consortium schools to complete their required Professional Development Series (PDS).



MASS CARE SHELTER EXERCISE: DEMA participated in a Mass Care Shelter Exercise at Dover High School with partners from the Delaware National Guard, Division of Public Health, American Red Cross, and RespondDE.

Training and DEMA Operations

DEMA continued to train operations staff and Emergency Support Coordinators (ESCs) for activation in the EOC or remote sites. Section staff activated for Winter Storm Kenan, finished out the statewide COVID-19 activation in March, processed resource requests for the Delaware-Maryland HPAI incident, and supported cyber threats, the Delaware Bay barge fire, Stockley Center Certified Nursing Assistant Mission and elections. Operations staff also received outstanding comments from FEMA during the graded exercise in April.

Exercise Program

The T&E Section conducted, planned, and participated in 23 exercises: three workshops, 11 tabletops and seven functional exercises and one full scale exercise statewide. Over 400 personnel statewide participated in these events. These exercises encompass a whole-community approach and addressed findings from each previous Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and State Preparedness Report (SPR). The exercises used gap information analysis from the THIRA/SPR to develop exercises which validate capability gaps and utilize Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) methodology to identify how gaps should be addressed in After Action Reports (AAR) and process improvement initiatives. The Continuity of Operations Coordinator (COOP Coordinator) participated in the Statewide COOP Exercise in August, 2022.



TRAINING AND DEMA OPERATIONS: Above, Eric Morgan demonstrates the operation of the portable radio system during a training day for DEMA staff.



Planner Mike O'Malley deployed to the Florida Emergency Operations Center for Hurricane Ian.



DEMA's Sharon Bryson and Paige Fitzgerald attended the mitigation grant development workshop in Smyrna.



City of Wilmington public works officials presented at DEMA's mitigation grant development workshop.



Lt. Colonel Michael Malloy of the Delaware National Guard meets with Deputy Director Chris Murtha.

Preliminary Damage Assessment Exercise

In August, DEMA conducted a tabletop exercise with partners from the Delaware National Guard, Division of Public Health's Office of Preparedness, and county and local leaders at the Clayton Fire Company to discuss Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) techniques and strategies. The event featured an overview of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software and collection capabilities for conducting PDA, which is essential to apply for FEMA grants after an emergency.



Mitigation Grant Development Workshop

DEMA held an "All-Hazard Mitigation Grant and Development Workshop" in December at Citizens' Hose Company in Smyrna. State Hazard Mitigation Officer Phillip Cane helped lead the one-day program to help attendees identify vulnerabilities such as floods, and then develop eligible grant projects to address the risks before they impact their communities.

Resilient and Sustainable Communities League (RASCL) Summit

On December 6, State Hazard Mitigation Officer Phillip Cane spoke at the 6th Annual Resilient and Sustainable Communities League (RASCL) Summit in Dover. RASCL provides expertise and support to Delaware communities to increase their capacity to adapt, mitigate, and respond to environmental changes, such as climate change. Partners included the Governor's Office, Delaware Sea Grant, DelDOT, and the University of Delaware.



State Hazard Mitigation Officer Phil Cane was featured on a WBOC-TV story on the RASCL Summit in Dover.



DEMA staff attended the Statewide Complex Coordinated Attack Exercise in Cheswold on September 15.

Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack (CCTA)

On September 15, 2022, the Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) hosted a Statewide Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack (CCTA) Tabletop Exercise (TTX) at the Cheswold Fire Hall. Local, state, and federal partners discussed prevention capabilities in intelligence and information sharing and roles and responsibilities to prevent a possible terrorist attack in Delaware.

CCTA incidents are evolving and dynamic threats that could occur anywhere, at any time, with the potential for mass casualties and infrastructure damage. This exercise provided stakeholders with a realistic environment to remedy information sharing or coordination shortfalls to prevent future incidents.

More than 45 representatives from 14 different agencies participated in the tabletop exercise. Participating organizations included DEMA, the DSP DIAC, Delaware State Police (DSP), New Castle County Office of Emergency Management (NCC OEM), Sussex County Emergency Management (EOC), City of Wilmington Office of Emergency Management, Smyrna Police Department, Delaware Capitol Police (DCP), State Fire Marshall, Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Environmental Crimes Unit (DNREC-ECU), Delaware National Guard (DNG), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).



Delaware State Police from the Delaware Intelligence Analysis Center (DIAC) attended the Statewide Terrorism Tabletop Exercise.



TERRORISM TRAINING: Sussex County's Emergency Management Director Joe Thomas confers with DEMA Director A.J. Schall at the Statewide Terrorism Tabletop Exercise.



DEMA participated in a Mass Casualty Incident Full-Scale Exercise held at the Wilmington-New Castle Airport in March.



Wilmington-New Castle Airport Full-Scale Exercise

On March 15, the Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) participated in the Mass Casualty Incident Full Scale Exercise (FSE) at the Wilmington-New Castle Airport.

The exercise objectives were to test initial response to an MCI involving an aircraft, evaluate use of response procedures and plans, evaluate utilization of Incident Command, evaluate triage, and transport of casualties, and evaluate media response interaction. Participants included Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA), DRBA Airport Ops, DRBA Police, Environmental and Safety, Delaware Emergency Management Agency, Delaware Division of Forensic Science, Delaware Air National Guard ARFF, NCC OEM, NCC Paramedics, NTSB, FAA, American Red Cross, St. Francis Hospital, and Wilmington Manor Fire Company.

Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop

The T&E section conducted the state's Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop (IPPW) to ensure participation by all major agencies, jurisdictions, and organizations. Over 50 personnel participated in the workshop. The IPPW establishes strategy and structure for Delaware's training and exercise program and overall preparedness efforts. The purpose of IPPW was to identify and set planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise priorities, guidance from senior leadership to involve participation from the whole community. The workshop helps prevent duplication of effort, assures efficient use of resources/funding, and avoids overextending key agencies and personnel.



Comprehensive School Safety Program Planner Doug Scheer spoke to participants on school safety at the Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop.

DEMA
conducted
22 public outreach
activities through
workshops, trainings
and events that
reached 9,450
people.

The Community Outreach Section provides disaster preparedness, recovery training, and education to all Delaware citizens.

Community Outreach Programs

In 2022, the Community Outreach Section began a return to more in-person meetings and events. The team conducted 22 public outreach activities through in-person and virtual workshops, trainings, conferences, and events that reached 9,450 people.

Blue Rocks Disaster Preparedness Night

On June 17, DEMA joined the City of Wilmington Office of Emergency Management, and the New Castle County Office of Emergency Management to sponsor its “Emergency Preparedness Night” at the Blue Rocks. The event reached 3,453 participants.

Delaware State Fair

DEMA reached approximately 1,000 visitors at the Delaware State Fair, held in Harrington from July 21 to July 30. The booth featured a video with tips and resources and a quiz on preparedness topics.

Delaware LIFE Conference Sponsorship

DEMA helped sponsor the annual LIFE Conference, a joint effort of Delaware organizations that support persons with disabilities and their families. LIFE stands for Legislation, Independence, Families, and Education. Over 500 people attended the event, which provides education and opportunities for those with disabilities, families, and the public.

Community Outreach

“Staying connected to our communities through service and outreach campaigns.”



Above, Arron Wayson and Mark Kammer of DEMA greeted visitors to the 2022 Delaware State Fair.

Below, Christa Hansen and John Petersen met attendees at the Blue Rocks game in Wilmington.



Family Emergency Preparedness Day Returns

DEMA held its 16th annual “Family Emergency Preparedness Day” on September 17 at Brecknock County Park in Camden with more than 750 attendees. FEP Day was co-sponsored by DEMA, Delaware Citizen Corps, Kent County Parks and Recreation and Department of Public Safety, and the Division of Public Health’s Office of Preparedness. Volunteers included First State Military Academy, DEMA, and RespondDE.

FEP Day Exhibitors:

- Bayhealth Healthcare
- Beebe Healthcare
- Camden-Wyoming Fire Company
- Chesapeake Utilities
- Delaware Behavioral and Emotional Support Team
- Division of Public Health Office of Women’s Health
- Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT)
- Delaware Forest Service
- Delaware Office of Highway Safety
- Delaware State Fire School
- Delaware State Police Helicopter
- Delaware Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (DEVOAD)
- Dover Air Force Base
- DSHS Division of Alcohol & Tobacco Enforcement
- First State Military Academy
- Impact Life
- Kent Co. ARES/RACES (Amateur Radio Service)
- Kent County Department of Public Safety
- Kent County Paramedics
- Paws for People
- PNC Bank
- Poison Control Center at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (Delaware Center),
- RespondDE (formerly Medical Reserve Corps),
- St. Francis EMS
- State Council for Persons with Disabilities
- Sussex Vet Center
- University of Delaware Center for Disabilities

FEP Day Vendors:

- Kona Ice (dessert truck)
- Stix Chicken (food truck)

FAMILY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DAY



DEMA’s Vanessa Cullen talked to children about emergency preparedness at the FEP Day event.





Above, a Community Emergency Response Team training session in April 2022 with Chris Hodgden of New Castle County Emergency Management.



Christa Hansen visited 5th-graders at Las Aspira Academy of the Americas school in Newark to talk to students about preparing for natural disasters.

Social Media

In 2022, DEMA gained 3,065 Facebook followers with 527 posts that registered more than 4.2 million impressions. DEMA also attracted 398 new Instagram followers and 1,363 new Twitter followers.



Launch of New PrepareDE Website

PrepareDE.org is a cooperative website by the Delaware Citizen Corps and the Division of Public Health Office of Preparedness. The site relaunched in September with a new mobile-friendly design and new graphics. In 2023, DEMA is planning to implement a “Know Your Zone” page, with GIS integration, to inform and engage site visitors in understanding their flood evacuation zones. The page will be accompanied by a paid ad campaign.

Community Emergency Response Team

DEMA restarted its Community Emergency Response Team training sessions in 2022. CERT Program Manager Christa Hansen attended the National CERT Conference in Galveston, Texas, and led staff on a trip to the Ocean City, Maryland chapter to help model their successful program in Delaware.

Other School and Community Programs

The Community Outreach Team continued to focus on sharing preparedness messages through events for schools and community groups throughout Delaware

In April, the team attended Delaware Defense Day at Cape Henlopen State Park and the Fort Miles Museum and Historic Area. In June, DEMA staff participated in the Dover Air Force Base’s Hurricane Block Party event. During Fire Prevention Month in October, DEMA joined the Magnolia Fire Department for a program for McIlvaine Early Childhood Center students. Activities included a presentation on the importance of building a family emergency kit that featured a group team relay race challenge.

In December, outreach staff visited Las Aspiras Academy of the Americas in Newark to speak to Spanish language 5th-graders working on a class project on how to prepare for a natural disaster. Also in December, DEMA staff visited the Bon Ayre 55-plus community in Smyrna to talk to residents about the Community Emergency Response Team.

Fiscal Section

*The **Fiscal Section** is essential to DEMA's mission by ensuring programs are funded while also providing oversight, transparency, and accountability to the process.*

Expenditure areas in 2022 were as follows:

- \$159,000 for COVID Enforcement, CNA Program, and other costs
- \$52.8 million for COVID testing
- \$5.6 million in State funding
- \$47.4 million in CARES and ARPA funding

**DEMA's
Fiscal Section
processed 1,632
payment vouchers
for \$188 million,
including \$52.8
million for COVID
testing.**

The Fiscal Department processed:

- 1,632 payment vouchers for \$188 million
- 80 subgrants to state agencies to build capacity
- 200 subgrants to local entities to build capacity
- \$196,000 in flood mitigation funding
- \$256,000 to non-profits to increase security
- \$123.9 million in COVID Public Assistance
- Over \$53 million in disaster funding



FISCAL STAFF: From left, Cindy Carney, Valerie Pryor, Frances Cordell, Shirley Lee, and Stacy Wagner.

Information Technology

Emergency Operations Center Renovation

The Information Technology Section is comprised of two full-time staff who support DEMA's critical information and technology needs and ensure the security and integrity of major systems. In 2022, the IT Section began the lengthy process of a multi-million-dollar upgrade of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Working with an external vendor, the project involved the removal of existing wiring and hardware and the installation of a new state-of-the-art wide-screen high-resolution Operations Status Screen to support emergency activations and ongoing training initiatives in the center.

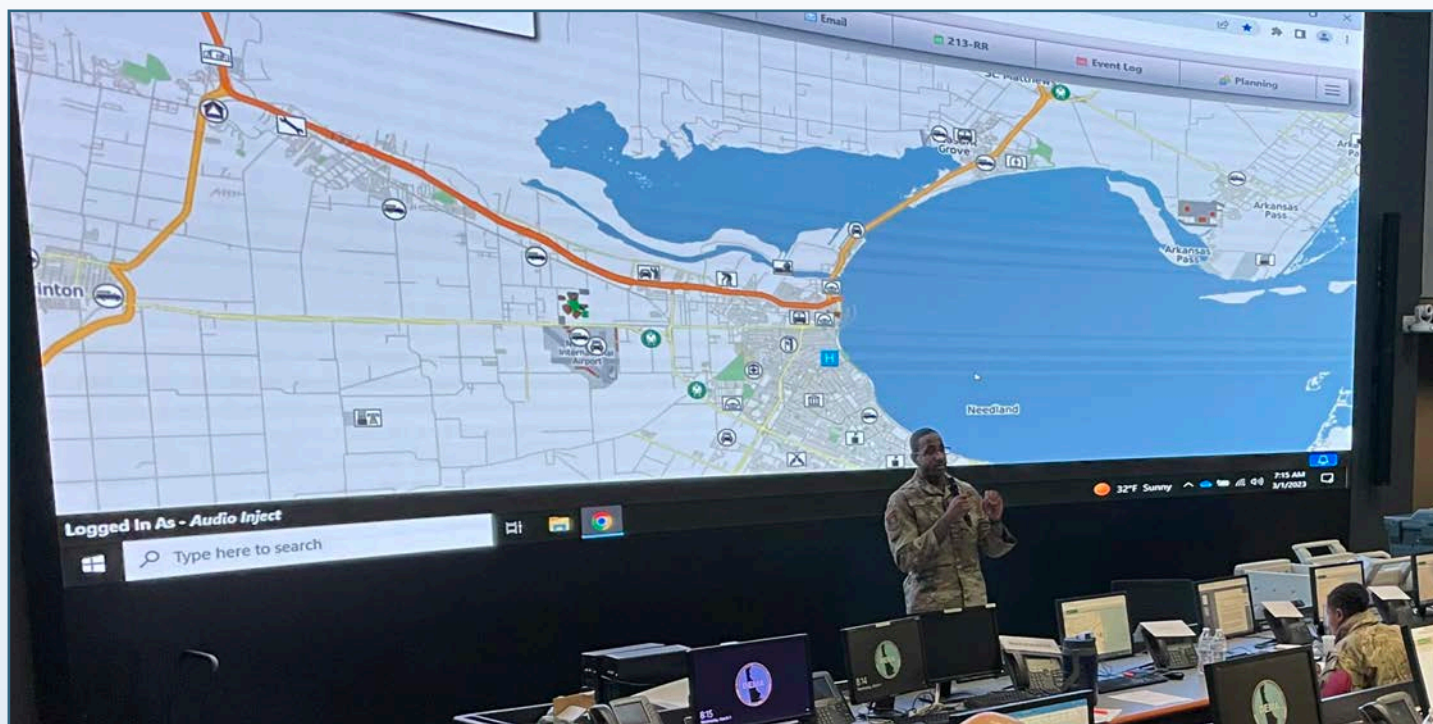
The initiative also involved extensive upgrades and testing of internal switches, communication ports, and new network wiring throughout the entire campus to create an integrated information hub for sharing real-time updates during incidents and training exercises, such as the quarterly radiological preparedness drills. The process involved equipment and software upgrades throughout the major operational function areas at the EOC: Ops, Planning, the Governor's Conference Room on the second floor, and a new Joint Information Center.

The Information Technology Section supports all program areas and maintains the security and reliability of computer and information systems for emergency communications.

New Equipment and Office Configurations

The Information Technology Section also continued ongoing replacement of staff laptops and computer systems according to planned yearly timelines. On the second floor of the DEMA campus, new modular offices were installed over the summer of 2022, which required IT section staff to install new ethernet and computer ports for PC's and telephone networks.

Below, a new high-resolution wide-screen display in the Emergency Operations Center was installed during a multi-million-dollar upgrade begun in 2022.



Logistics Section

“Ensuring resources are ready while preparing for the unexpected.”



DEMA conducted a Distribution Management Tabletop Exercise with partners to discuss point of distribution systems (PODS) for emergencies.



*Through daily operations and state of emergencies, the **Logistics Section** strives to ensure required resources are **procured in an efficient and economical manner** and to prepare for the unexpected with detailed operating standards and **process flows with a cross-trained team.***

Logistics Section Accomplishments

In 2022, Logistics Section staff created seven new process documents and updated 27 existing process documents.

Staff attended eight exercises, workshops, and tabletop exercises and supported six activations:

- DDA Delaware-Maryland HPAI in Spring 2022: Provided a Logistics Section Chief and one Logistics Support Staff Member.
- Hurricane Ian: Prepped and staged equipment and supplies.
- Immigration Incident in May 2022: Prepped and staged equipment and supplies.
- Winter Storm - January 3: Procured snow mitigation equipment and supplies and staged in vehicles; ensured readiness of facility and vehicles.
- Winter Storm Kenan - January 29: Ensured readiness of facility and vehicles.
- DHSS-DPH: drinking water support request
- EMAC support: One request fulfilled for a fire boat with crew and equipment to assist the Delaware Bay Barge Fire incident; filled request for assistance by deploying a Deputy Director and three Planning Assistants for Hurricane Ian in Florida
- Delaware Distribution Management Plan – Tier II FEMA rating
- C-PODS Process flow, checklists, and “go-kits” created to compliment the plan



STOP THE BLEED: At left, Nikki Testa of the DEMA Logistics Section provided “Stop the Bleed” training to 65 people during five classes for community nonprofit organizations and emergency responders.

Major Events or Training

- E/L660 Federal Staging Area Ops training in Maryland- two team members attended
- FEMA's Region III Annual Logistics Symposium in Virginia - Lester Hobbs
- LESO DLA DE LEA In-state inspections- statewide LEA's
- LESO Annual Certification: Delaware first state in nation to complete
- Annual LESO Seminar in Battle Creek, Michigan
- Stop the Bleed class instructor: 5 classes (trained 65 people total) given for faith-based communities and emergency responders
- Delaware Distribution Management Plan TTX in June with FEMA, DE Nat Guard, Local EMA's and contract vendors

Program Services

- State of Emergency: all Delaware residents and non-residents, 40 applications processed and approved with 2,506 Level II Driving Waivers issued for 179 locations statewide
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS): All state agencies, fire companies, special ops teams: secured \$2.25 million dollars' worth of specialized equipment
- Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO): Manage 38 Delaware LEA's with property on-hand in excess of 4.2 million
- REP: PSE&G, DE National Guard, Fire companies, NJ State Police Calibration Lab
- Inventory: All state agencies & existing partners, VOAD members, non-profits, GSS, Contract Vendors

Noteworthy Projects

- Smart Simple software institution for SOE Driving Waiver & DHS programs (11.5 hours of testing and training)
- C-POD process flow documents & go-kits created to compliment the Delaware Distribution Management Plan
- First state in FEMA Region 3 to exercise the Distribution Management Plan
- Facility upgrade projects: Sola tube installation in EOC as well as moving, storing, and disposing of furnishings during the remodeling of second floor
- LESO: Facilitated the return of \$173,462 worth of DLA/DOD controlled equipment from various law enforcement agency's within Delaware
- REP: Facilitated the re-calibration of 1,200 pieces of radiological equipment and 750 DLR Badge replacements across 51 locations within the state's EPZ's

Metrics and Data

- Deliveries: ~1,688 (received and distributed daily for DEMA, DSP, and DeIDOT)
- DHS Orders: Processed a total of \$2,249,393.84 worth of equipment ordered through the DHS grant program
- ER's / Purchases: 34 for operational emergency equipment and supplies, as well office supplies
- Pool Vehicle Management: 14
- 45 radiological EPZ siren signs and 37 siren inspections annually
- 349 asset items and 296,020 stock items currently in inventory
- 15,214 items issued in 2022
- 48 work orders submitted for facility problems after assisting with the transition of management from DFM to DeIDOT.



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