



# Preparedness News and Information

From FEMA's Preparedness Division

January 23, 2004

## NATIONAL NEWS

### **U.S. Department of Homeland and Operation HOPE, Inc., Initiate New Recovery Service for Those Affected by Natural Disasters, National Emergencies**

*Business Wire*, January 21, 2004

Government and private industry are partnering to form the HOPE Coalition America, an organization that will offer "economic triage" to those affected by disasters and emergencies.

- [Fact Sheet: Homeland Security and Hope Coalition America Partnership](#), FEMA

### **Health Care, Terrorism Top U.S. Concerns in Poll**

*AP/News Observer*, January 19, 2004

An Associated Press poll found that concerns about terrorism rank about the same now as the past three quarters but slightly lower than January 2002.

### **Bush to Seek More Money to Fight Terrorism at Home**

*NY Times*, January 23, 2004

President Bush will request a major increase in funding of about \$2.8 billion or 9.7 percent for domestic security from Congress, to include an increase in counterterrorism financing.

- [Bush Plans to Boost Anti-Terrorism Funding](#), *Washington Post*, Jan 23

### **Study Slams Biodefense Plan**

*Boston Globe*, January 23, 2004

A [study](#) by the Institute of Medicine and the National Research Council recommends that Congress establish a Medical Biodefense Agency in DoD to research and develop medicines for dealing with biological attacks and infectious diseases.

## CONGRESS

### HEARINGS

- [To Review the USDA's Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy \(BSE\) Response](#), House Agriculture Committee, Jan 21

### LEGISLATION

- **S. 2007**: A bill to provide better protection against bovine spongiform encephalopathy and other prion diseases, Jan 20
- **H.R. 3726**: To authorize the grant program under which the Secretary of Homeland Security makes discretionary grants for use in high-threat, high-density urban areas, and for other purposes, Jan 21
- **S. 2021**: A bill to provide for a domestic defense fund to improve the Nation's homeland defense, and for other purposes, Jan 22

## STATE AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES

### **Workshop Tests Readiness**

*The Cincinnati Enquirer*, January 21, 2004

School officials from eight Ohio counties worked through crisis response plans to determine whether or not they would be effective during a disaster.

### **Mayors Say Anti-Terror Money from U.S. Hung Up at State Level**

*Baltimore Sunspot*, January 23, 2004

According to a [survey](#) by the US Conference of Mayors', the vast majority of cities have received little of the money allocated by the federal government for terrorism preparedness because states are ill equipped to pass it on to the cities.

- [Homeland Security Mandate Needs Funding](#), *Morning Sun*, Jan 23

### **Iowa Spends Only Fraction of Anti-Terrorism Money**

*Daily Gate City*, January 20, 2004

Iowa has forfeited much of the money pledged by the federal government for anti-terrorism efforts because officials were unable to spend the money on time.

### **Disaster Plan Meetings Open to the Public**

*San Diego Union-Tribune*, January 18, 2004

San Diego County officials are holding a series of public workshops to collect information on citizen preparedness to shape the county disaster plan.

### **Emergency Services Director Coordinates Responses in a Crisis**

*Marietta Times*, January 19, 2004

Interview with Washington County Emergency Management Director Jeff Lauer on crisis response.

### **Homeland Security Grant will Fund Equipment for City Police**

*Daily News*, January 19, 2004

Bowling Green, Kentucky Police Department receives a \$7,000 First Responders Grant from the Department of Homeland Security to enhance preparedness.

### **Officials to Hold Disease Preparedness Sessions**

*The Journal Standard*, January 21, 2004

County health and emergency officials will soon take part in two training exercises to ensure local personnel are prepared to act in the event of disease-related emergencies.

### **Terror Training**

*WTOV-9 News*, January 20, 2004

Jefferson County is hosting a two-day seminar on emergency preparedness for regional law enforcement personnel.

- [Weapons Team Gears Up for New Threats](#), *Post-Crescent*, Jan 23

### **Workshop to Teach Emergency Preparedness**

*Courier News*, January 21, 2004

The Somerset Medical Center will offer a "Preparing for Emergencies" workshop for the public that will feature incident command education.

- [Palo Alto Offering Classes on Emergency Response](#), *Palo Alto News*, Jan 19

### **Committee Established to Create Disaster Preparedness Plan**

*Marion Daily Republican*, January 22, 2004

The Williamson County Emergency Management Agency has established a committee composed of business, medicine, the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and media that will work to upgrade the county's disaster preparedness plan.

### **Plan Addresses Bioterrorism in the Foothills**

*The Union Democrat*, January 22, 2004

Tuolumne County's bioterrorism plan addresses preparedness for bioterrorism events as well as response to any infectious outbreak, including West Nile.

### **Emergency Departments Drill**

*Carlsbad Current-Argus*, January 22, 2004

Response units responded to a hazardous materials drill to test the abilities and resources of the city and county to ensure that they are prepared in the event of an emergency.

### **ODP and USFA Announce Workshop Schedule for FY2004 Assistance to Firefighters Program**

*USFA*, January 21, 2004

ODP, in conjunction with USFA, has announced a regional [workshop schedule](#) for the FY04 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

## **RELATED INFORMATION**

### **RECENT REPORTS**

- [Second Mayors' Report to the Nation: Tracking Federal Homeland Security Funds Sent to the 50 State Governments](#), US Conference of Mayors, January 2004
- [Giving Full Measure to Countermeasures: Addressing Problems in the DoD Program to Develop Medical Countermeasures Against Biological Warfare Agents](#), National Research Council, 2004

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The information contained in this newsletter was collected from Internet sources. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of the Department of Homeland Security or FEMA's Preparedness Division.