



# AESAAlert



Arizona Emergency Services Association December 2008

## Elected Officers

John Padilla, *President*  
 Matt Parks, *President-Elect*  
 Pamela Lansbery, *Treasurer*  
 Michelle Porter, *Secretary*  
 Don Brazie, *Membership*  
 Judy Kioski, *Public Relations*  
 John Ford, *Sergeant at Arms*  
 Holly Carpenter, *Member at Large*  
 Sheri Gibbons, *Member at Large*  
 Pete Weaver, *Past President*

## Our Mission

AESA is a comprehensive statewide organization that promotes the development of collaboration and is proactive in emergency management activities, focused on establishing partnership and training opportunities that support the safety, security and preservation of life and property.

## SAVE THE DATE

### **Arizona Emergency Services Association Mid-Year Conference**

Thursday, February 26th, 2009  
 Location: Embry-Riddle  
 Aeronautical University,  
 Prescott



### *From the President...*

I would like to begin by welcoming Judy Kioski to the AESA Executive Board. Judy replaces Karen Hauca as Public Relations Chairman. Judy is the Public Information Officer and AZ-211 Administrator for the Arizona Division of Emergency Management. She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the position and will be a great addition to the Executive Board. I would also like to congratulate AESA past-president Jeff Clark on his promotion to Chief of the Chandler Fire Department. Jeff is an active proponent of Emergency Management in the State of Arizona and will serve the citizens' of Chandler well.

Mark your calendars and save the date! The 2009 AESA Mid-year Conference will be held at Embry –Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott on February 26, 2009. We have a great line-up of speakers and the Embry-Riddle campus offers us an excellent facility for the mid-year conference. Make plans to attend. Detailed information will be posted on the website in December. Thanks to Sheri Gibbons for all her hard work in getting the Embry-Riddle campus for us.

The results of the October membership survey are included in this month's edition of the AESAAlert. Thanks to all the members who answered the survey. We will continue the mid-year conference and work on integrating more training opportunities as well as your suggestions for topics into the Annual Conference. If you have any suggestions for speakers, please let the Executive Board know. We want to make the conferences as beneficial to you as we can.

The Department of Homeland Security's Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Application Guidance has been released. More than \$3 Billion in federal funding is available to assist state and local governments. Applications are due January 13, 2009 with the exception of the Homeland Security Grant Programs which are due March 20, 2009. Detailed information is contained in this month's newsletter.

As we come to the end of 2008 we find ourselves in a different world than that in which we started. The economic downturn and budget crises facing the Emergency Management community in both the private and government sectors will present us with difficult decisions in the months ahead. This is the time to reach out to the members of the association and share the information, experience and resources that we have. We will continue to plan, prepare, respond to, and mitigate emergencies; however we will have to do so much more efficiently. Our challenge to remain ready to respond to disasters will become more difficult but it will never be as important.

On behalf of the Executive Board I would like to wish all of you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season.

AESA is dedicated to providing our membership opportunities for professional growth. We strive to provide those opportunities through Annual and Mid-Year Conferences. Please join us Thursday, February 26th for an outstanding Mid-year conference experience. We look forward to seeing you. Register at

[www.azaesa.org](http://www.azaesa.org)

\* The Mid-year conference attendance fee is increasing from \$25 to \$50 for non-members. Attendance is free for AESA members.

## Web Resources

Arizona Emergency Services Association: [www.azaesa.org](http://www.azaesa.org)  
American Red Cross: <http://www.arizonaredcross.org/>  
Arizona Department of Health Services: [www.azdhs.gov](http://www.azdhs.gov)  
Arizona Division of Emergency Management: [www.dem.state.az.us](http://www.dem.state.az.us)  
Arizona Dept of Homeland Security: [www.homelandsecurity.az.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.az.gov)  
Arizona Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster: <http://www.azvoad.org/>  
Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council: [www.azsilc.org](http://www.azsilc.org)  
Citizen Corps Council: [www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov)  
Federal Emergency Management Agency: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)  
National Organization on Disability: [www.nod.org](http://www.nod.org)  
NIMS Integration Center: [www.fema.gov/emergency/nims](http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims)  
Arizona 2-1-1: [www.az211.gov](http://www.az211.gov)

## Upcoming Events

### National Emergency Management Association Mid-Year Conference & 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Alexandria, VA  
Mar 6-11, 2009



[www.nemaweb.org](http://www.nemaweb.org)

### Public Health Preparedness 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Summit *The Changing Face of Preparedness*

San Diego, CA  
Feb. 18-20, 2009

[www.phprep.org](http://www.phprep.org)

### Disaster Recovery Journal *Spring World 2009*

Orlando, FL  
March 29 – April 1, 2009

[www.drj.com](http://www.drj.com)

### Contingency Planning & Management *CPM 2009 West*

Las Vegas, NV  
May 12-14, 2009

## State Training

### Community Emergency Response Team Train-the-Trainer

MAG417

8:00AM-5:00PM

12/09/08-12/11/08

Linden Fire Department

### ICS/EOC Interface

MAG191

8:00AM-5:00PM

12/15/2008

Silverbell Fire Department, Marana

### Intermediate ICS

MAG300

8:00AM-5:00PM

12/09/08-12/11/08

Patrick Hardesty Building, Tucson

### Intermediate ICS

MAG300

8:00AM-5:00PM

12/10/08-12/12/08

Arizona State University Police  
Department - EOC, Tempe

### ICS, Overview for Executives and Senior Officials

MAG402

8:00AM-12:00PM

1/14/09

Navajo County Sheriff's Office,  
Holbrook

### Intermediate/Advanced ICS

MAG300/400

8:00AM-5:00PM

12/15/08-12/18/08

Arizona State University, Mercado,  
Phoenix



# The Havasupai Flood...Emergency Management Lessons Learned

Sherrie Collins, Coconino County Office of Emergency Management

During the weekend of August 15 through the 17<sup>th</sup>, heavy rains brought by a series of active monsoon thunderstorms, drenched the region between Williams and the Grand Canyon. This area serves as the watershed for Havasu Creek drainage covering 3000 square miles. Although the rainfall in Havasupai Reservation was light, 4-7 inches fell throughout the watershed. As this water collected in Cataract Creek drainage and Havasu Creek, significant flooding began to occur on Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. At the time of the flooding, the Havasupai reservation was experiencing their peak tourist season, with over 400 hikers camped along the creek near Havasu Falls. With the turquoise water of the Havasu Creek plunging over fifty feet, Navajo, Havasu, Mooney and Beaver Falls attract approximately 30,000 visitors a year from across the world. Visitors hike, ride horses or helicopter the 8 miles to the Supai village from Hualapai Hilltop. They come to hike, swim in the travertine pools and camp in the tribal campgrounds or lodge facility. The entire Havasupai tribal source of income for its residents comes from this world renowned attraction.

Initial warning of an impending flood was made from the National Weather Service station in Bellemont, Arizona to the nearby Hualapai Public Safety Department, who then relayed the warning to the Havasupai Police in the canyon by telephone. Data to the National Weather Service was obtained by their Doppler radar. No stream gauges had ever been placed in the watershed drainages. According to the Havasupai ranger, the water rose during the early hours before dawn. Peak flows occurred between 4:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. Tribal Rangers began warning campers and residents about the potential for the flash flood during the evening of August 16<sup>th</sup> and continued to canvass the campgrounds, encouraging people to move to higher ground, but many of the campers failed to heed the warning. As a result, many hikers were trapped in tents when the flood water hit and had to scramble with little clothes on their back to high ground on boulders and trees for hours in the early morning darkness.

Search and Rescue efforts were initiated at first light by DPS Ranger, Coconino County Sheriff's Department and National Park Service helicopters. As the SAR operation progressed, National Guard Black Hawk helicopters were brought in to shuttle victims from Supai village to Hualapai Hilltop. During the height of the rescue operations, 8 helicopters were flown into the canyon representing four different agencies and a private contractor. Air safety quickly became an important priority. By the end of the rescue operations on August 18th, 460 people were evacuated over the two days. American Red Cross set up a shelter in Peach Springs. Tremendous efforts were made by multiple agencies including tribal, county, state and federal assets.

Impact to the reservation was seen in the trails leading from the Village area. Flood mitigation efforts implemented by FEMA after a similar flood event in 2004 in the village provided protection from flood waters. As a result, the village's infrastructure sustained only minor damage. Over \$800,000 of damages to trails, campgrounds, cemeteries, bridges and the water system was estimated by the BIA damage assessment team.

Due to safety concerns, the canyon is closed for public use. Tribal income ceased with the flood, decimating the economy of the tribe. Charitable donations have assisted the tribe with immediate community needs and early recovery efforts.

From an emergency manager's view several lessons have been learned from this event that emphasize the need for focus on the four elements of emergency management... preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery. All four components came into play as a result of this disaster.

## Preparedness

- As a result of training its residents in EMS and rescue, the tribe was able to mobilize a large number of first responders quickly.
- Better education is needed for hikers in understanding the hazards and protective actions to be taken during flash floods.
- A warning system is needed for backpackers and residents.

## Mitigation

- An early flood warning system is needed to assist the NWS in providing more accurate information as to timing and magnitude of potential flooding.
- Flood mitigation efforts installed in 2005 provided protection in the Village.
- The Havasupai Tribe's Hazard Mitigation plan expired in May. In the event of a presidential disaster declaration, the tribe is at risk for FEMA denying public assistance in restoration of damaged facilities including trails, bridges, campgrounds and water supplies (the bulk of all of the damage). This is a lesson for all communities about the necessity of these plans.

## Response

- A temporary AIRS repeater from Mohave County provided essential interoperability communications. A permanent repeater needs to be installed in the area.
- Over eight federal, state and local agencies came together for the rescue efforts. No one was injured or killed including civilians. Emphasis on safety was cited as the reason for such success.

Continued from page 3...

- The After Action Report from the rescue operations identified a need for first responder agencies to conduct training exercises together as well as annual meetings to share operational concerns, mutual aid procedures, and emergency contact lists.

#### Recovery

- Donations management has been fragmented and needs better centralized coordination.

- The BIA damage assessment team did a tremendous job, providing a complete report within two weeks of the event. This model could be used in other disaster communities.

Although a small disaster in the national scope of catastrophic disasters of 2008, this event showcases the principles of emergency management and serves valuable lessons for all of our communities.

## Preparedness Highlights



On Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> the City of Tempe hosted a safety fair at the Arizona Mills Mall. Booths were staffed by representatives from the Phoenix Office of the National Weather Service, Interfaith Council of Arizona, Tempe Police Department, Tempe Fire Department, HURT (Holistic Urgent Response Teams), CERT & VIPs volunteers. The Tempe Fire Department also displayed vehicles and offered children with an opportunity to suit up like a firefighter and use a fire hose. *Photos courtesy of Ed Gallagher.*



Pictured below: Al Jensen with the Fire Department communications vehicle.

# Red Cross Grand Canyon Chapter Volunteer Open House

Tracey Kiest, Communications Manager

The American Red Cross Grand Canyon Chapter hosted its first Volunteer Open House Sunday, October 19. More than 100 people stopped by for the festivities. “We were excited about the turnout,” said Cara Sloman emergency services director. “Everyone was enthusiastic and ready to learn more about the Red Cross.”

Learning is exactly what was going on in the parking lot of 6135 N. Black Canyon Highway. The Emergency Communications Response Vehicle was on display with Red Cross communications volunteers on hand to answer questions. People were able to get an up-close look at the technology inside that vehicle. It is equipped with phones, computers and satellite capabilities to ensure Red Cross workers can communicate with each other, even when infrastructure has been destroyed by a disaster.

The mass mobile feeding vehicles that deliver hot meals and water into neighborhoods impacted by disaster are called Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs). People were able to take Emergency Response Vehicle driving tests during the Open House. Before the driving test, volunteers must complete a self-study course.

Volunteers were scattered throughout the building ready to talk Red Cross. There was a lot of discussion about Red Cross volunteer opportunities which run the gamut. Those opportunities include disaster volunteers, public affairs, clerical, call center, client case worker, and more! Another top topic was disaster relief as the Grand Canyon Chapter provided tremendous support during the back-to-back hurricanes on the Gulf Coast by deploying more than 70 volunteers and three disaster vehicles. Additionally, Call Center volunteers provided emotional support and information to more than 550 people.

In addition to learning, a lot of people met new volunteers, hugged old friends and enjoyed BBQ ribs, hamburgers and hot dogs prepared by Red Cross volunteers.

The chapter’s store also was a busy place. It was a record day at the counter as people purchased logo shirts, first aid kits and disaster supplies kits. A portion of the funds raised through the store goes back into the chapter’s programs and services that benefit the community.

“The Open House was a huge success,” added Sloman. “We were hoping to recruit new volunteers, strengthen volunteer relationships, educate volunteers and have fun. We reached all of our goals!”

To learn more about your local Red Cross visit [www.arizonaredcross.org](http://www.arizonaredcross.org)



*Pictured above is the Emergency Communications Response Vehicle*

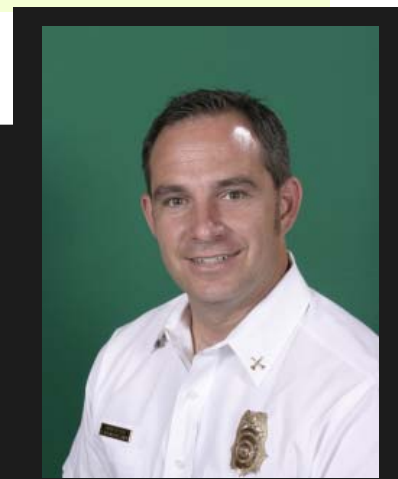


*Pictured Left to Right: Linda Griggs, Alex and Debbie Gibson Photo courtesy of American Red Cross*

# Community 251

Sheri Gibbons, Emergency Management Coordinator, Gilbert Fire Department

The Gilbert Fire Department's Fire Corps Program rolled out their new Community Assistance Program in September. The program will utilize credentialed and trained department volunteers to provide on-scene assistance to individuals and families as requested by Gilbert Fire units. The two member team will be dispatched by the alarm room on particular call types or special request by crews. They will be utilized on a wide range of calls including assisting families displaced by residential fires or childcare when a family member is transported quickly by ambulance to the hospital. Gilbert Fire's Community Assistance Program will work in partnership with local social service providers and the Gilbert Police Department's Counseling Program. If you have any questions or want more information on this program please contact Kim Yonda the Gilbert Fire Department's Volunteer Coordinator at 480-503-6325 or email at [kim.yonda@ci.gilbert.az.us](mailto:kim.yonda@ci.gilbert.az.us)



## Congratulations to Jeff Clark!

CHANDLER, Ariz. – City Manager Mark Pentz announced that Jeff Clark has been hired as Chandler's Fire Chief.

Clark has been with the Chandler Fire Department for the entirety of his 17-year professional career. He is currently the Assistant Fire Chief overseeing the Operations Division with 200 employees. His responsibilities also include community preparedness, emergency management, homeland security, emergency medical transportation contracts and accreditation.

"Chief Clark has a long history of leadership within the Chandler Fire Department," said Pentz. "He brings a wide breadth of knowledge and experience to this position, and I am confident that under his guidance, the Fire Department will continue to provide exceptional service to the residents of Chandler."

Clark's professional training also includes hundreds of hours of advanced fire service and management training in incident command, strategic planning, hazardous materials, technical rescue, instructor methodologies.

"I am incredibly honored that Chandler has shown trust in me," said Clark. "I look forward to continuing to work with the members of the Chandler Fire Department in this new position, and build on the culture of excellence we've already achieved."

Clark's professional accomplishments include receiving CFO- Chief Fire Officer designation from the Commission on Professional Credentialing, Excellence in Emergency Management Award from the Arizona Emergency Services Association, Firefighter of the Year from the Chandler Fire Department and Employee of the Year from the City of Chandler.

Source: City of Chandler, [http://www.chandleraz.gov/newsrelease.aspx?N\\_UID=1252](http://www.chandleraz.gov/newsrelease.aspx?N_UID=1252)

# DHS ANNOUNCES FISCAL YEAR 2009 GRANT GUIDANCE FOR OVER \$3 BILLION IN PREPAREDNESS GRANT PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON--The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency today released Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Application Guidance for 14 federal grant programs, totaling more than \$3 billion available in federal funding to assist state and local governments in strengthening community preparedness. More than \$27 billion has been provided since 2002 to strengthen our nation's ability to prevent, protect, respond and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters or other emergencies.

"Several years of investment have taken us largely from capability building to performance-based planning and investment," said Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. "This year's funding priorities are consistent with last year, and reflect a mature and disciplined grants program. We are now in the position of being able to inform high threat urban areas of their target allocations ahead of time, which will go a long way in helping their applications."

DHS also is announcing for the first time FY 2009 targeted allocations under the State Homeland Security Program and Urban Areas Security Initiative. This is the result of direct stakeholder feedback and will assist states and urban areas in writing investment justifications that reflect available grant resources. The department will continue to use the peer review process and applicants' effectiveness scores in determining final allocations.

The grant program allocations for FY 2009:

**Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) – \$1.7 billion.** FY 2009 HSGP funding priorities are targeted for either states or urban areas, and reflect capabilities that are most critical to build in those jurisdictions. At least 25 percent of the total FY 2009 HSGP funding must be dedicated for activities involving planning, training and exercises in building or sustaining capabilities. HSGP is comprised of four programs:

**State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) – \$861.3 million** to strengthen and build state, territorial and local preparedness capabilities through planning, equipment, training and exercise activities.

**Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) – \$798.6 million** to enhance regional preparedness by strengthening capabilities in 62 high-threat, high-density urban areas across the country. The seven highest risk urban areas will compete for approximately \$439 million, or 55 percent of available funds, while the remaining areas will compete for about \$359 million, or 45 percent of the funds.

**Metropolitan Medical Response System Program (MMRS) – \$39.8 million** is divided evenly among 124 MMRS jurisdictions to enhance and sustain comprehensive regional mass casualty incident response and preparedness capabilities.

**Citizen Corps Program (CCP) – \$14.6 million** for states and territories to bring community and government leaders together to engage citizens in community preparedness, response and recovery activities.

**State Homeland Security Program Tribal (SHSP Tribal) – approximately \$1.7 million** will be provided to tribal applicants to build preparedness and response capabilities, and to implement homeland security plans. This program provides supplemental funding directly to eligible tribes, pursuant to the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Act of 2007.

**Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) – \$15 million** to support target-hardening activities at nonprofit organizations at high risk of a terrorist attack.

**Operation Stonegarden (OPSG) – \$60 million** to states to enhance law enforcement and border security operations. States bordering Canada (including Alaska), southern states bordering Mexico, and states and territories with international water borders are eligible for funding under FY 2009 OPSG. Previous grants were restricted to states located on a land border.

**Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) – \$388.6 million** to protect critical transit infrastructure from terrorism, including:

**Freight Rail Security Grant Program (FRSGP) – \$15 million** to target resources for security plans, vulnerability assessments, employee security awareness training and GPS tracking systems for railroad cars transporting toxic inhalation materials.

**Intercity Passenger Rail (Amtrak) – \$25 million** for Amtrak to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism, major disasters and other emergencies within the Amtrak rail system.

**Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) – \$388.6 million** to protect critical port infrastructure from terrorism, enhance maritime domain awareness and risk management capabilities to protect against improvised explosive devices and other non-conventional weapons; to conduct training and exercises; and support implementation of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential.

**Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP) – \$48.6 million** to increase preparedness capabilities of jurisdictions responsible for safeguarding critical infrastructure sites and key resource assets, such as chemical facilities and nuclear power plants, through planning and equipment acquisition.

**Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP) – \$11.7 million** to assist operators of fixed-route intercity and charter bus services to support security plans, facility security upgrades, and vehicle and driver protection.

**Trucking Security Program (TSP) – \$7.8 million** for eligible applicants to implement security improvement measures and policies that focus on the purchase, installation or enhancement of equipment and systems related to tractor and trailer tracking systems; to help develop a system for DHS to monitor, collect and analyze tracking information; and to develop plans to improve the transport and distribution of supplies and commodities during catastrophic events.

**Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) – \$306 million** to assist state and local governments in enhancing and sustaining all-hazards emergency management capabilities.

**Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) – \$48.6 million** for planning, training, exercises and equipment to states, territories, local and tribal governments to carry out initiatives

identified in Statewide Communication Interoperability Plans, and improve interoperable emergency communications for responding to natural disasters and acts of terrorism.

**Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) – \$34 million** to enhance catastrophic incident preparedness in selected high-risk, high-consequence urban areas and to support technical assistance funding in FY 2009. RCPGP supports coordination of regional all-hazards planning for catastrophic events, including the development of plans, protocols, and procedures.

Selected preparedness grants, such as the Urban Areas Security Initiative, are awarded according to a risk assessment methodology that assesses threat, vulnerability and consequence. The FY 2009 risk methodology has not changed from FY 2008.

TSGP, PSGP, BZPP, IBSGP, and TSP applications are due no later than Jan. 13, 2009. Applications for the HSGP programs are due no later than March 20, 2009. Other program application deadlines are listed in the program guidance.

The FY 2009 Application Guidance reflects the strategic priorities set by the Homeland Security Strategy as well as the National Preparedness Guidelines and National Response Framework.

Further information on preparedness grant programs is available at [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov) and [www.fema.gov/grants](http://www.fema.gov/grants).



### *Listing of IAEM Certified Emergency Managers in Arizona*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>W. Abbott</b> , Tempe Fire Department                                | <b>Kenneth Lewis</b> , Salt River Project                       |
| <b>David Appleton</b> , Consultant                                      | <b>Othell Newbill</b> , City of Goodyear                        |
| <b>Don Brazie</b> , Scottsdale Healthcare                               | <b>Danny Peterson</b> , Arizona State University                |
| <b>Sherrie Collins</b> , Coconino County Em Mgt                         | <b>Lloyd "Rusty" Pethoud</b> , City of Peoria Police Department |
| <b>Dennis Cvancara</b> , Maricopa County Em Mgt                         | <b>Monica Ray</b> , Arizona Public Service, Palo Verde          |
| <b>Shahin Daneshkhah</b> , Nextel Communications                        | <b>Timothy Sanders</b> , Gila River Office of Em Mgt            |
| <b>Sheri Gibbons</b> , Gilbert Fire Department                          | <b>Pete Weaver</b> , Pinal County                               |
| <b>David Lenox</b> , Pima County Office. of Em Mgt. & Homeland Security |   |

# PANDEMIC DRILL

Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station and Arizona Public Service

Source: Palo Verde News  
November 18, 2008

Approved by Shari Hutchison, Jennifer Holba, Ellen Willhite -- KS

## **First-ever Pandemic Drill a Road Map to Success Provided about 600 employees and contractors with flu shots during very short period of time.**

Yesterday's self-assessment pandemic flu exercise held at Palo Verde was hailed by organizers as a huge success.

"The drill went off without any problems," Shari Hutchison, senior consultant, Health Services and drill director, said. "In addition to providing about 600 employees and contractors with flu shots during a very short period of time, we identified areas in the morning that were a bottleneck and improved the flow so it went even smoother as the drill progressed."

Organizers said more than 270 employees and contractors received a flu shot within the first hour of the drill and 400 shots had been given by noon.

The Palo Verde effort was the first of its type at a U.S. nuclear plant. "To the best of our knowledge," said Ellen Willhite, manager, Business Continuity and Administration and drill controller, "while other U.S. nuclear plants have conducted table top exercises, this is the first drill in the U.S. involving a nuclear facility with real people actually dispensing medication. We are taking advantage of a real event, the dispensing of flu shots."

Helping with the drill were APS employees from Corporate Headquarters, the Cholla and Four Corners Power Plants, APS' Deer Valley facility, and Palo Verde as well as representatives from the Maricopa County Department of Public Health, the Saddle Mountain Unified School District and CIGNA. "To make this as real as possible, we included staff from public and private agencies," Willhite said.

She noted that public-private partnerships are an essential component of disaster preparedness, response and recovery, whether the disaster is natural or manmade. "We use best practices from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to design, conduct and evaluate our drills," Willhite said, "and will



present an after-action report to Palo Verde management on our lessons learned."

Even when the lines were longest, the wait was fairly short thanks to the efficient handling of the drill. "Employee feedback was very positive," Sarah Teslevich, nurse, Deer Valley health clinic, said. She was stationed at the drill exit as a first aid person, allowing her to conduct interviews as employees left.

Drill scenario: The drill is in response to a series of made-up events. The fictional plot starts in September when a case of avian flu is reported on the east coast. By the end of September, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) declares a regional alert. By the end of October, the CDC declares a national emergency and by mid-November, Palo Verde receives its allocation of flu vaccine and announces an emergency dispensing station will be set up in the Energy Information Center, at which time the Palo Verde pandemic influenza plan is activated.

# GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES ARIZONA MUTUAL AID COMPACT

Source: [http://www.governor.state.az.us/dms/upload/NR\\_102208\\_Mutual%20Aid%20Compact.pdf](http://www.governor.state.az.us/dms/upload/NR_102208_Mutual%20Aid%20Compact.pdf)

PHOENIX – Governor Janet Napolitano today announced the Arizona Mutual Aid Compact – an emergency preparedness and response agreement between cities, counties Tribal governments and the state to share resources during emergencies. The compact outlines such issues as liability and reimbursement.

“No jurisdiction has all the resources needed to respond to a large-scale emergency or disaster,” the Governor said. “Yet few events would exceed Arizona’s collective capability. And this compact facilitates the deployment of our combined resources quickly.”

Local jurisdictions commonly share fire, police and emergency medical services with neighboring jurisdictions now. What makes the Arizona Mutual Aid Compact unique is the comprehensive scope. “It is more inclusive in terms of additional disciplines such as public health, public works, and transportation. And coverage is virtually statewide,” Napolitano explained.

The Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA), the lead state agency for emergency response, planning and training, crafted the compact. DEMA Director Major General David P. Rataczak, called its development a tremendous collaborative effort and a win/win for the state.

“During an emergency is the wrong time to negotiate reimbursement and liability issues,” said General Rataczak. “The Arizona Mutual Aid Compact will enable jurisdictions to more promptly dispatch resources as such issues are resolved beforehand.”

*For more information on AZMAC contact Matt Parks of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management.*

## Results of AESA Membership Survey

In order to collect feedback from our membership we sent a brief survey out in October 2008. Fifty-two members responded to the survey. The results with a selection of open-ended responses are highlighted below:

Question: Should we continue the mid-year conference? 92.31% of respondents said yes while 7.69% said no.

Question: Are you interested in taking a bus to the mid-year conference? 80.77% of respondents said no while 19.23% said yes. Follow-up: If yes, are you willing to pay \$25? 90% of respondents said yes while 10% said no.

Question: Would you like more training opportunities at the conference? 78.85% of respondents said yes while 21.14% said no. Follow-up: If yes, what would you prefer? 68.29% of respondents indicated that a half day was preferred over a full day (31.71%).

Additional Follow-up: What training topics would you like to see? Respondents indicated that APS, ICS, and NIMS courses were useful. Additional requests included resource management, ICS/EOC interface, MACs, emergency management and working with the media, and “self supporting and how to survive through the first days of event” training.

Question: Would you be interested in volunteering to work in emergency operations centers at different jurisdictional levels during disasters? 56.85% of respondents said yes while 43.14% said no

Question: Would you be interested in volunteering to help with AESA? 52.94% of respondents said yes while 47.06% said no. Follow-up: If yes, please describe what you are interested in doing. Respondents indicated interest in participating on the conference committee, assisting with promotion and marketing, membership recruitment and administration.

Question: Did you know that AESA has a scholarship program available? 50.98% of respondents said no while 49.02% said yes.

Question: Would you be willing to assist with the Scholarship Committee? 70.59% said no while 29.41% said yes.

Question: What subjects do you want covered at the conference? Respondents indicated that more could be done on evacuations, recovery, technical subjects (but not overviews), fellowship, mutual aid, and exercises conducted in the state. Respondents would also like conference topics to include more on how hospitals prepared for incidents, terrorist tactics, CERT deployments, and private/ public sector partnership development.

Thank you to all of those members who participated in the survey. Your feedback is valuable and appreciated. The executive board and conference committee will be reviewing these comments for use in upcoming conferences, training offerings, and volunteer opportunities.