



IMERT INVENT



Briefing: December 2009



Dear IMERT-INVENT Members:

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Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to IMERT and INVENT. It is hard to believe that almost ten years has passed since the beginning of the organization. We continue to evolve and grow. Our successes would be not possible without each and everyone of you.

As we enter our next decade, look forward to changes that will maintain and improve this great organization. Exciting educational and training opportunities will be offered in the future, including simulation workshops.

IMERT-INVENT looks forward to your continued support. I would like to personally wish you and your families a happy, healthy, and prosperous holiday season.



Moses S. Lee, MD
IMERT Medical Director



IMERT-INVENT BRIEFING

Hi Everyone,

Hope this note finds all of you well. We will be writing these briefings every month in an effort to help keep everyone connected, and aware of what is going on with IMERT and INVENT.

I'm going to give you a quick summary of events since May of this year.

We have revamped both training methods and the focus of our educational offerings this year. A new and updated **Domestic Preparedness** course has been attended by over 200 Illinois citizens this year. If you know of any groups in the state that might be interested in attending a course, please let us know. We are also looking for community colleges or other locations where we could hold the course at. We offer the course for free, so we look for locations that are free or charge nominal fees.

Replacing what was formerly known as "BOOT CAMP" with the DOC (**DEPLOYMENT OPERATIONS COURSE**) has allowed us to update requisite concepts and capabilities. The DOC focuses on practical elements of deployment operations and is designed to better prepare individuals for actual deployments. This course is a pre-requisite for all team members before becoming eligible for deployment. There is currently only one course scheduled for 2010, but more will be posted in the coming weeks.

In May we rolled out a Weekend Training Program. This 2 day course simulates an actual deployment. The scenario was an epidemic, dovetailing of course with the just discovered H1N1 virus outbreak. The program was conducted on the campus at ILEAS, where we warehouse much of our equipment cache. It was a busy and very educational weekend. We will be conducting more of these in the spring. The weekend training program will be available to all team members; eventually it will become a requirement for all team members interested in leadership positions.

Speaking of ILEAS, all of you may not know that we now have administrative offices, a supply warehouse and a simulator mannequin on the secure campus of the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System organization. We are currently developing simulator scenarios, which will include trauma, medical, and WMD subjects.

DEPLOYMENTS:

Rock Island: About 25 of our team members responded to a direct request from IDPH to assist the western Illinois town of Rock Island in response to a Hepatitis A outbreak that had been lingering in the community for a few weeks.

Chicago: for the 4th year we were requested by the Chicago Office of Emergency Management to set up an Alternate Care Site as a back-up medical contingency on the busiest nights of Taste of Chicago, July 3 and 4. A number of our team members have participated in these deployments. We almost always have a good experience. The repeated opportunities involved in setting up an alternate care site have really enhanced our capabilities for responses in Chicago. We get a pretty good view of the fireworks too.

We have also incorporated regular training objectives for downtime during training exercises

and/or "real world" medical deployments. These sessions are often run by our doctors or senior leadership folks and focus on specific training aspects of equipment like the utilization of the Israeli Tourniquet, or operating the ventilators etc. We try to utilize everyone's time in a productive manner.

There were a few smaller deployments this year as well, we will talk more about them in subsequent issues.

On behalf of the staff of IMERT-INVENT please accept our sincerest wishes for a safe and happy holiday season.


Mary Connelly

The logo for DuPage Public Safety Communications (DU-COMM) is a circular seal. It features a red center with a white star and the text "9-1-1" in white. The words "DU-COMM" are written in a blue arc at the top, and "DuPage Public Safety Communications" is written in a blue arc at the bottom. A small yellow "FD" (Fire Department) emblem is also visible.

DUPAGE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS IS OUR NEW DISPATCH SERVICE

DuPage Public Safety Communications is an intergovernmental agency formed in 1975 to provide emergency communications services to several police, fire and emergency medical departments. DU-COMM serves 27 agencies covering 700,000+ residents of DuPage County. You can visit their website at: <http://www.ducomm.org/>.

We went live with DuPage on December 1st.

The Facebook logo, a white lowercase "f" inside a blue square.

IMERT-INVENT IS NOW ON FACEBOOK

To continue reaching out to our members, IMERT-INVENT has created a page on Facebook. Become a [fan](#).

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Bernard Heilicser, DO, MS, FACEP, FACOEP, was awarded the "Behind the Scenes" Award by the Emergency Nurses Association. This award gives recognition to an individual who has made significant contributions to ENA as exhibited through support of an ENA member or members to promote the mission of ENA. This "Behind the Scenes" advocate is often seen but not heard, and donates countless hours to assist an ENA member or members in achieving state, local and national goals through ENA. Congratulations!
- Myna Jenkins, RN, is donating two weeks of her time this December to Hospitals for Humanity. She will be taking part in the medical mission in Nigeria.

If you or a loved one are leaving for active military duty, please let us know.