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Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 3:51 PM
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Subject: FW: External Affairs Bulletin Week of November 30, 2015

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
BULLETIN

Week of November 30, 2015
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Important Dates & Deadlines



Fifth Annual Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships Conference (multiple dates)



FEMA Hiring Event in Pasadena, California (multiple dates)

FEMA Publishes New Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide

FEMA published the "Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide" that combines all existing policies into a self-contained, simple, adaptable, and searchable publication. The new "Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide" will replace all existing Public Assistance (PA) publications as well as the 9500 series policies. The consolidation of PA policies and guidance documents into a single publication will eliminate duplication and perceived inconsistency among the different documents and policies.

The "Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide" will be effective for disasters declared on or after January 1, 2016. Disasters that were declared prior to January 1, 2016 will still follow the 9500 series policies, which were in effect at the time of the disaster being declared. There are no substantive policy changes in the new guide.

The Public Assistance program anticipates that the Guide will be updated annually.

In the last ten years, the FEMA Public Assistance program averaged \$4.7 billion in disaster assistance annually, making it the agency's largest grant program. The Public Assistance program provides financial assistance to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments and certain private non-profits to aid their recovery following a disaster or emergency.

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program Application Period Begins

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG) will open on **Monday, December 7, 2015 at 8 a.m. EST** and will close on



Tools for
Creating
Campus
Resilience
Webinar



Federal Flood
Risk
Management
Standard
Implementation
Open Comment
Period



New "Public
Assistance
Program and
Policy Guide"
Effective



Individual
Assistance
Declaration
Criteria for
States Open
Comment Period



Assistance to
Firefighters
Grant Program
Application
Deadline

The *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act*, (Pub. L. 113-76) provides \$306,000,000 in AFG Program funding to assist fire departments and nonaffiliated ambulance and emergency medical service organizations meet their firefighting and emergency response needs. The AFG Program enables these organizations to obtain the tools and resources necessary to more effectively protect the health and safety of the public and emergency response personnel.

Grant guidance for this program will be available at www.grants.gov, and is currently available for applicant review at www.fema.gov/firegrants/afggrants/index.shtm. The "Get Ready Guide" may also be useful for potential applicants and is provided to answer questions and to help prepare grant applications.

First Annual Voluntary Organization Partnership Day – Washington, D.C.

On October 27, 2015, FEMA's Voluntary Agency Liaisons (VALs), the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (National VOAD), and the DHS Center for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships co-hosted the First Annual Voluntary Organization Partnership Day. This unique event recognized the valuable services and support our voluntary, faith-based, and community partners provide to disaster survivors before, during, and after an event.

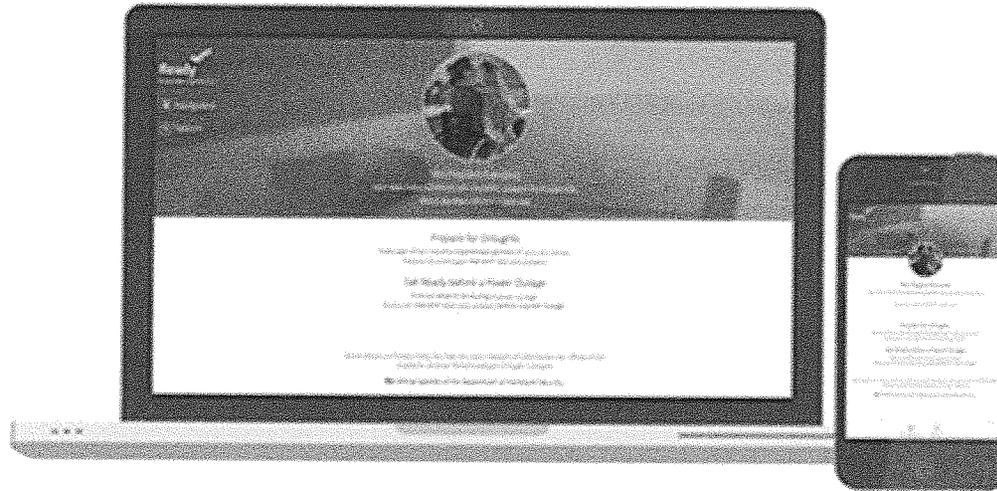
A special thank you to the inaugural event's 36 exhibitors, which included National and State VOAD member organizations, other whole community partners involved in disaster response and recovery, and FEMA components.

If you would like to share your experiences or photos from this event, or want to learn more, please search or post on social media using hashtag #VOPD15, or contact AC Claud (alfred.claud@fema.dhs.gov), Voluntary Agency Liaison, FEMA Individual Assistance.

Ready.gov Goes Mobile and M.FEMA.gov Will Sunset

After many years of planning and months of hard work, www.ready.gov became mobile friendly. You can now visit www.ready.gov on your phone, tablet, and desktop computer and have the same content experience. We are continuing to update and streamline content on the site.

Now that ready.gov and fema.gov are both mobile-enabled, m.fema.gov will be sunset in December as it is no longer needed. Thank you to everyone who helped us promote the mobile site over the



Emergency Management Institute Equips States to Train Emergency Managers

FEMA provides training for emergency responders through our Emergency Management Institute (EMI). EMI serves as the national focal point for the development and delivery of emergency management training to enhance the capabilities of federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial government officials, volunteer organizations, and the public and private sectors to minimize the impact of disasters on the American public.

Among EMI's many programs and courses, The National Emergency Management Basic Academy is the entry-point for individuals pursuing a career in emergency management. The Basic Academy offers the tools to develop comprehensive foundational skills needed in emergency management. For those who are new to emergency management, the Basic Academy also provides a unique opportunity to build camaraderie, to establish professional contacts, and to understand the roles, responsibilities, and legal boundaries associated with emergency management.

Virginia and North Carolina are the first states to adopt the curriculum as part of their emergency management training standards. More information about how federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial emergency management offices can adopt the Basic Academy training for emergency managers and other partners who serve during disasters and emergencies can be found on the FEMA blog.

FEMA Hiring Event at Pasadena, California

need. Visit the "Find a Job" section on www.careers.fema.gov and apply for one of our Public Assistance Reservist job openings. If you qualify, you may receive an invite to our FEMA Hiring event on **December 14-19** in Pasadena, California. On the spot job offers will be made, so apply today!

Resumes can be sent to FEMA-HC-ServiceDesk@fema.dhs.gov. Applicants can also call 1-866-896-8003 for more information.

REMINDER: The Way Forward – Fifth Annual Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships Conference

FEMA and partners will hold the Fifth Annual Building Resilience through Public-Private Partnerships Conference on **December 10-11, 2015** in New Orleans, Louisiana. Each year participants from the public and private sectors convene to promote innovation in furthering public-private partnerships to enhance prevention, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation for all-hazards resilience.

The conference brings together more than 300 industry executives and government and nonprofit leadership from across the emergency management and homeland security enterprise. For those interested in participating in the in person conference there is still time to **register**. For more information and to check out the conference agenda visit www.dhs.gov/event/Public-Private-Partnerships-Conference.

Sponsored this year by FEMA, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security through the National Protection and Programs Directorate and Private Sector Office, and North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command. Planned in collaboration with: American Logistics Aid Network (ALAN), American Red Cross, Business Executives for National Security (BENS), Business Forward, National Incident Management Systems & Advanced Technologies, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

REMINDER: Tools for Creating Campus Resilience Webinar

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute, in partnership with the DHS Office of Academic Engagement, FEMA Region VII, and U.S. Fire Administration, will present a webinar titled "Tools for Creating Campus Resilience" on **December 16 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. ET**. The webinar will discuss ReadyCampus, the DHS Campus Resilience Pilot Program for Colleges and Universities. This student-centered program brings together many prominent organizations, private sector, and local

Administration's Campus Fire Safety Program. Natural, technological, and health hazards can all affect daily campus operations. Institutions are encouraged to regularly review, update, and exercise their emergency plans.

Participants should register in advance for the online webinar. Closed captioning will be provided.

REMINDER: FEMA's Intent to Implement the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard

FEMA's Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration released FEMA's Leadership Intent to implement the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS). The Intent describes the framework FEMA is proposing to implement for Executive Order (E.O.) 13690 and the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard.

E.O. 13690 provides federal agencies flexibility to choose from one or more approaches to identify an elevation requirement above the base flood elevation. Additionally, E.O. 13690 amended E.O. 11988 to set forth a higher level of resilience for activities where even a slight chance of flooding is too great. The Intent outlines FEMA's approach to standardize its use of the multiple elevation requirements above the base flood elevation.

Continuing our commitment to an open, collaborative, stakeholder-focused process in implementing the FFRMS, FEMA is sharing this framework for public comment on FEMA's website. Public comments received will continue to inform the regulatory and policy development process.

For more information, visit www.fema.gov/federal-flood-risk-management-standard-ffrms or send comments by **December 17, 2015**, to FEMA-EO11988-13690@fema.dhs.gov.

REMINDER: FEMA Seeks Input on Individual Assistance Declaration Criteria for States

FEMA is seeking public comment on proposed changes to regulation describing FEMA's Individual Assistance (IA) declarations criteria. FEMA published the proposed rule in the Federal Register, and is seeking comments by **January 11, 2016**.

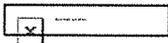
The Sandy Recovery Improvement Act (SRIA) requires FEMA to review, update and revise, through rulemaking, the factors it uses to measure the severity, magnitude, and impact of a disaster. The proposed rule, which has a 60 day public comment period, is intended to provide more objective and clear IA declaration factors and speed the declaration process, including FEMA's recommendation to the President on whether a major disaster declaration authorizing IA is warranted.

presently collected to support the evaluation process and adds additional data sets easily accessible by states. FEMA reviewed the current factors and the proposed rule intends to revise the current factors by including: State Fiscal Capacity and Resource Availability, Uninsured Home and Personal Property Losses, Disaster Impacted Population Profile, Impact to Community Infrastructure, Casualties, and Disaster Related Unemployment.

Comments are due on **January 11, 2016**, and can be submitted online.

FEMA's Office of External Affairs provides this bulletin to highlight recent and upcoming program and policy activities and announcements. Feedback is welcome at fema-ea-bulletin@fema.dhs.gov. Previous editions are available at www.fema.gov/external-affairs-bulletin. This bulletin is not intended to provide a comprehensive list of policies that are open for public comment, nor does it describe all of the instructions or requirements necessary to submit a comment. For a complete list of instructions and deadlines please click the hyperlinks included. FEMA does not endorse any non-government organizations, entities or services.

The mission of the Office of External Affairs (OEA) is to engage, inform, and educate all of FEMA's stakeholders in support of the Agency's programs and initiatives to achieve its mission. OEA accomplishes its mission by coordinating and maintaining visibility of public and internal communications; advising FEMA program and support offices on decision-making regarding policies, plans, and actions that affect stakeholder, media, and Congressional audiences; and organizing outreach efforts targeted at principal stakeholders to include state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, the private sector, national organizations and associations, and the American public.



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