



Reminder From The Sheriff

The seatbelt law in Tennessee is now a primary law and as Law Enforcement Officers we need to be setting an example for the public at all times. Therefore, I remind each of you to always wear your seatbelt in the patrol car and have each reserve officer riding with you do the same.

This was a letter signed by Sheriff Mike Neal earlier this month and given out to all the departments.

We as Homeland Security are under the Sheriff's direction, and just as the other officers, we should be setting an example.

We should always be mindful that we represent the Sheriff's Department and our County, and when you least expect it, someone will be watching.

Remember an old saying, "When we do good, no one remembers, When we do bad, no one forgets".

Watts Bar Emergency Worker Training

On July 21st The Rhea County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) hosted the annual Watts Bar Training at the EOC Building in Evensville, Tn.

The training lasted 3 hours for each of the two sessions and was well attended by our Homeland Security Teams.

For those of you that attended, you may have learned more about physics that you cared to know, but there was some good info passed along to give you some ideal of how our emergency manager and the other services operate.

If it all seemed a little much to digest at one sitting, don't get discouraged, you will be given specific instructions on you duties if you are called out in the event of an emergency and there are several of us that have gone through this training for more than 13 or so years now and we'll be there with you.

Don't hesitate to ask questions either. That's what we're here for. Remember the only dumb question is the one that isn't asked.

Ed Ley once said to me, that "I have a very good track record of accurate information or at least an honest "I don't know" response.

I won't tell you that I know everything, heck I won't even admit that I know anything, but I am willing to share what little I do know with anyone that's interested in learning.

Every Emergency is unique, you could respond to the same type of emergency twice in one week and neither response one would resemble the other. That's because situations change, resources change and personnel change.

The best we can do is to keep ourselves as ready as possible with the training that's available and respond when called.

Threats and Protection

Transportation

Freedom of Movement

11.2 million trucks and 2.2 million rail cars cross into the United States annually, and 7,500 foreign-flag ships make 51,000 calls in U.S. ports annually, providing us with goods and services.

The Transportation Security Administration protects the Nation's transportation systems to ensure freedom of movement for people and commerce.

Planning & Prevention

Fact Sheet: A Better Prepared America: A Year in Review

Preparedness is the responsibility of every American. At the Department of Homeland Security, we are hard at work creating and implementing preparedness plans; developing procedures and policies that will guide our actions in the event of a terrorist attack; conducting training and exercises to ensure that our first responders possess a necessary level of preparedness; enhancing partnerships with state and local governments, private sector institutions and other organizations; and funding the purchase of much-needed equipment for first responders, states, cities, and towns. These activities, along with an active American community, contribute to a level of national preparedness that is critical to achieving our goal of a better prepared America.

Homeland Security Meeting

Thursday July 29th 6 PM

Civil Air Patrol Complex

Homeland Security Leverages NOAA All-Hazards Network for Alerts and Warnings

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Directorate and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce today signed an agreement that allows Homeland Security to send critical all-hazards alerts and warnings directly through the NOAA All-Hazards Network. The Network supplements the existing alert and warning resources and the capability serves as an additional delivery mechanism for sending life-saving information nationally, regionally or locally. In addition, Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will continue to manage the Emergency Alert System (EAS) that includes the NOAA All - Hazards Network.

"This agreement is an example of interagency cooperation that takes advantage of existing capabilities that can now be applied to protect the homeland from both man-made and natural disasters," said Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti USMC (Ret.), Under Secretary for Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection, Department of Homeland Security. "We feel strongly that the ability to put redundant systems and capabilities in place increases the likelihood that emergency information is delivered to targeted populations with minimal delay."

"Critical information will now be available when people most need it," said Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher USN (Ret.), Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator. "What began as NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts now extends to a range of products and all-hazards purposes. It's gratifying to know that many more lives can now be better protected."

Under this agreement, Homeland Security now has the authority to develop an alert and warning message that can be delivered directly to NOAA and broadcast to affected areas. The system is capable of reaching over 97 percent of the United States territory on a 24/7 basis through broadcasts in 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and Saipan. Radios and televisions currently equipped with SAME (Specific Area

Message Encoding) allow listeners to pre-select the categories of alerts they wish to receive in chosen listening areas. Broadcast receivers are located in emergency operations centers and many public sites and workplaces. Public Schools in some states are similarly equipped.

In addition, the agreement provides that same message, distributed through NOAA, will be distributed locally or nationally over FEMA's Emergency Alert System (EAS) at the local level which Americans regularly view as a crawl on the bottom of their television screens and is broadcast over local radio stations.

"This agreement furthers a long-standing relationship with NOAA and enhances the federal government's ability to provide American communities the information needed in times of emergency," said Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response, Department of Homeland Security. "While Homeland Security's Emergency Alert System will continue to be the backbone of our alert and warning notifications, we're pleased to develop additional means of communicating with citizens."

Beyond the new capability to broadcast Homeland Security Alerts and warnings coupled with protective measure information, the NOAA system will continue to broadcast weather forecasts and warnings, including news about severe storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes and volcanic activity; chemical spills and bio-hazardous releases; and, in some states, Amber Alerts. Special populations such as the disabled or the elderly can connect NOAA All-Hazards radios via plug-ins to attention-getting devices, such as strobe lights, pagers, bed-shakers, personal computers and text printers.

Pepper Spray and ASP Training

At the next meeting, Jim Conner will have information about Pepper Spray and ASP Training that will be available to The Homeland Security Team in the future.

Only those that have not had the Pepper Spray Training will need to attend that session, the ASP Training is New so everyone will need that one.

Secretary Ridge Calls for Americans to "Be Ready"

July 20, 2004 - Secretary Tom Ridge spoke at the Public Preparedness Symposium in Washington, D. C. "We will add strength to our existing Ready Campaign by launching two new endeavors, Ready for Business, Ready for Kids. We will continue to work with the Citizen Corps to encourage participation from families across America, whether by preparing family ready kits and emergency plans or volunteering to aid in disaster planning or engaging in CPR and training exercises to help people in a life threatening situation.

But until every community has prepared for a potential attack, until every business has an evacuation or shelter in place plan, until every school child knows what to do an emergency and mom and dad know what they're going to do in an emergency, and until every American is ready, we still have more work to do. And I'm confident that when we face these challenges together, we can get it done.

Bank ATMs Converted to Steal IDs of Bank Customers

A team of organized criminals is installing equipment on legitimate bank ATMs in at least 2 regions to steal both the ATM card number and the PIN. The team sits nearby in a car receiving the information transmitted wirelessly over weekends and evenings from equipment they install on the front of the ATM (see photos). If you see an attachment like this, do not use the ATM and report it immediately to the bank using the 800 number or phone on the front of the ATM.

The equipment used to capture your ATM card number and PIN is cleverly disguised to look like normal ATM equipment. A "skimmer" is mounted to the front of the normal ATM card slot that reads the ATM card number and transmits it to the criminals sitting in a nearby car.

At the same time, a wireless camera is disguised to look like a leaflet holder and is mounted in a position to view ATM PIN entries.

The thieves copy the cards and use the PIN numbers to withdraw thousands from many accounts in a very short time directly from the bank ATM.



Equipment being installed on front of existing bank card slot.



The equipment as it appears installed over the normal ATM bank slot.



The PIN reading camera being installed on the ATM is housed in an innocent looking leaflet enclosure.



NEXTEL Phones Still Available

Thanks to LA-Z-BOY for donating several cell phones to our group. These are starting to get popular with the team members, so if you are considering picking one up, you'd better hurry.

These will prove to be very useful to our teams as one of our primary communications tools.

With all of the county agencies and TVA going to Nextel, we will now have the capability of staying in contact with served agencies and will be able to get quicker notification in case of an actual event.

These phones are for Homeland Security Members and you can get a special rate when you activate the service. If you would like to have one of these phones, contact either Jim Conner or Doug McDaniel. The phones will remain the property of Homeland Security and must be turned in, in the event that you terminate your membership.

More Training Upcoming

Just when you thought it was safe to sit down, more opportunities arise for training.

At the Watts Bar Training, Billy Cranfield informed me that there will be some biological training later this fall. Keep reading the newsletter and attending the meetings to find out when they will be.

There will also be another Handgun Qualification for anyone not yet qualified. Jim will make an announcement about this at the meeting.

E-Mail List

If you are able to receive e-mail and you are not getting this newsletter, chances are you are not on my list.

If you would like to be added to the list, you can e-mail me at ko4sy@volstate.net or give me a call at 570-0840.

There are times that we want to get a message out to the membership and the quickest and easiest way is by e-mail. If you're on this list I can type out one e-mail and send it to everyone on that list. That saves us time and it cuts down on the amount of phone calls we would have to make. It also gives you a hard copy of the information and if you're like me it keeps you from having to remember times and dates because you've got the e-mail to reference back to.

Restructuring of Homeland Security

In the letter you received from the Sheriff lately, it touched briefly on some changes that will be made to our teams.

This is becoming necessary as the group is getting more diversified in qualifications and certain areas need more attention.

I know it's human nature to resist change, but we will need to be flexible and adapt to an ever changing environment in Emergency Response.

There will be some Resource Officers, Team Leaders and Squad Leaders Appointed as well as some shuffling of squad members.

Please bare with us as we attempt to make everything as painless as possible for all.

When preparing for a possible emergency situation, it's best to think first about the basics of survival:



Emergency Supplies Water, food, and clean air are the essential items for survival. Each family or individual's kit should be customized to meet specific needs, such as medications and infant formula. It should also be customized to include important family documents.

Recommended Supplies to Include in a Basic Kit:

- **Water**, one gallon of water per person per day, for drinking and sanitation
- **Food**, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- **Battery-powered radio** and **extra batteries**
- **Flashlight** and **extra batteries**
- **First Aid kit**
- **Whistle** to signal for help
- **Dust mask** or cotton t-shirt, to help filter the air
- **Moist towelettes** for sanitation
- **Wrench** or **pliers** to turn off utilities
- **Can opener** for food (if kit contains canned food)
- **Plastic sheeting** and **duct tape** to shelter-in-place
- **Infant formula** and **diapers**, if you have an infant
- **Garbage bags** and **plastic ties** for personal sanitation