

## Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Committee

### Purpose Statement

The Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) is a coalition of local police agencies and the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) representative for law enforcement mutual aid. The mission of ILEAS is to meet the needs of law enforcement throughout Illinois in matters of mutual aid, emergency response, and the combining of resources for



effective use during emergencies or periods of extraordinary circumstances. Additionally, the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Committee provides the structure for researching, developing, and implementing common standards for handling such emergencies and circumstances through training, information dissemination, and other activities. The Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Committee is also the primary liaison agency in Illinois to other emergency response forces such as public health, fire service, communications, etc.

### 2008 Key Activities

- ILEAS utilized FY 2007 Homeland Security grant funds to lease a 122,000 square foot, 13 acre site from Champaign County to be used as a regional homeland security training center known as the ILEAS Training Center (ITC). Champaign County matched ILEAS' \$3,000,000 with \$400,000 to remodel 27,000 square feet of the building for classrooms and administrative offices. The ITC was opened on June 1, 2008. In the first six months of operation, over 1,000 students attended 54 training sessions, workshops and seminars.



ILEAS has entered into a cooperative agreement with Carle Hospital in Urbana, the Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team (IMERT) and Illinois Department of Public Health to rehabilitate two wings of the ITC back into a working hospital. Once completed, this facility will be used for IMERT training and as a special needs shelter during crises.

Additionally, ILEAS signed agreements with IMERT and the National Center for Biomedical Research and Training (NCBRT). IMERT leased two offices and storage and training space. NCBRT has leased an office and partners with ILEAS to store and ship instructional matters throughout the Midwest.

- Validation exercises for the 10 Weapons of Mass Destruction Special Response Teams (WMD SRT) started in 2007. Three teams were validated in 2008. These multi-jurisdictional and



regionally-based teams, each consisting of 25-35 experienced SWAT officers, are designed, trained and equipped to handle the human element in a contaminated area. In 2008 the following training took place:

- o 35,732 staff hours of training
- o 94,160 overtime hours reimbursed
- o \$557,560 overtime reimbursed

ILEAS reimbursed an average of \$15.60 per hour for the WMD SRT team training.



- ILEAS has created eight Regional Mobile Field Force Teams throughout Illinois. These teams consist of 50-70 officers/deputies who are specially trained to handle civil disturbances and secure large venues such as pharmaceutical distribution sites and other large events. In 2008 the following training took place:
  - o 12,906 staff hours of training
  - o 4,819 overtime hours reimbursed
  - o \$186,654 overtime reimbursedILEAS reimbursed an average of \$14.46 per hour for the Mobile Field Force training.

In August of 2008, ILEAS was contacted by the St. Paul, Minnesota, Police Department regarding the Republican National Convention. Law enforcement officials there requested



100 mobile field force trained officers to assist with the anticipated crowds and venue security for the convention. ILEAS coordinated the deployment of those 100 officers, representing seven of the eight existing mobile field forces. They were deployed for a total of eight days for a total reimbursement cost of \$418,390. The team command staff and the officers received the invaluable experience of working security at a national security event with the Secret Service and officers from agencies all over the United States.

- ILEAS increased the number of law enforcement agencies that have signed mutual aid agreements from 877 to 891, which is 87 percent of ALL law enforcement agencies in Illinois. ILEAS represents more than 95 percent of the law enforcement officers in Illinois. Every sheriff's office and all state law enforcement agencies are now members – complete with signed identical mutual aid agreements.
- ILEAS issued grants to local law enforcement agencies for interoperable communications and distributed more than 1,000 Starcom21 and VHF radios in 2006-2007. These radios



work on a statewide network developed by the Illinois State Police and Motorola. In 2007, ILEAS assisted the Illinois Terrorism Task Force by managing the application process for the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant. Additionally, ILEAS has assigned staff to represent local law enforcement on the State Interoperable Executive Committee. In 2007, ILEAS coordinated the programming of all WMD SRT and mobile command post radios so that they are utilizing the same network and frequencies. ILEAS has also accepted a partnership with the Illinois Telecommunications Emergency Response Team (ITERT), which is an organization developed to provide mutual aid and emergency support with regard to dispatching and technology support in Illinois. The first ITERT teams have been formed, completed basic training, and are undergoing advanced training to national standards.

- In 2008, ILEAS awarded 138 mobile data computers (MDCs) to 56 law enforcement agencies. Since 2004, ILEAS has distributed nearly 1,000 MDCs – valued at over \$6.4 million - to local law enforcement agencies.
- ILEAS' website ([www.ileas.org](http://www.ileas.org)) has become the primary source of homeland security operational information for law enforcement agencies in Illinois. Website features include a password-protected membership database, a mechanism for agencies to develop mutual aid plans (also know as “alarm cards”)—complete with pre-planned response agencies and staging areas with computerized maps, and the ability to communicate timely information to the membership. In addition, the ILEAS homeland security equipment grant application was online and part of each agency's online file. Also online were the training overtime reimbursement and training summaries of the WMD SRTs and the Mobile Field Force Teams, grant applications for mobile data computers, special event and authorized exercise reimbursements, inventory audit, and conference registration. In 2007, ILEAS began the process of combining its specialized resource database with the mutual aid system to create a “one-stop shop” for all law enforcement resources in Illinois. The specialized resource database is an online clearinghouse through which authorized agencies can sign on and search by county, number of miles, regions or statewide for resources possessed by other law enforcement agencies in Illinois, such as specialized vehicles, teams, equipment and translators.

Additionally, ILEAS created a website specifically designed for the ILEAS Training Center. That website is [www.ileastrainingcenter.org](http://www.ileastrainingcenter.org).

- ILEAS and the Illinois State Police continued the successful partnership in 2008 to move the ICLEAR and credentialing projects forward. ILEAS provided grant funds, and State Police provided the management and expertise to develop the ICLEAR system. ICLEAR will provide all law enforcement in Illinois a free methodology for writing and filing reports as well as a database warehouse for all crime and arrest records in Illinois. Issuance of the first credentials for special teams began in 2008.
- ILEAS conducted its second full annual inventory of equipment in 2008 with a 93 percent compliance rate. ILEAS hired six field inspectors and developed an online program for local chiefs and sheriffs to certify their inventory of equipment received from ILEAS. ILEAS was the first local mutual aid consortium to complete an annual inventory audit. Additionally, in 2008, ILEAS was audited by the Department of Homeland Security specifically in regard to



performance—not financial. In the draft report, ILEAS was described as a “best practices” agency for its ability to manage the inventory of items and for the field special teams’ ability to account for policy, training and equipment functions. The auditors told ILEAS staff that they had not seen any other states that could match ILEAS’ ability to properly manage the DHS law enforcement programs.

- There are a total of 12 FBI-certified law enforcement EOD teams (commonly called bomb teams) in Illinois, nine of which are non-UASI local teams. In 2008, ILEAS started meeting with the team commanders, developed a memorandum of understanding, and started purchasing equipment that the teams need to maintain their FBI certification.
- In 2008, ILEAS signed a memorandum of understanding with the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA). ILEAS will provide grant management for IESMA. IESMA represents the state’s emergency management professionals on the Terrorism Task Force.
- In 2008, 510 people attended the annual training and planning conference. The conference consisted of general training sessions, breakout training sessions, and one entire morning where attendees met with other attendees from their region for local emergency planning. These regional meetings foster cooperative relations and regional mutual aid.
- In 2008, ILEAS, in conjunction with the ITTF Science and Technology Committee, completed bids for the personal radiation detectors (PRD) program and awarded a contract to produce the detectors. In 2008, ILEAS made orders for over 7,000 detectors.
- ILEAS was awarded a contract from Illinois Central Management Services (CMS) to coordinate the rebanding of all Terrorism Task Force-issued Starcom21 radios. Approximately 2,500 of these radios have been distributed to local public safety agencies in Illinois. Due to an agreement between SPRINT/NEXTEL and the Federal Communications Commission, radios such as these all across the country needed to be reprogrammed so that they would not experience interference from cellular phones.

ILEAS coordinated the reprogramming project, which took place in 20 different cities across the state. Each local agency (fire, police, public health, emergency management, hospital, etc.) brought their radios to the centers, where they were reprogrammed by contract radio technicians. ILEAS tracked every radio and paid each agency a reimbursement for inconvenience or costs. ILEAS received funds from SPRINT/NEXTEL to make these payments.

## 2009 Initiatives

- ILEAS plans to complete validation exercises for the remaining six WMD SRT teams. Additionally, ILEAS plans to begin validation exercises for the eight Mobile Field Force Teams throughout the state.
- In 2009, ILEAS will receive and distribute nearly 7,000 personal radiation detectors to local agencies.



- ILEAS, along with Illinois State Police, will complete the first phase of the credentialing program by issuing credentials to the majority of the ITTF-created special teams.
- ILEAS will work closely with Illinois State Police to implement the initial phases of the ICLEAR system. ICLEAR is a statewide data warehouse of crime reports and a methodology for crime reporting and analysis.
- ILEAS will expand the use of the ILEAS Training Center. The goal is to host 3,000 students in over 100 events.
- In 2008, ILEAS received FY 2008 grants for IESMA-oriented projects. In 2009, ILEAS will hire a full-time IESMA grant coordinator and begin the oversight of all IESMA grant funds.

