

“  
**GOT YOUR  
 BACK TALK**”

**MABAS ILLINOIS**



VOLUME 17.2

IN THIS ISSUE

**FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

By: Chief Jeffrey C. Macko

Well we have made it through another winter, and summer is just around the corner, which also means another MABAS Summit is under our belts. This year’s Summit was outstanding, and once again, set a bench mark for quality and attendance. The MABAS staff did an excellent job and continues to make it difficult to raise the bar each year, but I know they will make every effort to do just that next year.

In conjunction with the Summit, as always, we held the Executive Board meeting and election of officers. This year the Second Vice President Treasurer and new position Secretary was voted on. I would like to welcome back retired Chief Harry Tallacksen as Second Vice President, and welcome two new members to the Leadership team, Chief Sean Malloy as Treasurer and Chief Joe Holomy as Secretary.

Chief Tallacksen has been a great asset to the team, and I’m confident Chief Malloy and Holomy will do an excellent job representing our organization.

On a less positive note, there has been very little movement in Springfield regarding our funding bill. Of course, with no approved State budget, this has proved very difficult. I will tell you that the Leadership team remains determined to continue our pursuit of a continuous funding source.

Finally, I don’t want to sound like a broken record, but I encourage all the departments that have not completed the contract addendum, to do so, as soon as they can! Already, this year we have had a couple weather incidents in the State and you don’t want to be denied federal assistance because you procrastinated.

*Have a safe spring, and I hope to see you all at our June meeting.*

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**MABAS would like to thank all who attended the 2017 Training Summit**

# SPRING CAR MAINTENANCE TIPS

By: [www.becarcareaware.ca](http://www.becarcareaware.ca)



After a long winter, you're likely ready to give up your hibernating ways for some adventure and sunshine. For many Canadians this means family vacations, trips to the cottage, camping excursions, and weekend road trips. Whatever your style, chances are you are getting ready to hit the road, but are you confident that your car is in good enough shape to get you there safely and efficiently?

Winter's cold temperatures and icy conditions have been hard on your car, so it is likely showing some signs of wear and tear. Spring is the perfect time to bring your car in for a full inspection to identify any minor problems, before they become major ones.

**Here are some tips to keep your car running safely this spring and summer:**

**1. Change your oil and oil filter.** Changing your oil and oil filter at the intervals recommended in your vehicle's owner's manual is one of the best ways to keep the engine running trouble free. Neglecting to replace engine oil can result in poor engine performance, higher fuel consumption and even severe engine damage.

**2. Check your fluids.** When you change your oil and oil filter, you should also check your fluids. Check your power steering, brake, and transmission fluids; your windshield washer fluid; and your coolant. If the levels are low, top them up, and flush/replace them as recommended in your owner's manual. Keep in mind that your power steering, brake and coolant systems are closed, so low fluid levels may indicate a leak.

**3. Replace your wiper blades.** If they're torn or cracked your wiper blades won't do you much good in the middle of unrelenting spring showers when visibility is reduced.

**4. Check your charging system.** Cold temperatures can do a number on your battery, so now is a good time to have it tested. You should also check to make sure that your battery is securely mounted and that the connections are clean, tight, and corrosion free. If your battery is more than five years old, you should consider having it replaced.

**5. Fix your windshield.** In cities where sand and rocks are used on icy roads, motorists often end up with chips and cracks in their windshields. Although these may not seem like a big deal, any damage to your windshield can decrease the overall effectiveness of airbags, seatbelts, roof stability, and your personal safety in the event of an accident. If your windshield has a crack, it's important to have it repaired or replaced immediately.

**6 Check your lighting.** Check all exterior and interior lighting to identify any problems. When your vehicle's lighting is defective, other motorists may not get the message that you intend to stop or turn. The end result could be disastrous.

**7. Lubricate your chassis parts.** Many newer cars are "lubed-for-life," but some still require regular chassis lubrication so check your owner's manual. Replacement steering and suspension components may also require periodic lubrication.

**8. Check your belts and hoses.** Cold temperatures can harden and/or damage rubber, so it's important to check your belts and hoses for damage. Check your hoses for hardening, softening, leaking, cracks, blistering, or other visual damage, and check your belts for looseness, cracks, frays, or glazing. If you have to replace one of your belts, you may also have to replace the tensioner and pulleys to keep the new belt from slipping.

**9. Check your filters.** Your car has a number of filters that are important to its longevity and should be replaced regularly. Check your engine air filter, your cabin air filter, and your fuel filter for damage or clogging and replace them if necessary.

**10. Check your tires.** Your tires are the only point of contact between you and road, so it's important to take care of them. Check the pressure of all your tires (including the spare) monthly, and maintain the optimal pressure recommended in your owner's manual. Check the tread for uneven or irregular wear and for cuts or bruises on the sidewalls. Rotate your tires every 10,000 kilometers, and replace them if they are worn or damaged.

Make vehicle maintenance a priority this spring to protect yourself and prolong the life of your vehicle.

*Article recommended by Ed Gibis. Ed is responsible for maintaining all apparatus at MABAS readiness Center (MRC) as Logistics Branch*

[WWW.MABAS-IL.ORG](http://WWW.MABAS-IL.ORG)



# A Message from MABAS-Illinois

By: Chief Jay Reardon

February 2017 brought us to our Annual Training Summit in Bloomington Normal at the Marriott. In total, 440 attendees over the five days with 256 from the chief and command officers group and 184 representing MABAS division dispatchers and telecommunications emergency centers. What impressed me was the feedback provided through the electronic critique and attendee remarks. I have to say the feedback and remarks were never as complimentary as they were for our 2017 Training Summit.

Regardless of the area of commentary, hotel accommodations, speaker's content, value of experiences shared and information available, all remarks were positive and, generally speaking, established a new standard of excellence. MABAS certainly outdid ourselves. A new standard of excellence has been established!

The conference theme for 2017 was review of terrorist driven events over the past 18 months. Speakers with first hand experiences of some of the most notable terrorist experiences of 2015 and 2016 shared their lessons learned with their MABAS colleagues. San Bernardino terrorist murders, Dallas deadly sniper attack, Orlando Pulse massacre, and more were addressed to MABAS attendees by those who were boots on the ground at each incident.



Our federal partners, DHS, FBI and National Terrorism Center presented findings from International terrorist strikes like the Paris complex coordinated sequential attack, where many lost their lives. An international consultant mesmerized attendees by showing actual videos of real world suspicious indicators by terrorists who were studying potential targets and planning a probable terrorist strike.



As the conference moved through the agenda, an electronic audience bridge linked everyone to single scenarios of a terrorist bombing event. Then the Waukegan Fire Department Officer, Battalion Chief Tom Christensen, walked the attendees through the positive and negative consequences of the audience's selective decision choices.

Probably the most powerful presentation at both the chief/command officers and dispatchers summit was hearing from Michele Gay, who shared her personal perspective as a mother who lost her daughter during the active shooter tragedy at Sandy Hook School in the Newtown community. For me, Michele's words and thoughts brought to light the personal and emotional challenges we, as first responder human beings, have to our neighbors – all of them whether we know them – or not. We have a duty to listen and act from Michele's perspective. We need to be ready when it happens in Illinois. We cannot think it will never happen here!

The 2017 MABAS Training Summit was a success and a new benchmark for 2018. We achieved what we did because of the work and commitment by many MABAS staff. We made these great achievements because of MABAS chiefs, command officers and divisional dispatchers, who committed to attend the conference. In a nutshell, we did it by all working together with one mission, one team, and one effort. Thanks to all of you!

Next year's conference, in 2018, will have new challenges to overcome. Our next grant cycle sees a reduction in IEMA approved DHS grant funds by \$50,000.00. I feel strongly that our annual Training Summit isn't a luxury but rather a necessity in maintaining knowledge, skills and sense of one team. I'm certain our MABAS Leadership Team will meet the funding challenge and keep the message alive. See you in February, 2018!

One final thought regarding an entirely different topic – Preparing MABAS leaders of tomorrow.

I have discussed the topic of MABAS "spark plugs" with other MABAS staff members and have asked staff to help identify the right people who fit the profile. A MABAS spark plug is the young lieutenant who shows the desire to be one of their MABAS division's leaders of tomorrow. That's a spark plug.

*Continued on next page:*



# A MESSAGE FROM MABAS-ILLINOIS

By: Chief Jay Reardon

## Continued

To be an effective leader of tomorrow's fire service, a lot of self-investment needs to occur and someone needs to encourage, educate and mentor the spark plug – prepare them to be the leader for the day it comes. MABAS has a duty in that role.

I'd like to create a by-invitation-only MABAS mentoring class here at our Wheeling facility for the spark plugs from every MABAS division. I'd like the effort to be a no cost initiative to the spark plugs and their fire agency/MABAS division. I'd like to schedule the spark plug classes for weekend(s) and target newer MABAS divisions throughout the state. I'd like to begin the spark plug mentoring and education process by 2018.

If you are a fire chief or MABAS division board member and have a spark plug you think may be a good candidate for the spark plug program, let me know. Drop me an email at reardon@mabas-il.org and let's have a discussion. If the fire service has been good to you and for you, it's only appropriate to give back. Nominate your leaders of tomorrow. Nominate your "spark plug." Take care, be smart, be SAFE!



## A LETTER FROM IL-TF1 MEDICAL TEAM MANAGER

DR. BERNARD HEILICSER

### So, Why Is Everyone Getting Sick?

It seems someone we know, or ourselves, are coming down with some sort of upper respiratory infection. These infections may be just annoying or even incapacitating. Why is this so important to a first responder?

Obviously, if we feel like crap, it impacts our ability to perform at the level we must. All the good stuff: coughing, sneezing, sinus congestion, fatigue, nausea and vomiting, will make us miserable. However, there are greater ramifications of our illness.

If you are ill and cannot make your shift, this puts a burden on staffing. But, what if you are ill and do come to work? Not only is your ability diminished, you have now jeopardized your colleagues. Exposing them to your bugs will not only put them in your situation, it is not fair to the public we serve. Now we are spreading the illness to the very people who rely on us to help them be well.

The illness we have been seeing can be quite variable. Most of it is simple viral in origin. No cure, just supportive care. Some can be bacterial, with the possibility of true bacterial sinusitis or pneumonia. These infections would require antibiotics. And, there is true influenza. This viral disease is certainly out there and should be respected.

A recent weekly Cook County Department of Public Health Influenza Surveillance Report demonstrated a "high" influenza activity. Their laboratory reported 826 positive specimens (combined influenza A and influenza B). There were 17 clusters in schools and 29 outbreaks in long-term care facilities. If diagnosed early, influenza can be treated with appropriate antiviral drugs (Tamiflu).

What does this mean for us? Unless contraindicated, get your flu vaccine every year. You may be fortunate and not get sick if not vaccinated, but you are playing the lottery and certainly putting your colleagues and citizens at risk. Yes, the vaccine is not always effective, but there is a responsibility we take on.



Finally, as a first responder, are you prepared for the various environmental risks you will be exposed to? Part of this is having the recommended, if not required, immunizations. This means protection from Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (DPT), Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Varicella, and Influenza. Make sure you are up-to-date or have serologic evidence of immunity.

**You need to be well.**

**Remember:**

**Myself**

**My Partner**

**My Patient**

## MABAS LEADERSHIP TEAM WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME



**Chief Sean M. Maloy** is the fire chief of the Bedford Park (IL) Fire Department. During his 25-plus years in the fire service, Chief Maloy held every rank in the department on his way to promotion to Fire Chief in January 2003. He is a past co-chair of the MABAS – IL Hazardous Materials committee and was awarded the President's Leadership Award by MABAS in 2011. Chief Maloy was elected President of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association in 2014 after serving as an area representative for the previous 5 years and has been a member of the executive board and a past President of the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association of Illinois, as well. Chief Maloy has represented the Illinois fire service while hosting a tactical exercise of TopOff 2 in 2003, during a deployment to Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and in Warsaw, Poland for Eskulap 2009, a multi-national military training exercise during which he worked with members of the Illinois National Guard, Illinois Air National Guard and the Polish military on chemical and biological weapons response and patient decontamination, triage and treatment. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University - Carbondale, a Master of Science degree from Benedictine University in Lisle, is certified by the Office of the State Fire Marshal as a Fire Officer 3 and was awarded the professional designation of Chief Fire Officer (CFOD) from the Center for Public Safety Excellence in 2013.



**Chief Joe Holomy** has been in the fire service since 1976, beginning as a volunteer Firefighter in northern Illinois southwest of Chicago. Worked his way up through the paid ranks, becoming a Paramedic, promoted to Lieutenant in 1988, Deputy Chief in 1994, becoming a Chief in 2001 and has been Chief of Effingham since 2004. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration, holds numerous State of Illinois Fire Certifications to include Fire Officer III, Instructor III, and Arson Investigator. Chief Holomy was first Conferred as a Chief Fire Officer (CFO) in 2004 and recertified four times to date being 1 of 1,113 Chief Officers worldwide having been conferred by the Commission on Professional Credentialing and is a 2016 Graduate of the National Fire Academy (Emmitsburg, Maryland) Executive Fire Officer (EFO) program. He serves on numerous committees across the State to include the Illinois Terrorism Task Force, the Illinois Fire Service Institute Fire Advisory Board, and the Illinois State Fire Marshal Fire Advisory Board.

In August 2016, was appointed Chairman of the Illinois Fire Advisory Board by Governor Rauner. He is Past President of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA) having served on the Executive Board from 2005 to 2014 and remains on several committees within the Association. He also serves as the State Representative for L.A.S.T., which is with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to assist with Firefighter funerals and Line of Duty Deaths. He previously served on the IFCA Funeral Committee from 1988 to 2015 serving as Chairman from 2010 to 2015. Chief Holomy is a state certified assessor for promotional testing in assessment centers for Firefighters challenging promotional exams to various ranks in the fire service. Chief Holomy is an Adjunct Instructor for the Fire Service Program at Lake Land College and is a Board Member on the Fire Science Degree Board, serves as Director of MABAS 54 Firefighter Academy and is President of MABAS Division 54. In February 2017, Chief Holomy was elected Secretary on the Executive Board for MABAS-IL which oversees the 69 Divisions within the state. Chief Holomy received Firefighter of the Year in 1992, 2006, Unit Citations 1995, 1996, Commendation Award 1999, Valor in 2000, Humanitarian Awards in 2005, 2008, and Merit Award 2007. In addition, he received the Illinois Police Association Citizens Award for Valor in 2000 and Illinois Fire Chief of the Year in 2009. In 2011, Chief Holomy was named Director for the City Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and was instrumental in the development of the first Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for the City. The City EMA has since become and remains an accredited agency with IEMA. As a member of Effingham Sunrise Rotary, was instrumental in the creation of the 100 CLUB for the benefit of all Police Officers and Firefighters in Effingham County and currently serves as Chairman.



**Chief Harry Tallacksen** While 20 years into a 36-year career in industry, Harry Tallacksen joined the Blackhawk volunteer Fire Department in 1983 to satisfy a hunger to be more helpful to his neighbors on the southwest outskirts of Rockford, Illinois. In keeping with a personality that drives him to “get involved”, he became certified as an Illinois First Responder in early 1984 and then as an Illinois certified and Nationally Registered EMT-B by the end of 1985. He achieved the rank of Lieutenant in 1987 and served as the department’s Training Officer. He was appointed Assistant Chief in January 1990, and Chief in August 1998, a position he held until he retired from active duty in February, 2014.

Throughout his fire department experience, Harry found numerous ways to get involved with the greater Rockford area emergency response services. While still a lieutenant at Blackhawk, he was drafted by the Winnebago Fire Chiefs’ Association to serve at their monthly meetings as reporter of local EMS training opportunities and activities, and subsequently created a monthly newsletter for the organization. In 1992, Harry was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the organization, Vice President in 1993, and President

in 1994 when he led the organization into sponsoring a burn victim at the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance Burn Camp. Harry has been very active in MABAS Division 8, first being elected “director” in 1991, later elected Vice President, then Secretary for six years, and President for seven. In January 2017, he was re-elected to the board but stepped down to the Vice President position to mentor others to gradually take over the leadership. He has represented Division 8 at the statewide MABAS meetings since 2003 and has participated in all statewide training summits.

Until retirement from active fire service, Chief Tallacksen maintained his Illinois EMT-B, FF-III, Fire Service Instructor-I, Incident Safety Officer, and Fire Officer-I certifications. He has taught fire and medical classes at Blackhawk Fire and at other area fire departments. He was a certified CPR instructor for eight years, teaching CPR to area emergency responders and citizens alike. He has completed the National Fire Academy Leadership Course, Incident Command, Haz-Mat Incident Command and NIMS training through Command and General Staff courses. He served as the EMT-B representative on the IDPH Region 1 EMS Advisory Committee for eleven years and served on the Rock Valley College Fire Science Program Advisory Committee.

In 2014 Chief Tallacksen was first elected to the Leadership Committee of MABAS-IL, serving as 2nd Vice President and default Secretary of the MABAS Executive Board. He was re-elected for another three-year term in 2017 as 2nd Vice President. In this position he coincidentally serves as the MABAS-IL Knox-Box® Program Coordinator.

Though no longer running calls with Blackhawk, he continues to serve as an advisor to the Blackhawk FPD Board of Trustees and as their Special Projects Coordinator.

Harry lives just outside Rockford with his wife of 46 years. He and Vicki have four grown children who’ve given them five wonderful grandchildren.

## MABAS DIVISION 1 HOSTED WATER RESCUE SEMINAR

BY: BATTALION CHIEF DOUGLAS HOYT

On March 2, 2017, the MABAS Division 1 Water Rescue Team held a seminar at the Prairie Center for the Arts in Schaumburg. The seminar, in its second year, was attended by over 90 participants from Division 1 and surrounding MABAS divisions, as well as by members of several agencies from Wisconsin and Indiana. It was also live-streamed on YouTube. A highlight of this year’s seminar was a special presentation for Mike Rodgers of the Elk Grove Village F.D. for his work in establishing a

Dive Rescue team in Division 1, and his over 35 years of service as a member of that team. The seminar also gave participants from around the region a chance to network and share information.

The seminar was first held in 2016 as a way to ensure that all Division 1 water rescue personnel were familiar with Division policies, procedures and assets. This model was expanded upon in 2017, with talks on a variety of water rescue topics, some of which were more specific

to Division 1, and some of a more general nature. The seminar was sponsored in part by Interspiro and DJ SCUBA, and included lunch for participants and a variety of door prizes. Specific topics and presenters included:

- An overview of water rescue assets in MABAS Division 1, their locations and potential uses, by Division Chief Dwayne Wood of the Arlington Heights F.D.

*Continued on next page.*

## IL-TF-1 K9 TEAM TRAINING

By: Kevin Lyne

"An Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force is a multi-disciplined organization which conducts search, rescue, and recovery in the technical rescue disciplines to include: structural collapse, rope rescue, vehicle extrication, machinery extrication, confined space (permit-required, non-cave, non-mine), trench, excavation, and water operations in a US&R environment" (FEMA National Integration Center resource typing). As such, the team is required to "conduct training and exercises to maintain readiness including, but not limited to, deployment exercises, mobilization exercises, and training sessions/drills.

"The US&R Resource will ensure training and exercise activities meet national standards, requirements, and certifications to operate within a US&R environment." (2016 National US&R Standard)

In March, the Illinois Urban Search and Rescue Team, IL-TF 1, conducted its monthly training. To comply with the National US&R Standard and insure that the team meets FEMA resource typing requirements, multiple training topics or subjects were covered.



The Rescue group conducted Rope Technician Skills training at NIPSTA. The Hazardous Materials and Logistics groups conducted water purification training. This training was provided by the Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (CCDHSEM) at the MABAS MRC. Civilian members completed Technical Rescue Awareness training to meet general training requirements.

IL-TF 1 Team Veterinarian Dr. Newman presented a Canine Emergency Field Care course. This presentation was the first offering of this position specific training course required under the new National US&R Standard. This course was opened up to fire, law enforcement and other search and rescue agencies. Numerous agencies from Illinois, Indiana and Missouri were represented.



## MABAS DIVISION 1 HOSTED WATER RESCUE SEMINAR

BY: BATTALION CHIEF DOUGLAS HOYT

*Continued From Page 6*

- Best practices for post-incident decontamination of personnel, and use of the McCaw DF200 system, by FF Joe Hamilton from the Elk Grove Village F.D.
- Incident Command for water rescue incidents, including the use of the various Division 1 forms and worksheets, by Battalion Chief Doug Hoyt of the Palatine F.D.
- Reduction in risk for public safety diving by use of surface supplied air System's, by Lt. Todd Rishling from Elk Grove Village F.D.
- Technology resources, including the use of the ROV, sector scan sonar, sidescan sonar, the new
- Division 1 tablet computers, and a discussion on emerging tech such as drones and GPS mapping; a discussion by several presenters led by FF Sam Foster from the Des Plaines F.D.
- UST: Underwater Survival Training, a session on high-intensity skills training for survival in high-stress incidents by FF Eric Zach of the Des Plaines F.D.
- Maintenance and repair of dive gear, and the tracking and documentation thereof, presented by Dan Howard from DJ SCUBA
- A look at the Division 1 Water Rescue Google drive and associated Google forms and QR codes, now in use for over a year, and how it has affected record keeping of all types, by FF Joe Markowski of the Streamwood F.D.
- Response to "car in the water" calls (historically the most common water rescue team calls in Division 1), including use of lift bags and tow trucks, by Lt. Todd Rishling from the Elk Grove Village F.D.

## WHITE HALL FIREFIGHTERS RESPOND TO STRUCTURE FIRE

By Chief Beckman

Firefighters in White Hall, Illinois responded to a massive blaze during the morning hours of Tuesday, January 31, 2017.

A four-alarm fire brought several pieces of fire apparatus from five fire departments that were called to assist White Hall Fire Department fight a fire that originated in one of three buildings that burnt in the 110 block of Main Street in White Hall.



It is believed that the fire started in an apartment in one of the buildings and spread to a vacant building to the south and an antiques shop on the north. Two occupants were inside the two-story building at the time and got out safely. A beauty shop & fitness center suffered smoke damage, but was otherwise spared.

Fire Chief Gary Sheppard said that the fire became increasingly hard to fight due to limited water from the water mains and low pressure, which meant that water had to be hauled in with Tenders from Roodhouse approximately three miles away.

After the fire was somewhat under control in the late afternoon hours and knowing that dark would be rapidly approaching, command made a request through his dispatch center for their divisions Generator/Light Tower (Division 35) to respond to the scene.



Along with that request, he made an interdivisional request for an additional three Generator/Light Towers for night time operation.

Those Generator/Light Towers came from Divisions 50, 56, & 65 and were delivered to the scene just before or right at dark.

Chief Sheppard's forward thinking of dark approaching and making those request in a timely fashion allowed for operations to continue seamlessly into the nighttime hours. White Hall is located about 70 miles north of St. Louis in Green County.

## ILTF-1 K9 TRAINING IN FLORIDA

K9 Jack and I are fortunate to be training with Florida Task Force K9s. These amazing K9s and their handlers are from the six Florida Task Forces including both FEMA and SUSAR teams. Although they train throughout the State, they train regularly at FLTF2 at Broward Fire Academy and FLTF1 at Urban Search and Rescue Training Facility Miami Dade Fire Department.

I received a warm welcome and appreciate the opportunity to train and share ideas with them.





# MABAS INCIDENT SUPPORT TEAM (MIST)

## “FIREFIGHTERS HELPING FIREFIGHTERS”

By: Richard Mikel & Lisa Alfaro

During a large-scale incident, your agency can quickly become overwhelmed by the massive responsibility of safely and effectively managing the emergency scene. Help is available to you through a MABAS Incident Support Team (MIST). There is no need to try to do this alone; MIST is designed to support your incident as a MABAS Hazmat, Dive, or Technical Rescue Team would.

The MIST is a team put together by you to assist other MABAS departments. A regional team of Command Officers could be from various MABAS Divisions who have experience, education, and training to competently perform in the various positions of the incident command structure within the framework of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The MIST brings its own supplies, equipment, and expertise to ASSIST YOU in managing YOUR incident. One of the key elements here is that the MIST is local. If your community suffers an incident of a large, complex, or prolonged nature, the assistance you need, and need quickly, can be readily available through the MIST program. In the early phases of a complicated incident, your MABAS partners are able to reach you quickly to help support or develop your plan to handle the challenges you are facing and will face when the incident is over. It is important to remember, state and federal emergency aid formulas demand thresholds be met to qualify for aid in rebuilding. Aside from giving your community the most effective and efficient command system possible, having the support of the MIST early in your incident could assist you in record tracking absolutely vital in ensuring your town receives critical federal or state disaster money long after immediate danger clears.



Many individual departments and MABAS Divisions establish command teams designated to quickly respond to various emergency incidents and provide support to Incident Commanders. Oftentimes these command teams of neighboring Chief Officers deploy on a weekly, or even daily, basis to assist in handling what some may consider to be the more “routine” incidents. The MIST is not intended to replace those command teams. The MIST is intended to function more in line with National Incident Management System guidelines and standards established for Type 4 or Type 5 Incident Management Teams. The MIST can assist you either in managing your incident at its current level or assist you in transitioning your command structure to a Type III Incident Management Team if escalating conditions warrant such action.

### The MABAS Incident Support Team (MIST) can:

- Provide a team of emergency responders who will look at your incident with you and help you manage it from an “All Hazards” perspective.
- Perform specific staff and command assignments at *your* discretion, for *your* incident.
- Aid in your development of NIMS-compliant Incident Action Plans.

### The MABAS Incident Support Team can assist with:

- Natural disasters (tornado, high wind events, ice storms, flooding, earthquake)
- Domestic or foreign terrorist incidents
- Long, complicated travel-related incidents (train derailments or aircraft incidents)
- Hazardous materials incidents of multiple operational periods
- Periods of civil unrest, both planned and spontaneous
- Public events requiring the response/involvement of multiple agencies
- Transitioning your Command

Thankfully, incidents such as those listed happen infrequently; however, when they do occur, we are expected to handle them safely and efficiently with little, and sometimes no, advance notice. The MABAS Incident Support Team is one more way in which your MABAS partners are there to assist you in your time of need.

**We’re working to form MABAS Incident Support Teams BEFORE we suffer that incident that takes over your community! Be a part of the solution. Contact your MABAS Operations Chief or MABAS Plans Branch Chief Tim Littlefield for further information and assistance. Remember, there is strength in numbers! MABAS, Got Your Back!**



Podrunners Purchased for MIST Teams

NEW APPARATUS



MABAS Illinois  
Swift Water Rescue Trailer

DID YOU KNOW??

256

Command staff attended 2017 MABAS Training Summit.

184

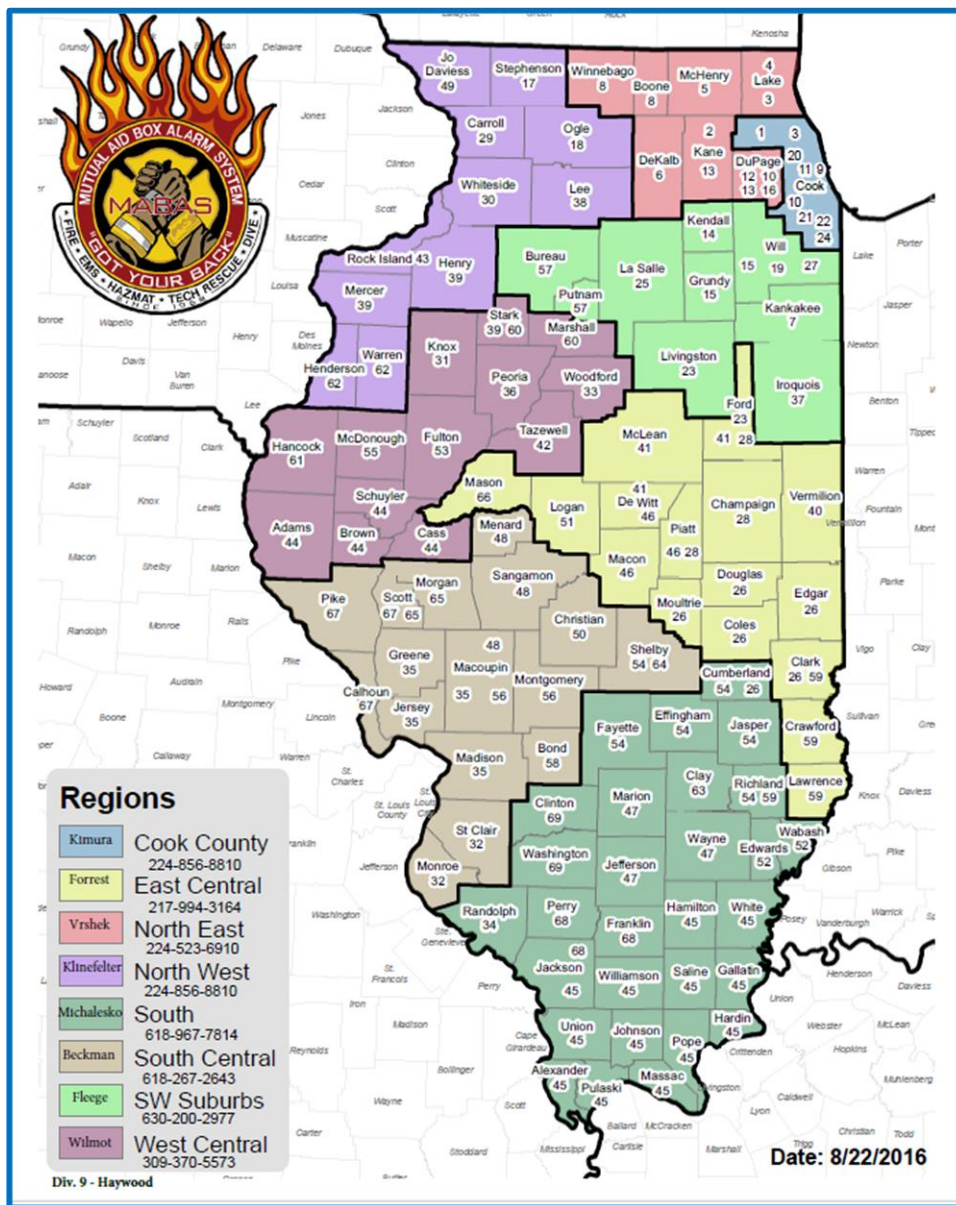
Dispatchers attended the 2017 MABAS Training Summit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

MABAS, ILLINOIS  
847-403-0500



# MABAS DIVISION MAP WITH BRANCH CHIEFS



## QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Has your Department/Division responded to a call or had a big event and you would like MABAS to add it to our newsletter, Do you have any questions or comments about our quarterly issue of Back Talk please feel free to e-mail or call. We look forward to suggestions and comments.

E-mail to: [Littlefield@mabas-il.org](mailto:Littlefield@mabas-il.org) Littlefield @ 847-403-0511

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