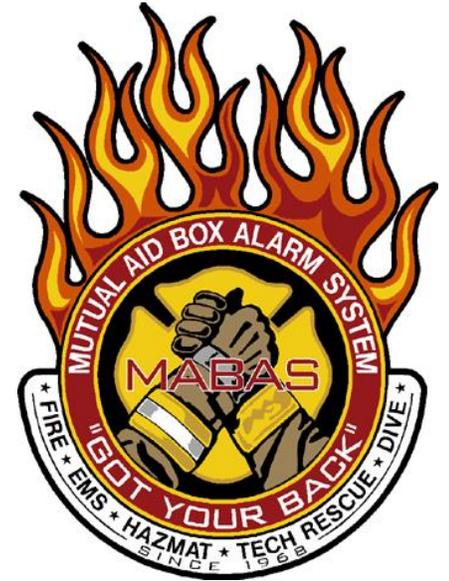


# “ Got Your Back Talk”

## MABAS Illinois



VOLUME 18.1

IN THIS ISSUE

## From The President:

by Chief Jeffrey C. Macko

I would like to thank all the folks that attended Jay Reardon's retirement party! It was a bit of a cold night, but I think everyone enjoyed themselves. There were a lot of nice tributes that Jay and his family greatly appreciated. As a final tribute, the Leadership Board has approved changing the name of our MABAS facility to the (Jay P. Reardon MABAS Readiness Center). Jay and his lovely wife, Darlene, are spending the next couple of months in their home in Florida; we wish them well.

On another note, our new Finance Ops Chief, Bernie Lyons, started this last December filling Glenn Eriksen's position when he moved to CEO. Bernie is retired Deputy Chief from Arlington Heights Fire and is settling into the position very well.

I want to make all of you aware that we are not submitting any legislation this session. With an estimated 30 to 40 legislators turning over this year, we quite frankly need to see how everything shuffles out. However, the Leadership Board is continuing to work with folks in Springfield to accomplish our goal of a sustained funding source.

Now that the holidays are over, and I hope you all had a great holiday season, it's time for the annual MABAS-IL Training Summit, February 5th through the 9th. Once again, the staff has put together a great program for the Summit that should be beneficial to all that attend. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there!

Safe Travels!

President

Jeffrey C. Macko

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## Save the Date

2018 MABAS Illinois  
Training Summit  
February 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>.

Marriot Hotel Bloomington  
Normal, Illinois

# Prevent Water Damage While You Are Away

By: Familyhandyman.com

Water damage from frozen pipes, ruptured washer hoses, leaking supply lines and dripping water heaters costs billions every year. This checklist will help you avoid water leak problems in your house.



Shutting off the main valve that controls all the water for your home is the best protection against catastrophic water damage. Everyone in your home should know where the main water shutoff valve is located so they can stop the water in an emergency. And you should turn it off whenever you leave home, even overnight. If you're not sure where it is, look for your water meter; the main shutoff will be located nearby.

Many water meter setups have two valves, one on the street side of the meter and one on the house side. If you live in a colder climate, you'll typically find the main shutoff in the basement near the front of the house. In warmer climates, it will be outside your home attached to an exterior wall or in an underground box with a removable lid.

There are two types of main shutoff valves: the gate valve and the ball valve. The gate valve is common in older homes and has a round handle that must be turned a number of times to open or close the valve. Gate valves are designed to be fully open or fully closed. Water flowing through a partially open gate valve can wear away the metal and cause the valve to fail over time.

The ball valve is more common in newer construction and has a lever handle that needs to be turned 90 degrees to turn the water on or off. You can immediately tell if it's open or not: In the closed position, the lever is perpendicular to the pipes; in the open position it's parallel.

If you've never shut off the main water before, test it before you leave on vacation. Turn on a faucet somewhere in the house and shut off the main water valve. All water flow should stop. An old gate valve can break, so be gentle when you're handling it. If the valve is stuck, leave it alone. If it leaks or doesn't shut off all the way, have a licensed plumber replace the valve or replace it yourself if you're comfortable with a straightforward plumbing project. You'll need to call your water department (and possibly pay a small fee) to have the water to your house turned off at the curb stop while you make the repair.

If you have a well, shut off the electrical switch for the well when you leave for an extended period so it won't pump any water while you're gone.



If you can't shut off the main water supply because you have an automatic sprinkler system or someone watering the plants while you're gone, shut off the valves to the most common sources of water damage such as dishwashers, icemakers and washing machines, in case a hose cracks or lets go. Individual shutoff valves or "stops" are installed on the supply lines leading to most appliances as well as to toilets and faucets.

Typical supply stops have a small round or oval handle that you turn clockwise to shut off the flow of water.

The shutoff to your refrigerator's icemaker might be located under the sink or in the basement. If your shutoff valve looks like the one to the right, consider replacing it with a standard shutoff valve.



Rubber or plastic supply lines that lead from shutoff valves to appliances, faucets and toilets become brittle and can leak or even break as they age. Since you're messing with your shutoff valves anyway, inspect the supply lines too. If you find any leaks, cracks, bulges or signs of corrosion, replace the lines before you leave town. Your best choice is line encased in a braided stainless steel sheath. A pair of washing machine hoses costs less than \$20 at home centers. Shorter versions for faucets or a toilet are also available.

Don't wait for a vacation to check your supply lines. With 10 minutes and a flashlight, you can inspect every line in your house.

*Continued On Page 7*

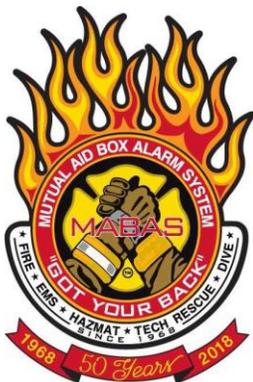




Chief Executive Officer Glenn Ericksen

# A Message from MABAS-Illinois

By: Chief Glenn Ericksen



As we move into the new year, I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season. 2018 looks to present MABAS with new opportunities and challenges.

On Saturday January 6, 2018, MABAS held a retirement celebration for Chief Jay Reardon as he has completed his tenure with MABAS and will be wintering in Florida for a much-deserved break.



Funding issues again will be on the forefront for MABAS in this new year. But that is nothing new for those of us in the fire service. Federal grant funding for MABAS is secured through July 2019, but questions remain in Washington D.C on future funding. In 2018, we will continue the quest to secure a stable funding source outside of the Federal grant process. To that end, we have partnered with other members of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force in the creation of a future needs report to be submitted to the Governor outlining the financial needs of MABAS to continue to provide the level of response capability in future years. But, with this effort, questions arise regarding justification of any State funds requested to replace outdated and worn equipment or support of MABAS Special Response Teams.

We will need to be more aggressive in documenting what MABAS provides daily to the residents of Illinois. We may need everyone's help in this process as we explore options.

The MABAS Staff has been very busy planning for the 2018 MABAS Command & Dispatchers Summit to be held again in Bloomington beginning February 5, 2018 at the Marriott Bloomington-Normal. We have worked very hard to present a lineup of speakers who will present current and topical programs you can use. We look forward to seeing you at the Summit.



## Pictures from the Governor's Visit



# A Letter from IL-TF1 Medical Team Manager

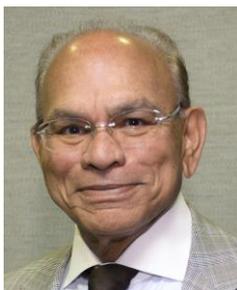
Dr. Raj Lal

## Medical Update for MABAS January 2018

The New 2017 BP Guidelines: Published online November 20, 2017, JAMA.

The American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association (ACC/AHA) have now produced the 2017 Guidelines for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation and Management of High Blood Pressure in Adults. The scope of this guideline is much more extensive than its previous one in 2014, examining a broader range of topics including the definition of hypertension, diagnostic workup and evaluation, Lifestyle management strategies both for prevention and for treatment, blood pressure (BP) treatment thresholds and initial drug choices, and long-term monitoring. The ACC/AHA 2017 guideline also considers a broader range of evidence in forming the recommendations, including epidemiological studies and, in selected cases, expert opinion. It is not the purpose of this update to summarize the full list of recommendation, instead, we focus most likely to affect current clinical practice.

The first noteworthy change in the 2017 guideline relates to the definition of hypertension and treatment targets. The guideline now categorizes BP a normal (systolic BP [SBP] <120 mm Hg AND diastolic BP [DBP] <80 mm Hg); Stage 1 hypertension (SBP 130-139 mm Hg or DBP <80-89 mm Hg); and Stage 2 hypertension (SBP ≥140 mm Hg OR ≥90 mm Hg). Although the exact cut points for each of these classifications are somewhat arbitrary, there is well characterized and strong epidemiological evidence to support a generally linear association between lower SBP and DBP and cardiovascular risk. From a clinical perspective, lowering the diagnostic thresholds for "hypertension" beyond previous guidelines will significantly increase the



number of individuals with this diagnosis. Importantly, this guideline uses a uniform BP definition of elevated BP and hypertension for all individuals, without regard to patient age or comorbid illness status. Under this guideline, the prevalence of hypertension among American adults is 46 percent compared with 32 percent under the old benchmark (the JNC 7 definition). To confirm a new diagnosis of hypertension, an out-of-office confirmation of elevated BP is recommended, especially, the need for individuals to take their own BP measurement outside of the clinical setting i.e. self-measured blood pressure (SMBP).

This new guideline does not mean these newly patients with hypertension will face dramatic new risks or that physicians need to immediately begin medication treatment for most. The guideline is meant to prevent strokes, heart attacks and other cardiac problems through earlier action – a combination of lifestyle changes for some, depending on the circumstances--- to control high BP. This guideline behooves us to monitor our Blood pressure and take the necessary steps to get the blood pressure under control. This will entail us working with our personal physicians to create a treatment plan that focuses on healthy lifestyle changes such as exercising, eating a healthy diet, reducing salt intake, drinking alcohol in moderation, losing weight if overweight, and using anti-hypertensive medication when needed. Most individuals with SBP between 130-139 mm Hg or DBP between 80-89 mm Hg will not require anti-hypertensive medication to treat their high BP under

the new guideline. For example, a 10-pound weight loss can result in a 5 mm Hg reduction in blood pressure in an individual with high blood pressure.

## Why this New 2017 ACC/AHA Guidelines are Important to MABAS:

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) report, "Firefighters Fatalities in the United States in 2016," identifies and analyzes all on-duty U.S. firefighter's fatalities that occurred last year to better understand their causes and how to prevent them.

### **Eighty-nine firefighters (56 volunteer, 23 careers and 10 wildland agency) died while on duty in 2016.**

- Activities related to emergency incidents resulted in the deaths of 36 firefighters.
- Seventeen firefighters died while engaging in activities at the scene of a fire.
- Ten firefighters died while responding to emergency incidents.
- Nineteen firefighters died as a result of vehicle crashes.
- Heart attacks were the most frequent nature of fatal injury with 40 firefighter's deaths.
- Nine firefighters died while they were engaged in training activities.

Hence, the New 2017 ACC/AHA Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of Hypertension has relevance to our US&R Team TF1 working under the umbrella of MABAS for optimum effective performance during the training and more so under the deployment.

We, the medical physician managers and our medical specialists take our obligations seriously and consider a privilege to take care of our team members during the training and deployment.

We wish each one of you, the Happy New Year in the best of health and be Safe performing your tasks daily.

# North Chicago Fire Department

## Horse Extrication

In the early morning of Wednesday January 10th, The North Chicago Fire Department received a peculiar call for a "horse extraction" a once-in-a-career scenario. On arrival, crews were met with a horse hanging half in and half out of a trailer window in obvious distress.

The owner had purchased a trailer in Kentucky, and a mare for his wife to ride as she recovers from cancer. As he drove home he stopped at the Full Moon, 1300 Skokie Highway in North Chicago, Illinois. Where he ate and took a nap, went he went to leave and started to back up, and the mare managed to jump out of the window of the trailer and was thrashing about out the window. A bystander witnessed the scene and went to retrieve a Bobcat in attempt to stabilize her front feet hoofs, but she was still struggling.

The owner then unhooked his truck that had been pulling the trailer to the window and backed in and opened the bed of the pick-up, so the horse could support the front half of her body, still the mare was a few inches to high, he then had to ratchet down the trailer so the hoofs were supported on the bed of his truck and he then called 911.

Battalion Chief Joshua Rickabaugh, Lieutenant James Axtt and crew members' firefighters Marc Harman, Brian Henderson, Carlos Perez and Leonard Cooksey quickly assessed the situation and discussed possibilities of safely and quickly removing the horse.



First options was to cut the side of the trailer to make shift a door for the horse thus freeing it, however crews felt the mare would be spooked and may succumb to greater injury, this would cause a significant amount of damage to the trailer as well as jeopardize crews and have greater potential of injury, second thought was to have personnel to lift and push the back half of the horse the rest of the way out of the window, however they would still need to assist the mare off the truck and pose a higher injury risk to the responding members, or option three, use our ladder truck as a hoist to lift the mare up and away from the trailer.

After a brief discussion Lieutenant Axtt and Battalion Chief Rickabaugh decided the best plan of action was option three, use of the ladder truck.

As crews begin to plot out positioning and the make shift hoist, the owner was instrumental in his assistance and did an amazing job of calming the mare down by placing his coat over the horse's head to cut down provocation as well crews turned off our strobe lights to omit other distractions.

Lieutenant Axtt fashioned and placed a harness using a 3" blitz hose line around the horse, he then connected the hose harness to the bottom of the platform of the truck using rescue rope and carabiners.

Once all gear was in place crews directed the ladder truck operator to remove slack from the system. Then slowly the horse was lifted and the hind end was removed out of the trailer. While the horse was suspended just enough, the pickup truck was removed and the horse was placed gently on the ground and was released back to the owner.

The owners from Seymour, Wisconsin near Green Bay, followed up with the Fire Department and reported the horse was doing excellent and survived the ordeal with only minor cuts and no serious injuries. Expressing the Firefighters and Police officers all showed a great amount of empathy for their mare, stating they fears if not for quick actions of the crew the outcome could have been a much different, but transpired into a very nice ending. The owner stated he may rename his mare from "Birdy" to "Lucky" as she is one very lucky horse.

I want to specifically recognize Lt. James Axtt for his quick, out of the box thinking, technical ability and leadership in direction of the call.

Our hope is "Lucky" will have many more years to take rides and graze happily in the fields of Seymour Wisconsin.



## Interested in IL-TF-1

By: Chief Lyne

Fire departments are seeing a growing number of member retirements these days. Over the past couple years, the Illinois Urban Search and Rescue Task Force, IL-TF 1, has also been affected by this. In the last 2 years, IL-TF 1 has lost 51 members, mostly due to retirements. In this time, the task force has only added 32 members. Most of these have been in the Hazardous Materials Specialists (22) and Logistics Specialists (9) positions. The task force has added a couple new physicians, Canine Specialists and a structural engineer. The cost factor to add new members is around \$4500.00 per member. IL-TF 1's maximum roster strength is 240 members. When activated, the task force can respond with an 80-person team or in various other mission ready packages.



In order to maintain readiness, the task force must continue to add members to fill vacant positions to maintain roster depth for its various response types.

To fill vacant positions, the task force is now accepting applications for the position of Rescue Specialist. Consideration has been made for the selection criteria for Rescue Specialist candidates based on the training

requirements for a member on a MABAS-Illinois Divisional Technical Rescue Team and the rescue certification available through the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshall (OSFM). Although not required, it is expected that most of the applicants will be members of a MABAS Technical Rescue Teams from around the state. We are looking for highly qualified and motivated individuals to submit applications for the highly competitive and prestigious position as a member of MABAS Illinois Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 1.

The application and details can be found on the MABAS website at: [www.mabas-il.org](http://www.mabas-il.org)

[www.mabas.org](http://www.mabas.org)

## Welcome Our New Administrative-Section Chief!!!



**Chief Bernie Lyons**

Bernie Lyons joins MABAS after almost 26 years with the Arlington Height Fire Department. Bernie has served many roles over the course of his career. He served as a Paramedic, Dive Team and Hazardous Materials Team member and as the department's Training Division Chief and Director of the Arlington Heights Fire Academy. For the past 11 years, Bernie was the department's Deputy Chief of Administration, where he was responsible for the oversight of the department's EMS, Public Education and Training Divisions, in addition to overseeing the department's budget and serving on a variety of Village boards and committee. Bernie has also served the last five years as MABAS Division 1's Secretary/Treasurer.

Bernie is originally from Chicago and a graduate of Chicago's Gordon Technical High School. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Journalism and Mass Communication from Drake University in Des Moines, IA, and has a Chief Fire Officer Certification from the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Bernie's late father, Thomas Lyons served for 35 years on the Chicago Fire Department and retired at the rank of Captain.

Bernie lives in Buffalo Grove with his wife, Mary, and their five children—Conor, Austin, Declan, Patrick and Nora.

# MABAS Incident Support Team (MIST)

By: Lisa Alfaro

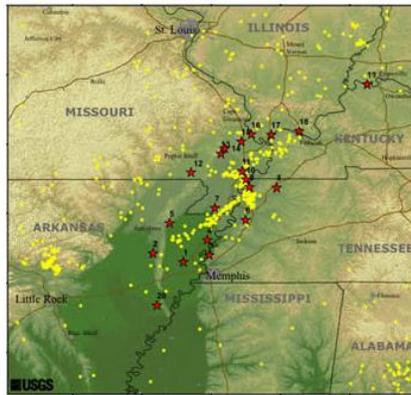
## Coming soon to you!

We've described a MABAS Incident Support Team as a LOCAL, regional team put together by you to assist other MABAS departments to mitigate a large-scale incident. The 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). Many Divisions have the parts but "build" a team as they go along during an incident. It is our vision to put those parts together. Get organized! Get prepared in every conceivable way for any large-scale incident that may occur.

We understand during large-scale incidents a stricken community may be crippled. The MIST brings its own supplies, equipment, and expertise to assist you in managing your incident. Because it is local, the assistance you need can be readily available. The MIST is designed to quickly be available to help support or develop your plan to handle the challenges you are facing.

While giving your community an effective and efficient command system when you are in dire need, MIST could serve not only to assist you during the incident but after the incident; record tracking would help ensure your town receives critical federal or state disaster money long after immediate danger clears.

Rest assured the MIST is not intended to REPLACE command teams but is designated to quickly respond to various emergency incidents to SUPPORT incident commanders.



The MIST function is more in line with NIMS guidelines and standards established for Type 4 or Type 5 Incident Management Teams. It 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.

Remember, the MABAS Incident Support Team is designed to provide a team of LOCAL 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, and aid in your development of NIMS-compliant incident action plans.

Folks, never forget we live on a rock and our section of rock contains the New Madrid Seismic Zone. We must work hard to be ready for anything and everything. In 2018, we plan to work toward assisting your Division to develop a MABAS Incident Support Team! MABAS-IL Got Your Back!

## Prevent Water Damage While You Are Away

By: Familyhandyman.com

### Continued From Page 2

Sump pump systems help keep groundwater out of your basement. Before a vacation, test your sump pump by filling the sump pit with water and making sure the pump is actually pumping out the water.

If it doesn't, be sure the sump pump is plugged in (a surprisingly common oversight) and check the breaker as well. Also make sure the outlet pipe isn't frozen or clogged and that it directs water away from your home. Clean the hole in the discharge line and check that the motor is running

smoothly. Also consider adding a backup battery to your sump pump so that it functions during power outages, which seem to go hand-in-hand with heavy rainstorms.



A 1,000-sq.-ft. roof will shed about 620 gallons of water during a 1-in. rainfall, or about 103 gallons per downspout if you have six downspouts. That's a lot of water dumped right next to your basement. Although it may seem obvious, clean and properly functioning gutters with downspouts that empty away from the foundation are key to avoiding major and expensive home repairs.

So before you leave for a vacation, take a walk around the house and check your gutters. Check to see if leaves, sticks or other debris are blocking the inlet of the

**Continued On Page 9**

FAST FACTS



Visit to MRC

On December 13, 2017 Governor Bruce Rauner visited the MABAS Readiness Center to sign First Net.

DID YOU KNOW??

5<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>

Detroit was the 5<sup>th</sup> largest city in the United States in 1950 with 1.9 million people. Detroit is currently the 23<sup>rd</sup> largest city in the United States with 673,000 people. (Census Bureau)

99<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

Phoenix was the 99<sup>th</sup> largest city in the United States in 1950 with 107,000 people. Phoenix is currently the 5<sup>th</sup> largest city in the United States with 1.6 million people. (Census Bureau)

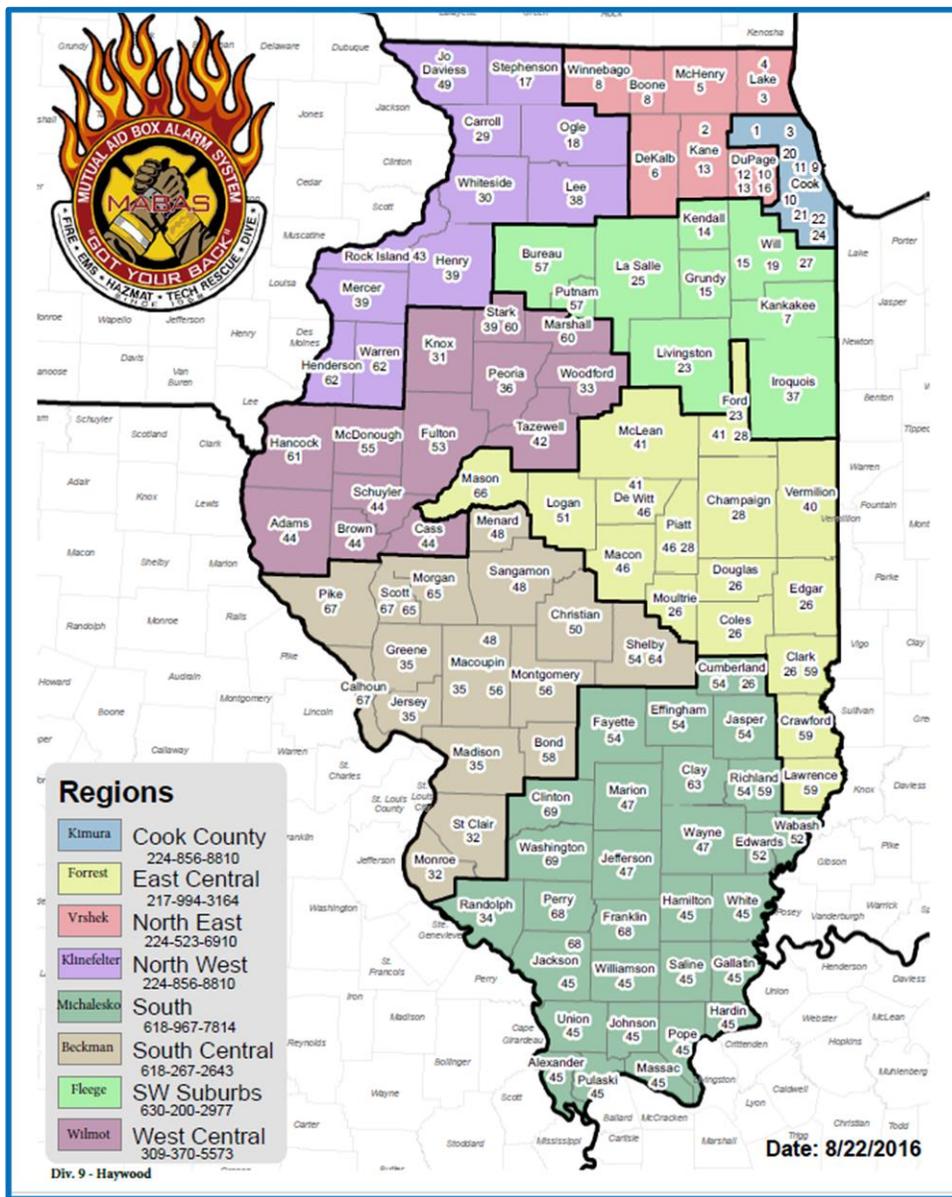
MABAS, Illinois

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

# Prevent Water Damage While You Are Away

By: Familyhandyman.com

*Continued From Page 7*

downspout and preventing water from flowing down the spout. Also make sure your downspout extensions are discharging the water far enough from the foundation and that you always reattach them after you mow your lawn.



## Handyman

Outdoor faucets are the first plumbing parts to freeze and burst when the temperature drops. So always close the supply shutoff valve inside the house before you head off on vacation (see Figure B). This is a good idea even if you have a frostproof faucet, since you'll probably turn down the thermostat when you leave home.

After turning off the supply shutoff, open the outside faucets to drain the remaining water out of the pipes. Never leave a hose connected to an outdoor faucet: It traps water in the faucet, which can freeze and crack open the faucet.

Another tip to avoid frozen plumbing is to turn the heat down to 60 degrees F when you leave, but not lower. You want to keep things warm enough inside the house so that water pipes running through exterior walls don't freeze and burst. Leave the doors of bathroom vanities and kitchen sink cabinets open to allow more heat to get to the plumbing, and consider using a temperature sensor (see "High-Tech Plumbing Protection," below).



Temperature sensor

Temperature sensors detect furnace breakdowns and can help prevent frozen pipes and resulting water damage when interior temperatures dip. These temperature sensors, which come in battery-operated models and versions that can be plugged into a wall outlet, turn on or off any device plugged into them depending on the air temperature. A lamp plugged into the sensor will turn on when the temperature inside the house falls below a certain level, alerting a neighbor to call you or a service person.

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

**Article taken from:**

<https://www.familyhandyman.com/plumbing/prevent-water-damage-while-you-are-away/view-all/>

## What's new in the MABAS IT Department!!!

By: Nick Westmoreland

The IT department of MABAS has been completing the server upgrade that started in July of 2016. We are hopeful to complete the project in the near future. With the upgrade, we switched over to Office 365. In doing so we are taking advantage of benefits that Office 365 offers. Some of the more notable benefits: All users have been upgraded to Office Suite 2016. This includes Skype for Business and SharePoint which will enhance document sharing and communication between MABAS users. One big improvement that Office 365 offers is a Ticketing System which will be implemented for all MABAS users. Training will take place so that all understand the benefits it will offer. Users will be able to make a ticket for any supported device that is having issues. The Ticketing system will contain a variety of new features improving communication and response time to the MABAS users from the IT department. The ticketing system will also increase the level of organization and allow the creator of the ticket to track the status of their ticket as well as progress being made. Putting this ticketing system in place offers numerous other benefits to the company's day to day activities.

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facebook



MABAS Branch Chief  
Spence Kimura

## Do You Know!!!!

Chief Spencer Kimura began his fire service career in 1980 at the Glenbrook Fire Protection District. In 1992, the Glenbrook Fire District merged with the Glenview Fire Department where Spencer rose through the ranks retiring as Battalion Chief in February 2012. Spencer served as Fire Chief of the Riverside Fire Department from August 2011 through July 2015. He holds a Master's of Science degree from National-Louis University, Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University, and (2) Applied Associates of Science degrees from Oakton Community College. He has several professional credential certifications including OSFM Chief Fire Officer, National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer, Center for Public Safety Excellence Chief Fire Officer and Chief Training Officer, and Institute of Fire Engineers MI Fire E grade.

Spencer resides in Glenview with his wife Heather. They have two children: Ryan and Tiffanie. Ryan and his wife Allison reside in Chicago with their new daughter. Ryan is a partner CFO/CTO at Local Foods in Chicago. Tiffanie and her husband Brendon reside in Naperville. Tiffanie has her Doctorate in Physical Therapy and works at the Naperville School District.

Spencer represents the following MABAS Divisions 1, 3, 10, 11, 20, 21, 22 & 24.

## Letter from Operations Section Chief Dave Haywood

As we bid farewell to 2017 and welcome in the new year we reflect on the successes and opportunities we enjoyed during the previous year, but we must also remember and learn from the weaknesses and obstacles that we encountered. Much like local fire agencies and regional MABAS Divisions, MABAS-Illinois faced challenges securing appropriate funding for staffing, equipping and training Mobile Support Teams and their members, capitol replacement programs, and conducting full scale exercises. We will continue with that struggle to maintain the capabilities and expectations of our member agencies and those that they serve.

MABAS also had many successes that we hope to be able to sustain. We continued with the Decontamination Vehicle refurbishments and hope to complete that project in the next fiscal year. After completing all 25 Decontamination vehicles, we hope to get many more years of service from these useful vehicles. We also continued with the distribution of bunk bed cots for divisional Western Shelters and we intend to complete that project in 2018. Equipping all 69 MABAS

divisions with bunk beds will improve our state-wide capabilities and increase resource expectations when requesting shelters. We also assisted local Fire agencies and MABAS Divisions at multiple areas of flooding including levy breaches, severe storms and high winds, train derailments, passenger bus roll-overs and more. Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescue Teams overall health improved state-wide and teams have been moved from a non-deployable, probationary status to fully certified and deployable. Congratulations to those teams and their commitment to the MABAS-Illinois system.

Several Table Top and Full-Scale Exercises were conducted across the state that identified many strengths of MABAS members and the MABAS system, and they also highlighted weaknesses that we will improve upon and exercise again this year. We are in the planning phases of a large Full-Scale Exercise involving multiple jurisdictions, multiple locations and multiple disciplines from local to Federal resources. More to follow later.

MABAS also witnessed the passing of the Chief Executive Officers torch from Chief Reardon to Chief Ericksen. Chief Reardon expected excellence in everything and everyone around him and the state-wide capabilities developed under his watch are second to none. Words like "Benchmark," "National Standard" and "Best Practice" were common terminology in his world. Jay will be missed but at the same time we look forward to collectively helping Chief Ericksen write the next chapter in the MABAS book. Under Glenn's leadership and guidance, I foresee continued growth and improvements in our state-wide capabilities.

As I prepare this article, the MABAS staff is busy with last minute preparations for The MABAS Annual Training Summit. This year's summit will again be in Bloomington during the first full week of February and the agenda is full of informative speakers and sessions. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Summit.



## Rockford Fire Dept. Surface Ice Rescue Training

By: FF Maschke

On 1/11/2018, Rockford Fire Departments 16 newest recruits along with 5 Rockford Fire's dive team members were put through a surface ice rescue technician program on the last day of the OSFM Water Operations class. This occurred at Levings Lake/ West Rock Wake Park in southwest Rockford. Although the water operations class teaches shore support functions and all frontline fire apparatus carry ice rescue suits, this was then perfect time to build a foundation of what was learned all week and take students to the Technician level. Before venturing onto the ice for the first time, students were acclimated in ice rescue suits a controlled pool environment as a confidence builder while working one-on-one with an instructor.



The hands on practical on ice evolutions were broken down into two stations, one for Operations or shore based rescue and another station for Technician level go rescues. The operations station required students to verbally instruct a victim to step-by-step self-rescue, successfully throw a rope bag to victim have victim assist in removal, throw and instruct a victim in correctly using ice awls to self-rescue and to roll away from the hole, inflate a fire hose and coordinate a shore-based rescue, Rockford Fire Departments drone was used to fly a buoyant sling to a victim. This would be extremely beneficial for a long distance or multiple victim rescue situation.

The Technician level station had students rotate through positions as a line tender, primary and back-up rescuer showcasing the roles and responsibilities for each position. Technicians were required to use multiple devices to extricate themselves through the ice. As a Technician, how can you assist in a victims rescue if you cannot self-rescue. Students were encouraged to use multiple rescue tools to assist a rescue including an ice pole and buoyant ice rescue sling while communicating step-by-step with a sometimes not cooperative victim. The RDC was used to the very end on purpose to show that it usually will not be part of plan A but more than likely be part of plans B or C.

The students commented at the end of class how comfortable and at ease they felt in the suits attributing to the pool sessions prior to getting out on the ice. The instructors felt this was the baseline techniques every surface ice rescue technician should know how to accomplish. The next drill will build off of today's accomplishments to incorporate multiple victims at multiple locations at greater distances. The instructors felt confident that every student was able to safely and effectively accomplish a surface ice rescue.



The background features a large, semi-transparent logo for MABAS's 50th anniversary. The logo is circular with a fire flame design at the top. Inside the circle, it says "MUTUAL AID BOY SCOUTS FARM SYSTEM" around the top edge and "GO FOR YOUR BACK" around the bottom edge. In the center, there is a fire hydrant and a fire hose. Below the circle, a banner reads "1968 50 Years 2018".

Welcome to the  
2018  
MABAS-Illinois Training Summit  
February 5-9, 2018  
Marriott Hotel  
Bloomington-Normal, Illinois

**MABAS-ILLINOIS TRAINING SUMMIT  
CHIEFS AND COMMAND  
February 5 – 7, 2018**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>February 5, 2018</b>
0730 – 0830	Continental Breakfast for Committee and Staff Members – Redbird North Lobby
0700 – 1700	Registration – North End
0830 – 0915	Committee Orientation & 2018 Briefings – Redbird C/D
0915 – 1230	Committee Work Sessions
By-Laws Committee – Hunt	Water Rescue Committee – Beaufort
Fleet & Mechanics Committee – Fell A	TCD Committee – Blackburn
MIST Committee – Fell B	US&R Committee – Redbird F
TRT Committee – Fell C	HAZMAT Committee – Broadway
Operations Committee – Redbird E	Fire Intelligence Liaisons – Redbird G
0930 – 1030	Break – Set up near committee meeting rooms
1145 – 1230	Working Committee Lunches (Provided – delivered to Committee rooms)
1300 - 1345	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Dignitaries Comments – Redbird C/D</b></p> <p><b>Pledge of Allegiance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chris Koos, Mayor, Town of Normal</li> <li>- Tari Renner, Mayor, City of Bloomington</li> <li>- Matt Perez, State of Illinois Fire Marshal</li> <li>- Mick Humer, Fire Chief, Town of Normal</li> <li>- Brian Mohr, Fire Chief, City of Bloomington</li> <li>- MABAS Leadership Team Executive Board</li> </ul>
1345 – 1515	<p><b>JCAT Bridging the Gap Between the IC and Public Safety Personnel - Redbird C/D</b>  <i>Corina Johnson, Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team, National Counterterrorism Center; Radicalization and Mobilization Indicators with a Focus on Tactics, Annie Rohrhoff National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC) Representative To The Midwest</i> – JCAT, the IC and Public Safety personnel, bridging the gap; Presentation, briefings relating to the Terrorism Landscape focusing on tactics.</p>
1515 – 1530	Break – Lobby Area
1530 – 1615	Vendor Setup – Redbird A/B
1530 – 1700	<p><b>MABAS Division 38, Making of a Successful Division. Redbird C/D</b>  <i>Jeff Bryant, Fire Chief Amboy Fire Protection District</i> – Presentation will provide an insight into the initiatives they have undertaken to help themselves become a successful Division.</p>
1615 – 1700	Vendor Briefing – Redbird A/B
1700	Administrative Announcements & Day's Summary – Redbird C/D
1800 - 2030	<p>Supper Served – Redbird A/B</p> <p>Tired Travelers with our Vendor Sponsors – Redbird C/D</p>

**MABAS-ILLINOIS TRAINING SUMMIT  
CHIEFS AND COMMAND  
February 5 – 7, 2018**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>February 6, 2018</b>
0730 - 0830	Continental Breakfast for Summit Attendees – Redbird Lobby
0700 – 0900	Summit Registration – North End
0815 – 0830	Welcome and Admin. Announcements - General Session – Redbird C/D
0830 – 1000	<b>Urban Mass Casualty Preparedness and Response – Redbird C/D</b> <i>Intelligence Chief Michael Little, Los Angeles Area Fire Chief Association's (LAAFCA) Regional Training Group</i> – From the Command perspective, the importance of being informed and prepared given the many recent events that have occurred worldwide.
1000 - 1015	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
1015 – 11:45	<b>Clark County Fire Department (Las Vegas NV) Response to Active Shooter / Mass Casualty Incident, Deploying Rescue Task Forces – Redbird C/D</b> <i>Captain Mark Kittelson, Clark County Fire Department and Sergeant Branden Clarkson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department</i> – This presentation is based upon fire and police agencies working together, having previously developed and trained on an agreed upon "rescue task force" response to critical incidents which played out during the real life active shooter incident on October 1, 2017.
1200 - 1315	<b>Working Lunch – Redbird E/F/G</b> <b>MABAS Technology rebuild update and Tier II Process update; Drone and RTF Work Groups updates</b> <i>Tim Littlefield, MABAS Plans Branch Chief; Dave Haywood, MABAS Operations Section Chief and Drone / RTF Work Group Chairmen</i>
1330 - 1500	<b>Civil Unrest in Charlottesville, VA, August 11-12, 2017; Fire &amp; EMS Response: What we learned – Redbird C/D</b> <i>Andrew Baxter, Fire Chief, Charlottesville Fire Department</i> – On August 11-12, 2017, several thousand protesters and counter-protesters clashed in the City of Charlottesville, Virginia over the planned removal of a Confederate monument. The melee resulted in the deaths of one counter-protester and two Virginia State Troopers along with over 40 injuries. This presentation will review the management of the fire and EMS response amidst the largest deployment of public safety resources in Virginia since September 11, 2001. Attendees will leave with a better understanding of how to prepare for, respond to and recover from civil unrest incidents.
1500 - 1530	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
1530 - 1700	<b>SAR (Suspicious Activity Reporting) IAFC model policy – Redbird C/D</b> <i>Robert Giorgio, Emergency Operations Manager, Emergency Management &amp; Corporate Security, Amtrak and Member of the IAFC Terrorism &amp; Homeland Security Committee; Johnathon Paholke, MABAS- Illinois Fire Service Branch Chief in the Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center in Springfield</i> – This presentation will place emphasis on the importance of SAR and the positive case examples where SAR has been used to prevent an incident and provides a guidance to fire departments; how to sustain suspicious activity reporting by providing feedback to fire departments.
1700	Administrative Announcements & Day's Summary – Redbird C/D
Evening	On Your Own – Enjoy Bloomington and Normal

**MABAS-ILLINOIS TRAINING SUMMIT  
CHIEFS AND COMMAND  
February 5 – 7, 2018**

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 7, 2018</b>
0730 – 0830	Continental Breakfast for Attendees – Redbird Lobby
0830 - 1000	<b>Firefighter Mental Health / Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) – Redbird C/D</b> <i>Tom Howard, Executive Director, Illinois Firefighter Peer Support Organization; Jada Hudson M.S. LCPC, CADC, Director of Program Development, Illinois Firefighter Peer Support Organization</i> – A presentation and discussion regarding firefighter mental health, signs and symptoms of PTSD, prevention and assistance available.
1000 - 1015	Break with Vendors – Redbird A/B
1030 - 1200	<b>MABAS “Back to the Basics” &amp; EMAC Process – Redbird C/D</b> <i>Dave Haywood, MABAS-ILLINOIS, Operations Section Chief</i>
1200 - 1300	Lunch on your own
1300 - 1500	MABAS Executive Board Meeting – Redbird C/D
1500 - 1600	Raffle & Door Prizes – Redbird C/D

**MABAS-ILLINOIS TRAINING SUMMIT  
DISPATCHERS  
February 7 - 9, 2018**

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 7, 2018</b>
0800 - 1600	Dispatcher Summit Registration – Redbird North Lobby
1000 – 1030	Welcome to the 2018 MABAS-Illinois Dispatchers Summit – Redbird E/F/G
1030 - 1200	Opening Speaker “Rise Like a Phoenix From the Ashes!” – Redbird E/F/G <i>Keith ‘Doc’ Patterson</i> – The Doctor is back in the house! Join ‘Doc’ as he shares his words of wisdom and inspirational thoughts on what makes us who we are!
1200 - 1330	Conference Registration and Lunch on your own! Explore Bloomington- Normal
1330 - 1500	General Session – Social Media & You      Redbird E/F/G <i>Chief Pete O’Leary, Fond du Lac Wisconsin Fire Department</i> – The How & Why to develop strong media presence for your agency. What speech is not free? We will examine some former public employees who pushed the sent button before they thought things through.
1500 - 1600	Raffle & Door Prizes – Redbird C/D
1600 - 1630	Closing Administrative Remarks – Redbird E/F/G
1800 - 2030	Supper Served – Redbird A/B Tired Travelers with our Vendor Sponsors – Redbird C/D Join us for our ‘Mardi Gras’ themed gathering!!

**MABAS-ILLINOIS TRAINING SUMMIT  
DISPATCHERS  
February 7 – 9, 2018**

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>February 8, 2018</b>
0730 – 0830	Continental Breakfast and Registration for Attendees – <b>North Redbird Lobby</b>
0830 – 0945	<b>General Session – Mattoon School Active Shooter Incident Redbird E/F/G</b> <i>Gracie Finley and Christy Henson, Coles-Moultrie 9-1-1 Center-</i> Join Gracie and Christy as they discuss and offer lessons learned from the active shooter incident at a Mattoon School.
0945 – 1000	<b>Break – North Redbird Lobby</b>
1000 - 1130	<b>MABAS for Beginners – Redbird E/F/G</b> <b>Let's Talk MABAS!!!</b> An open forum discussion on the ins and outs of MABAS and how it works on your Local level. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MABAS – Illinois Communications Mentors</li> <li>- Dispatch Simulator available</li> </ul>
	<b>MABAS Advanced – Redbird D</b> <b>Large Scale Incidents at the Dispatch Level!</b> "Oh, it will never happen here!" <i>Bob Simpson, TCD Committee member</i>
1130 - 1200	<b>Administrative Break</b>
1200 - 1330	<b>Working Lunch – Redbird D</b> <b>MABAS Assets and Special Teams presentation</b>
1330 - 1500	<b>MABAS for Beginners – Redbird E/F/G</b> <b>Radio 101 – "hey you, it's me!"</b> A review of the ins and outs of the radio used in the MABAS world <i>Andy Russell and Matt Diamond</i> <b>Dispatch Simulator Available</b>
1330 – 1500	<b>MABAS Advanced – Redbird D</b> <b>The STIC, A Public Safety Room, The LID, what does this mean and how can it help? – Johnathon Paholke &amp; Alana Sorrentino</b> will walk us through the different tools available to help us prepare for a disaster. <b>MABAS Statewide and beyond! Who, what and when are you going to call! – Redbird E/F/G</b> <i>Mark Sikorski and Tom Clifton</i>
1500 - 1515	<b>Break</b>
1530 - 1700	<b>Open Forum Theater – The Marriott Theater</b> <b>A Colonel, a Chief and a Director walk into a theater:</b> Join Colonel Royal Mortenson, Chris Lienhardt and Pete O'Leary for an enjoyable interactive session discussing our lives in the Fire Service and Dispatch world!
Evening	Enjoy dinner on your own in Bloomington – Normal!

**MABAS-ILLINOIS TRAINING SUMMIT  
DISPATCHERS  
February 7 - 9, 2017**

<b><i>Friday</i></b>	<b><i>February 9, 2018</i></b>
0730 – 0830	Continental Breakfast for Attendees – North Redbird Lobby
0830 – 0900	<b>MABAS Status Update - A State of the Organization Briefing – Redbird E/F/G</b> <i>Chief Glenn Ericksen CEO, MABAS-ILLINOIS</i>
0900 - 1230	<b>Leadership Under Fire! How to be a better leader, regardless of your rank - Redbird E/F/G</b> <i>Colonel Royal P. Mortenson, USMC (ret.), Director of the Illinois Fire Service Institute</i>
1230 - 1245	2018 Dispatcher Summit – Closing Remarks – Redbird E/F/G

## MABAS-ILLINOIS COMMAND SUMMIT KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Corina Johnson, Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team, National Counterterrorism Center**, joined the Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team (JACAT) in July 2017, after five years of prior experience at the National Counterterrorism Center's Directorate of Strategic and Operational Planning, where she worked with the National Security Council staff to develop strategic assessments of national level CT policies, with an emphasis on the Middle East. Corina spent the previous four years as a consultant, supporting various U.S. government agencies as a policy and budget analyst, including conducting war games and other exercises with the Department of Defense Special Operations Command. Corina has a M.A. in National Security Studies from Georgetown University in Washington D.C. and a B.A. in Political Science from Loyola University in Chicago. Corina is also a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, having spent 27 months in South Africa as a Community and Education Development Specialist.

**Annie Rohrhoff, National Counter Terrorism Center Representative to the Midwest**, working with federal, state, local and private sector partners to enhance their counterterrorism capabilities. Annie has worked a broad range of terrorism related issues since joining NCTC in 2013 in the Directorate of Intelligence. Most recently, Annie served as a President's Daily Briefer at the National Security Council. Annie joined the Intelligence Community in 2009 as an al-Qa'ida analyst at the United States Special Operations Command in Tampa, Florida. Annie is a recipient of the Pat Roberts Intelligence Scholar Program fellowship and the NCTC Director's Team Award for her work during a terrorist attack against U.S. interests. Prior to joining the IC, Annie worked as a research assistant at two D.C. area think tanks and authored articles for a variety of publications, including the Washington Times and the New York Times. Annie received a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign, a M.S. from George Mason's School of Conflict Analysis and Resolution and is currently an MBA candidate at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management.

**Jeff Bryant, Fire Chief, Amboy Fire Protection District and MABAS Division 38.**

**Michael Little, serves as the Intelligence Chief for the Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Regional Training Group**, working within the Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC) to develop and execute strategies to ensure effective intelligence sharing between chief officers, first responders and federal intelligence and homeland security agencies and stakeholders. He also works to advance the training and response readiness of Los Angeles area first responders for incidents of national significance, both natural and man-made. He has held leadership positions within the homeland security and counter-terrorism communities for over 14 years. These positions include Homeland Security Chief for the LAFD, where for seven years he coordinated homeland security operational, planning and training programs. Other positions include the Los Angeles Joint Terrorism Task Force, Terrorism Liaison Coordination Branch Director with the JRIC, Consequence Management Cell Manager for the Los Angeles Sheriff Department led Terrorism Early Warning Group and Commander of the LAFD's Arson/Counter-terrorism Section. He currently serves on several national and local homeland security committees and boards. He has traveled to several cities across the United States that have been impacted by terrorist attacks and other disasters, as well as to numerous foreign countries to meet with government officials and first responders and to visit sites that have been touched by acts of terrorism and natural disasters. He holds numerous professional certificates, a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's Degree in Homeland Security from Pennsylvania State University. He attended the University of Southern California's Executive Program in Counter-terrorism, Harvard University's National Preparedness Leadership Initiative and Harvard's Program on Crisis Leadership.

## **MABAS-ILLINOIS COMMAND SUMMIT KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

**Mark Kittelson, Captain, Clark County Fire Department**, has been a member of the Clark County Fire Department in Las Vegas, Nevada, for the past 23 years. His training has included: Heavy Rescue Technician, Nevada Task Force One Search Team Specialist and Search Team Manager, as well as assignments to the Clark County Fire Department Training Division. In 2012, he was given a one-year assignment to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department as a liaison to the Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center and the Multi-Assault Counter Terrorism Action Capabilities (MACTAC) Cadre. In 2016, he completed a four-month assignment with the Metropolitan Police Department where he worked closely with the MACTAC Cadre to improve Southern Nevada's public safety response capabilities. The focus of these improvements was on interoperability while at hostile events. He is currently assigned to the Route 91 Task Force. This task force is responsible for the Route 91 After Action Report which is being jointly created by Clark County Fire Department and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

**Branden Clarkson, Sergeant, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department in Las Vegas, Nevada**, has been a member of the department for the past 12 years. His experience includes Supervisor of the Field Training Program, Detective Sergeant of the Gang Crimes Bureau and Sergeant of the Office of Community Engagement. He is currently assigned to the Organizational Development Bureau Multi Assault Counter Terrorism Action Capabilities Section (MACTAC) where he coordinates training with the first responding agencies of the Las Vegas Valley.

**Andrew Baxter, Fire Chief, Charlottesville Fire Department, Charlottesville, Virginia**, Charlottesville Fire is a CPSE Accredited Agency and ISO Class 1 career fire department that provides fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials and technical rescue response, along with community risk reduction services to the 50,000 citizens of Charlottesville, the University of Virginia and parts of Albemarle County. He began his career in emergency services in 1990 as a volunteer with the Charlottesville-Albemarle Rescue Squad. He worked as a professional firefighter and fire officer for the Henrico County Division of Fire starting in 1995 and retiring in 2015 at the rank of Assistant Fire Chief. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Virginia, is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program and the International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire Service Executive Development Institute. He is licensed as a Registered Nurse and is a Nationally Registered Paramedic. Chief Baxter and his wife Barb reside in Albemarle County and are the proud parents of two children, Kate, age 20 and Peter, Age 19.

## MABAS-ILLINOIS COMMAND SUMMIT KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Robert Giorgio, Emergency Operations Manager, Emergency Management & Corporate Security, Amtrak and Member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs Terrorism & Homeland Security Committee**, started in the Cherry Hill, New Jersey Fire Department as a Junior Firefighter at age 15, he was hired as a full time Firefighter in 1987 and was promoted to Captain, Battalion Chief and Assistant Chief Operations of a consolidated Fire Department serving Cherry Hill, New Jersey, a suburb of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a community of 80,000. In 2001, he was appointed as the Fire Chief, a position he held for 12 years. He served for 3 years with the Delaware Valley Intelligence Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania as a Program Manager of a group of Intelligence Analyst and Watch Center staff, in addition to starting the Fire/EMS Liaison program. He completed a B.A. Degree from Holy Family University in Public Safety Administration, a Master's Degree in Government Administration at the University of Pennsylvania and a Master's Degree in Homeland Defense and Security from the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterrey California. He Serves on the International Association of Fire Chiefs Terrorism and Homeland Security Committee and with his peers helped to update the Fire Chiefs Intelligence Guide. Bob is a volunteer Firefighter at the Haddonfield, New Jersey Fire Department, the nation's second oldest active volunteer fire company.

**Johnathon Paholke, MABAS-Illinois Branch Chief assigned to the Illinois State Police Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center (STIC) in Springfield**, he serves as a fire service subject matter expert to the fusion center as well as educating and recruiting fire service personnel for the STIC public safety programs. He started his career in emergency services in 2000, working as a call taker for a private ambulance service. In 2004 he was hired as a 9-1-1 dispatcher for the City of Effingham where he spent much of his career teaching dispatchers about Fire Service and MABAS. In 2006 Johnathon joined his local fire department, rising through the ranks where he is currently a Battalion Chief. He is a state certified instructor and holds certifications in Arson Investigations, Hazardous Materials and Dive.

**Tom Howard, Executive Director of Illinois Fire Fighter Peer Support**, a non-profit organization focused on creating awareness about behavioral health for first responders as well as providing peer-to-peer assistance. He has been in the fire service for almost 30 years, starting out as a volunteer and working the last 25 years with a career department. He obtained his Masters of Divinity in 2016. After joining ILFFPS, he led the faith group and soon after stepped into the role of Executive Director. One of Tom's favorite sayings is, "coffee and a conversation makes everything better."

**Jada Hudson, M.S. LCPC, CADC, Director of Program Development, Illinois Fire Fighter Peer Support**, is a licensed clinical professional counselor and Clinical Consultant for Operation Shattered Stars (OSS). She is a first responder counselor, a Certified Recovery Coach and a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor for those wrestling with substance abuse. She has been providing client-centered counseling and education for over 20 years and has a background in helping first responders process and overcome trauma and PTSD, pediatric death, anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, career and retirement transitions and cancer diagnoses. Jada presents nationally about first responder emotional wellness issues and meets regularly with first responder clients to help them process and head. She provides a safe, non-judgmental atmosphere to help first responders heal, grow and live!

## **MABAS-ILLINOIS COMMAND SUMMIT KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

**Dave Haywood, Fire Chief (Ret.), MABAS-ILLINOIS, Operations Section Chief**, he oversees the entire operations section of MABAS. Prior to his appointment he served as the Operations Branch Chief for the nine Cook County MABAS Divisions. Cook County contains 125 Fire agencies and includes nine Technical Rescue Teams, ten Hazardous Material Response Teams and three recognized Water Rescue Teams. He represents MABAS-Illinois on the Urban Area Security Initiative (U.A.S.I.) and the Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (R.C.P.T.) and act as the primary liaison to the Chicago Fire Department for MABAS-Illinois in significant incidents and planned events. His fire service background began with five years as a Paid-On-Call Firefighter on a municipal combination department, while simultaneously serving on an industrial fire/rescue brigade. He then began his 28-year career on the Blue Island Fire Department working thru the ranks, spending the last nine years as Fire Chief of the south suburban department. He retired in April 2007 when he accepted the Operations Branch Chief position with MABAS-Illinois. He earned an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Fire Science Technology at Moraine Valley Community College where he also instructed the Fire Officer curriculum. He has also attained multiple fire service certifications.

## MABAS-ILLINOIS DISPATCHERS SUMMIT KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Keith 'Doc' Patterson**, is a passionate, charismatic motivational coach who really understands what it takes to build high performance sales teams. With over 30 years of experience in the motivational and leadership industry, 'Doc' is truly an example of someone who not only talks the talk and walks the walk but also demonstrates it every day in his professional and personal life. 'Doc' believes that in order to truly experience lasting success in the field of leadership or in life, begins with igniting our unconscious mind to access the internal and external resources available to us all. As a Speaker/Trainer and Motivational Leader, he has successfully trained people on how to use the power of the mind to make their visions and personal goals a reality. 'Doc's' customized presentation will teach, inspire and channel your positive energy to new levels of achievement. His "Rise of the Phoenix", series has made him a Kahuna Warrior, to make a difference in many lives. "Doc" as national television appearances, serves as a Program Manager for the Illinois Fire Service Institute. He has received many awards and honors for his fire service and speaking career. He has a degree in Fire Science and Music.

**Peter O'Leary, Fire Chief for the City of Fond-du-Lac, Wisconsin**, is no stranger to MABAS having grown up with the system while working at the Wheaton, Illinois Fire Department. He has also served as the Durham, NH. Fire Chief. As Chief in Fond-du-Lac he has spearheaded efforts to bring MABAS Division 120 online when the entire county began the process. Chief O'Leary has presented at the international Fire Chiefs Conference, National Information Officers Association and Wisconsin Fire Chiefs.

**Gracie Finley, Coles-Moultrie 9-1-1 Center**

**Christy Henson, Coles-Moultrie 9-1-1 Center**

**Colonel Royal Mortenson**, has an extensive, distinguished and decorated military career. During his 30 years of service, he commanded and served our country at many levels, in various venues throughout the world. In his final year of service Colonel Mortenson was assigned as the Director of the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Marine Corps University, Quantico, VA. He assumed his current duties as the Director of the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI), University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in September 2012 and is a member of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force and the Chairman of that organization's training committee.

**Chris Lienhardt**, is a 28-year member of the Public Safety community, serving the past 19 years at R.E.D Center and was recently promoted to the position of Executive Director. Chris was part of the very first MABAS Dispatchers Conference, an APCO Illinois Instructor, as well as part of the team who presents the Regional Dispatch Seminars throughout the State since 2011.

**Glenn Ericksen, Fire Chief (ret.), Chief Executive Officer, MABAS-ILLINOIS**, coordinating 1,100-member agencies in support of large scale incidents, disaster responses and terrorist attacks, has served in various capacities of Fire and Emergency Services since he began his career in 1974 with the Village of Arlington Heights, Illinois, where he served 39 years, retiring as Fire Chief. Prior to being selected as MABAS CEO, he served in the capacity of MABAS Finance Administration Section Chief.

## MABAS-ILLINOIS DISPATCHERS SUMMIT WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

**Mark Sikorski**, is a full time Tele-communicator / Shift Coordinator for R.E.D Center/Division 3 in Northbrook, since 2007. He joined the fire service in 1987 and started his emergency communications career at Orland Central Dispatch in 1997 and eventually worked his way up to Director of Communications, before leaving to join R.E.D Center. He was involved in coordinating the first MABAS Dispatchers Conference and as part of a group supported by the MABAS TCD Committee, he also travels across the state presenting the Regional Dispatch Seminars to other Tele-communicators and members of the fire service.

**William Neumann**, is currently the Director for Orland Central Dispatch a Fire/EMS based center in Orland Park, since 2005. He started his interest in emergency communications while being a paid-on-call firefighter until 2013. He is a member of the MABAS TCD Committee and he also responds to incident scenes as a support dispatcher.

**Alana Sorrentino**, works as the Emergency Management Intelligence Officer at the Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center (STIC) in Springfield, Illinois. She has been tasked with the development and management of the Emergency Management Information Sharing (EMIS) Program through the integration of emergency management into the fusion center, the recruitment of key stakeholders, daily operations and the dissemination of pertinent information to those with a need to know. She is responsible for doing outreach to emergency management in 102 counties. She has travelled the state speaking to and educating partners on the importance of information sharing, current threats, signs of terrorism, special events and disaster intelligence.

**Andy Russell**, is a Lieutenant with the Buffalo Grove Fire Department and a Captain with the Peotone Fire Protection District. He has been in the fire service for 18 years and has always had an avid interest in radios, dispatch and communications. He serves as the liaison to Northwest Central Dispatch for the Buffalo Grove Fire Department and sits on several committees as well as having been a member of the MABAS TCD Committee for 6 years.

**Tom Clifton**, has 28 years' experience in the fire service and is currently a full-time firefighter/paramedic with the Lockport Township Fire Protection District. He also has 27 years' experience as a Tele-communicator, currently working part-time with the Orland Fire District and WesCom (Plainfield) Dispatch Centers.

**Jamie Fleisner**, presently works for Elgin Emergency Communications which dispatches for the City of Elgin, Illinois Police and Fire Departments and the South Elgin Fire Protection District. She has been with Elgin for 15 years and is currently the Deputy Director. As a Tele-communicator she has worked in all facets of their communications center, including training, MABAS Division 2 Committee member and major projects.

**Joe McGrath**, has been an emergency communications and fire service professional for 28 years. He is actively working as a MABAS Tele-communicator for over 20 years. He is currently serving as Training and EMD Coordinator for the Justice Police Department in addition to dispatching for the Orland Central Dispatch which is the primary dispatch center for MABAS Division 19.

**Matt Diamond**, is a Wheeling, Illinois Police Department dispatcher with over 30 years of experience in our field. Over the years, he has held numerous positions including Training Officer, Tactical Dispatcher and is a former Firefighter/EMT.

