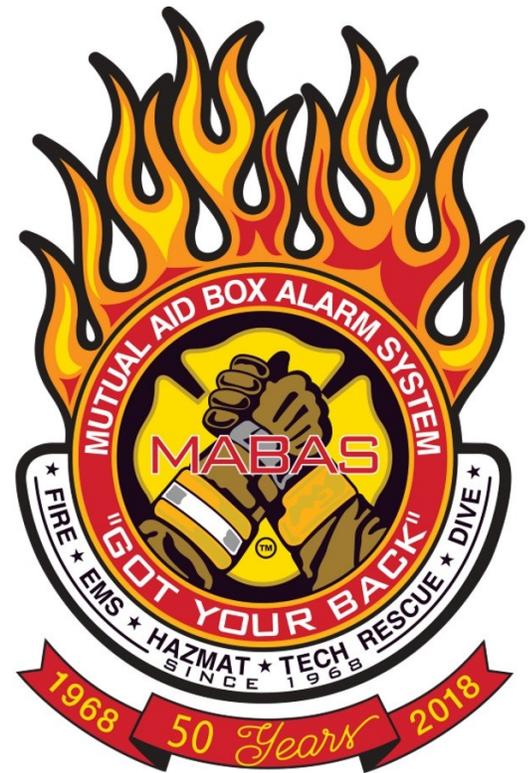


GOT YOUR BACK TALK

MABAS Illinois



Volume 21.3

From the President:

by Chief Don Davids

Greetings to all MABAS Members,

Fall is rapidly approaching and with it hopefully a return to calmer fire service activity. It has been an unusually busy summer with many requests from IEMA for MABAS assets for incidents both large and small. Not to mention many fire departments have had numerous incidents of their own to handle.

Just when we thought that June and early July were busy, MABAS was tasked with helping Louisiana with hurricane Ida. MABAS members from all corners of the state were instrumental with providing manpower and equipment for the deployments. Illinois Task Force 1, the state US&R team deployed first with forty-five members and their equipment. Less than two weeks later, MABAS deployed three fire engine strike teams comprised of fifteen fire engines and sixty-eight members. Media reports were very positive about Illinois helping Louisiana and the information we received during and after the deployments was very complemen-

tary to our members.

MABAS again received numerous requests from media outlets for interviews and information and was able to provide those. This is critical in the fight to find a dedicated source of funding to continue to provide MABAS activities and we need every member's support to try to secure that funding. So far in our discussions with IEMA and the State of Illinois, they are very supportive of MABAS and we are optimistic we will succeed with funding.

The next MABAS executive board meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2022 in conjunction with the MABAS Training Summit in Bloomington Normal, Illinois. I hope to see you there.

Please stay safe and keep up the good work of protecting your communities.

Respectfully,

Don Davids

President, MABAS-IL

davids@mabas-il.org

In This Issue

Winter Maintenance	2
Message from CEO	3
Pre-deployment roster	3
Thank you for volunteering	4
Pictures from Hurricane IDA	5
MABAS clothing	6
MABAS Divisional map	7
ILTF-1 news	8
CPR Gong Article	11
Hurricane IDA Response	13
ILTF-1 Departments Deployed to IDA	15
MABAS Departments Deployed to IDA	16
MABAS Foundation	17

We thank all the volunteers that assisted with the State Fire Marshal Tent August 16, 2021

WINTER HOME MAINTENANCE

It's easy to forget, or ignore, the importance of preparing your house for winter. Staying cozy inside sounds a lot better than bundling up to brave the cold. However, maintaining your home during winter will help you avoid expensive repairs or surprises.

Preparing for winter will improve home efficiency, saving you money and keeping you warm and comfortable. Use this checklist to keep your property in shape as the mercury plummets.

Annual Tasks

Interior

- Reverse the direction of ceiling fans to force warm air down into the room.
- Inspect windows and doors for cracks or leaks. Replace weather stripping if needed.
- Install or increase attic insulation or have a professional inspection if you're concerned about heat loss through the roof.
- Inspect pipes that run on exterior walls for vulnerabilities to freezing.
- Hire a pro to inspect your furnace or heating system.
- Check batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Turn off water valves that supply water to spigots.
- Pour water in your sump pit to make sure the pump works correctly.
- Store window-mounted AC units.
- If your HVAC system has a humidifier, get it inspected and calibrated. Make sure the drain line is clear.

Exterior

- Replace window screens with storm windows.
- Drain then store garden hoses in a covered area.
- Get your chimney cleaned if you rely on a fireplace or a woodstove for heat.
- Identify tree hazards that pose risk to your home from heavy snow or strong wind.
- Screen intake vents to prevent rodents.
- Make sure your snow blower or plow truck is ready to go.
- Clean your gutters and downspouts to facilitate water runoff in the spring.
- Clean debris from flat roofs or roof valleys where leaves can collect and hold moisture.
- Store patio furniture in the garage or garden shed.

Ongoing Tasks

These tasks require frequent inspection. How often will depend on the severity of the weather, wind and precipitation. Use your best judgment. If you can't decide, we recommend reviewing this checklist at least once a week:

Interior

- Monitor windows and doors for drafts.
- Replace your HVAC air filter every three months.
- During deep cold spells (<15° for more than 24 hours) keep all interior doors open to encourage heat circulation.

Exterior

- Continue to monitor the roof for any ice dams or damage. Icicles are an indication of a poorly insulated attic and a potential ice damn threat.
- For heavy snow years, make sure your roof can sustain the weight. Otherwise, get a roof rake to remove large snow loads.
- Keep large snowdrifts from piling up against your home.
- Use sand or gravel on walkways for traction. Salt/ice-melt is also effective but has a narrow operating temperature range and isn't very environmentally friendly.
- Keep driveways and walkways clear of snow between storms. Maintain your snow removal equipment.

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

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:79a6e5b0-0eee-4a95-9138-9f5635722885>





A Message from MABAS-Illinois

By: Chief Glenn Ericksen

The busy MABAS summer transitioned into a busy September with the deployment of MABAS resources to the State of Louisiana to assist in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida. These responses were under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) mutual aid agreement between the states. The first responding group was a Type III Urban Search & Rescue Team (45-person) who spent a week doing search and rescue tasks along with damage reconnaissance and other humanitarian missions. When they were released, Louisiana requested fire engine strike teams to assist the hard-pressed firefighters in the areas surrounding New Orleans. Three Teams from Illinois comprising 15 engine companies, along with command elements, provided relief for a two-week period. They filled in at area fire stations, provided fire protection to the base camp, and conducted numerous humanitarian missions. The generosity of the responders from Illinois showed in the unselfish donations of their water and meals to needy residents they found during their missions along with clearing debris and tarping damaged roofs. We are certainly proud and thankful for the

MABAS responders who answered the call.

The ability of MABAS members to provide the specialized responses was certainly put to the test this past year. Much of the special equipment used to assist MABAS was purchased using Federal Homeland Security Grant funding after 9/11. Unfortunately, these grant funds have been greatly reduced over the years and are no longer able to sustain a capital equipment replacement plan moving forward. In a few years MABAS will be at a crossroads where a decision will have to be made on



whether or not MABAS will be able to provide the enhanced services we currently provide or return to our core mutual aid role only. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency has recognized the need for the State of Illinois to pick up a greater share of the costs to replace capital equipment and training costs. Agencies such as

MABAS have been asked to provide capital equipment replacement costs over a 10-year period in order to begin discussions with the budget officials of Illinois.

We have been working on this request and will soon be asking for input from all Divisions regarding what needs to be replaced, what can we do without, and what do we need that we currently do not have. This will be the primary focus of MABAS staff from now until the February 2022 MABAS Summit.

Speaking of the 2022 Summit, planning is well underway and the Agenda is close to being finalized. The focus of the 2022 Command & Dispatchers Summit is Back-To-Basics. With so many new fire service and dispatch leaders in place today it will serve us well to get back to our core responsibilities in daily mutual aid all the way up to statewide deployments. To assist in this, we will be returning to a breakout format of specific basic topics. Watch for the registration announcements and please make the effort to attend. We know you will find this Summit very topical and useful for your department or division.

Thank you for taking time to review this Newsletter and hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

PRE-DEPLOYMENT ROSTER

By: Chief Lyne

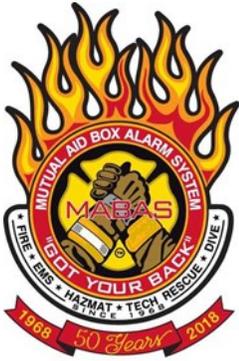
Prior to a MABAS coordinated response for an interdivisional, statewide mission tasking or out-of-state Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) tasking, divisions are required to submit the Pre-Deployment Roster listing the

names and information of their responding personnel.

The Pre-Deployment Roster is sent to divisions as part of the tasking messaging by RED Center. Divisions should complete this roster and submit it back to RED Cen-

ter as soon as possible. Once received by RED Center, this information is populated into the Salamander Accountability System. Once in the system, RED Center and then the local IC/UAC have access into

Continued on Page 14



MABAS

WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY THANK ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME TO MAKE THE FIRE SAFETY EXHIBIT A SUCCESS, AT THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S FIRE SAFETY EXHIBIT AUGUST 16, 2021



MABAS Volunteers at the 2021 Illinois State Fire Marshal's Fire Safety Exhibit

MABAS "Got your Back"

PICTURES FROM HURRICANE IDA DEPLOYMENT



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IL MABAS



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Visit our IL MABAS corner on our website for more exclusive items!



FAST FACTS



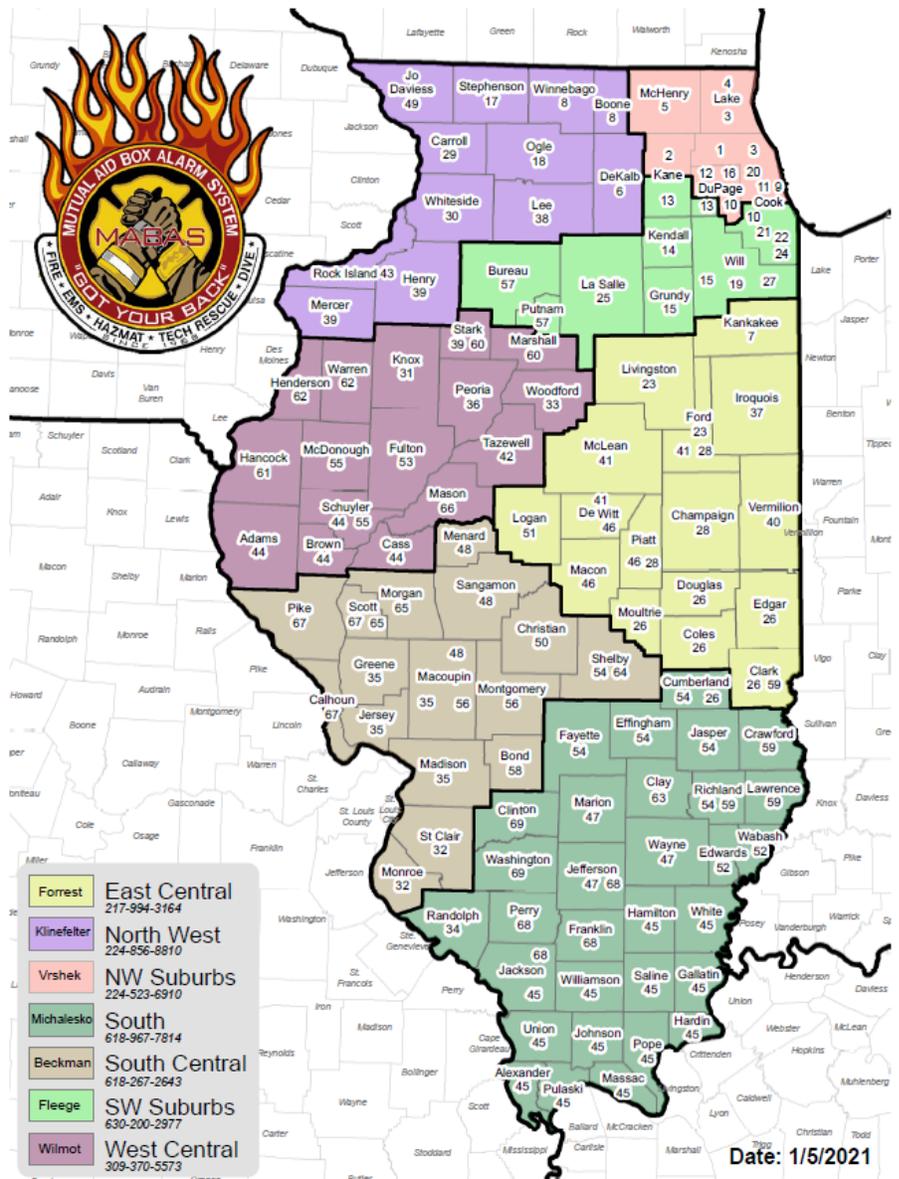
ILTF-1 on their way to assist with Hurricane IDA.



Fun Fact

Three presidents, all Founding Fathers—John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Monroe—died on July 4. Presidents Adams and Jefferson also died the same year, 1826; President Monroe died in 1831. Coincidence? You decide. (constitutioncenter.org)

MABAS Division Map With Branch Chiefs



For More Information

MABAS, Illinois
847-403-0500



Questions/Comments

If your Department or Division has responded to a call or had a big event and you would like MABAS to add it to this newsletter, or you have any questions or comments about the newsletters? If so, please feel free to email or call us. We look forward to any and all suggestions or comments.

Email—Littlefield@mabas-il.org

Phone—847-403-0511



ILLINOIS TASK FORCE 1

IL TF – 1 Responds to Louisiana for Hurricane Ida.

Hurricane Ida hit landfall on August 29 as a Category 4 hurricane with winds at 150 miles per hour. August 30, 2021 MABAS Illinois with the support from Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) put together an Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request to the state of Louisiana for a USAR Type III with water capabilities. Forty-five members from IL TF 1 responded to Baton Rouge for mission tasking. After departing the MABAS Readiness Center (MRC) in Wheeling IL, the team traveled 19 hours to Addis, LA.

They were mission tasked with Search in Livingston Parish. The Squads worked with other Task Forces from South Carolina, New York, and Michigan. The teams used ESRI 123 to track locations and conditions of structures. While performing the searches, Task Force members encountered locals that lost power and haven't eaten in a few days. They provided MRE's and water to the local residents. After completing all assigned grids, they were assigned to a new location, Thibodaux, IL.





ILLINOIS TASK FORCE 1

IL TF – 1 Responds to Louisiana for Hurricane Ida.

Arriving in Thibodaux, the Logs Group set up 'Tent City' as the infrastructure was severely damaged. The missions assigned were similar to previous assignment and grid searches. After a couple days of searches, all grids were completed. No additional resources were needed, so IL TF – 1 was released to return to Illinois. The Team



ILLINOIS TASK FORCE 1



October 9, 2021

IL TF - 1 in conjunction with National Disaster Search Dog Foundation and West Chicago Fire Protection District hosted a Type I Canine Live Find Evaluation Certification Test. K 9 Teams from Minnesota, New York and Illinois were in attendance. The Evaluators consisted of FEMA members from Virginia TF 1 and Tennessee TF 1.

With hard work and numerous hours of training, Rami ElShareif and K9 Magnus from Lemont Fire Protection District and Nick Felber and K9 Waffles from Lockport Township Fire Protection District were successful in their efforts and received the distinguished Type I Canine Live Find Certification.

With the two additional type I certified K9's, that brings the total of seven certified K9 handlers and dogs. Congratulations to all the members of the Search Group, they all helped with training and building the facility, their efforts made it a successful day.



Nick and Waffles Felber



Rami and Magnus ElShareif

GONG ARTICLE—ILLINOIS CRP STAKEHOLDER TASKFORCE

September 1, 2021

Title: Illinois Community Risk Reduction Stakeholder Taskforce Begins Outreach Measures

What is the Illinois Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Stakeholder Taskforce and what do we hope to bring to Illinois departments?

Overview of CRR in Illinois

Vision 20/20 is a project hosted by the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) – USA Branch (IFE-USA), a 501(c) (3) non-profit global organization. Vision 20/20

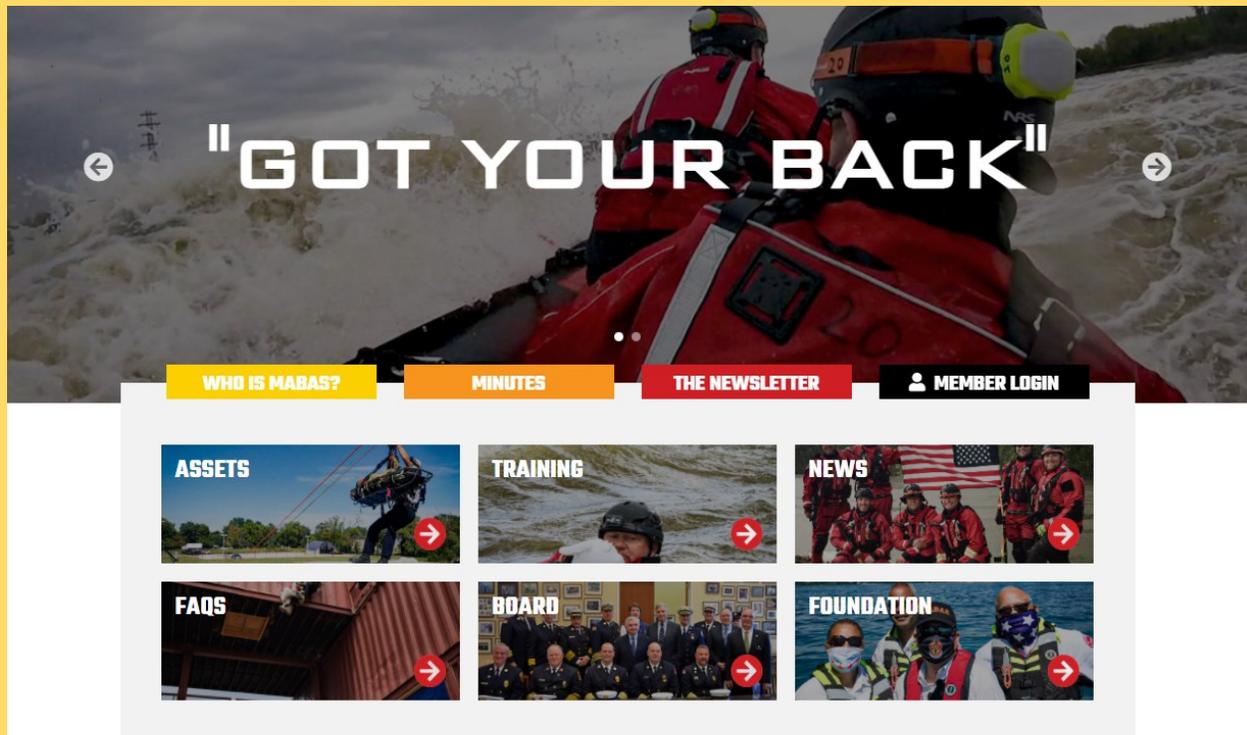
Project is guided by a coalition of national organizations and experts exemplifying how collaboration, communication, and commitment to data-based solutions saves lives and property. (strategicfire.org)

Vision 20/20 has served as the flagship of CRR in the United States since the organization's creation in 2008. Other countries had successfully reduced fires, fire death rates and other risks substantially by adopting this process to look at their own community risks and mitigating them. Vision 20/20 researched best practices, developed strategies, and provided a na-

tional forum to educate the fire service about CRR across the country. A few years ago, Vision 20/20 looked at the potential to reach more communities if, rather than functioning as one big hub of information and resources for the country, what if each state – with similar, yet very unique risks – began to funnel information and resources to their departments from the national to the state, regional and local levels? This would increase outreach and points of contact, providing a more comprehensive level of education and available resources.

Continued on next page

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEB SITE



WWW.MABAS-IL.ORG

GONG ARTICLE—ILLINOIS CRP

STAKEHOLDER TASKFORCE

The concept of the Statewide Collaboration & Engagement Framework (SCEF) was created to provide guidance to states. You can find more information, along with free and downloadable CRR planning guides, at Vision 20/20's website www.strategicfire.org.

Illinois was in a good place to begin this work, more so than many other states, because the 14 Illinois Fire Service Associations already collaborate and partner, each bringing different resources to the table. Work on the Illinois SCEF began. The Illinois CRR Stakeholder Taskforce was formalized to support all departments across the state to understand the process, recognize the benefits to their communities, and benefit from the many resources available to them. The mission of the Illinois CRR Stakeholder Taskforce is to Promote the importance of Risk Reduction in Illinois by inspiring community ownership and providing coordinated resources. Although the taskforce is organized through the Illinois Fire Service, other state organizations, such as the Illinois Department of Aging, the Illinois Department of Transportation, and more will be involved as experts in their respective areas of the risks facing our communities. The two-pronged mission statement focuses on promoting CRR so communities and departments can create own their own risk assessment and plan, and on providing national and state resources. We are here to assist as coaches to make the process feasible and effective for communities of all sizes and demographics.

What is CRR?

Community Risk Reduction (CRR) is a process to identify and prioritize local risks, followed by the integrated and stra-

tegic investment of resources (emergency response and prevention) to reduce their occurrence and impact. (Vision 20/20). At its most efficient, the process uses a six-step approach towards development. The six steps, in order, are to: 1) Identify Risks, 2) Prioritize Risks, 3) Develop Strategies and Tactics to Mitigate Risks, 4) Prepare the CRR Plan, 5) Implement the Plan, and 6) Monitor, Evaluate and Modify the Plan. CRR is strategic, focused, and data informed. The use of existing resources,



department wide engagement and support from state agencies guarantees measurable impact and outcomes. The process can be as simple or as sophisticated as each department deems necessary. The important thing is that it is feasible and practical for your community!

How Can the Illinois CRR Stakeholder Taskforce help Illinois departments?

As defined by their mission statement, this taskforce is committed to getting the word out across the state about the importance of risk reduction. We are dedicated to providing assistance and guidance for communities to manage their own process which will become unique to their own needs. Through the coordination of na-

tional, state, and local organizations and experts in risk reduction, the taskforce will provide the resources necessary to develop individual CRR plans.

We invite you to watch for the new Illinois CRR Stakeholder Taskforce website that will launch on September 15. We promise that it will be a useful tool for any department interested in beginning or continuing the journey through their own CRR planning. As we continue to add to the content, you will be provided with tools and resources, current research, best practices, contacts, and announcements of classes, seminars, and training all in one easy to access place. (insert "Coming Soon" PDF)

The taskforce is beginning work on a State Risk Assessment (SRA) which will assist in guiding our efforts to assist in mitigating the most prevalent risks for those populations at highest risk.

The most effective way for this taskforce to empower departments and their communities to create their own CRR plans is for us to learn of your concerns and your successes. We invite you to contact our organization at info@illinoisfirechiefs.org with questions, requests, and suggestions.

Check out these upcoming CRR events:

Vision 2020 Symposium 7 – Model Performance in Community Risk Reduction – February 22-24, 2022, Murfreesboro, TN www.strategicfire.org

Building Organizational Support for Community Risk Reduction – December 2 and 3, 2021, Alsip, IL NFA Building Organizational Support for Community Risk Reduction Course Description (illinois.edu)

HURRICANE IDA RESPONSE By: Chief Lyne

“Hurricane Ida was a deadly and destructive Category 4 Atlantic hurricane that became the second-most damaging and intense hurricane to make landfall in the U.S. state of Louisiana on record, behind Hurricane Katrina in 2005.” “On August 29, the 16th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, Ida made landfall near Port Fourchon, Louisiana, devastating the town of Grand Isle.” Wikipedia

On August 30, 2021, the MABAS Illinois Urban Search and Rescue Team, IL-TF



1, deployed to Louisiana for the Hurricane Ida response effort as part of an Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) or state-to-state request for urban search and rescue (US&R) task forces. The EMAC request process for IL-TF 1 initiated on Sunday August 29 before Hurricane Ida made landfall. As part of the interagency collaboration MABAS has established with other states fire and US&R coordinating agencies, MABAS became aware of Louisiana’s US&R resource needs before the actual EMAC request was generated. This began preparatory efforts with IEMA that led to the deployment of IL-TF 1. The Hurricane IDA response was the first out of

state deployment for IL-TF 1 since the 2018 Hurricane Florence response.

As Hurricane Ida moved further inland, Louisiana began to identify other emergency resource needs. Starting on Monday September 1, Louisiana began requesting ambulances, fire engines, fire tenders and other fire related resources. Unlike a lot of recent hurricanes, Hurricane Ida was not a significant rain or flooding event. Swiftwater teams were not requested.

Upon receipt of the various fire resource requests, MABAS began the notification process seeking divisional interest and support to deploy. While MABAS worked with IEMA to submit proposals to fill some of the requests, Louisiana was slow to respond to these requests. It had a major task to assess actual needs throughout the lower part of the state to determine where and when EMS, fire and rescue resources should be allocated. Towards the end of the week, Louisiana had cleared some previous resource requests and initiated a new request for fire engine strike teams. Again, MABAS went through the notification process to assess the ability of divisions to support a potential deployment. MABAS worked with IEMA to develop the mission ready package (MRP) to send 15 fire engines and command vehicles to Louisiana. This group of 68 fire fighters and chief officers deployed on Tuesday September 7 for an almost 2 week deployment.

This was the first time since the Hurricane Ike and Gustav responses in 2008 that MABAS deployed firefighting resources out of state for an EMAC request. In the fire service, there has been a tremendous turnover of personnel since the 2008 deployments. Even more since the Hurri-

cane Katrina response in 2005. MABAS has begun working through the after action process to identify ways to make the EMAC process smoother and to provide educational opportunities for new divisional and departmental leadership.

Thanks to the many individuals and agencies involved with the planning efforts to deploy and support the IL-TF 1 and the Fire Engine Strike Team responses. Special thanks to the MABAS AHOST Committee for their support in planning and the ongoing support of the fire engine strike team deployment, including that of the committee members that served as the MABAS Strike team Leaders for the deployment. RED Center also played a sig-



nificant role with the deployment effort. Strong work!

Many news agencies did stories about the deployments. There was local, state and some national coverage. MABAS and the various fire agencies engaged in media relations and used social media platforms to highlight the deployments in a way that wasn’t available in 2008. While the success of these deployments does not guarantee future deployments, it did put Illinois firefighters back onto the national response platform. Are you ready for the next one?

PRE-DEPLOYMENT ROSTER

Continued from Page 3

the individuals, vehicles and other resources responding to the event. In the case with the June Wood River, Rockton and Morris incidents, the name(s) of the resource leader were needed prior to resource movement so they could be incorporated into the Incident Action Plan (IAP).

There are a lot of information fields on the Pre-Deployment Roster. While having the mobile phone, email, salary rate and exempt/non-exempt status is

beneficial for an interdivisional or statewide tasking (yellow sections), these fields are not required for these mission types.

It is critical to complete the yellow sections for an EMAC tasking. MABAS works with IEMA to compile and submit this information to the state requesting assistance. Without this information, IEMA cannot execute the formal agreement to send resources out of state. During the Hurricane IDA EMAC request process,

several of these pre-deployment rosters were returned to divisions in order to get the complete information.

Please take the time to review this Pre-Deployment Roster and your division's plans to support taskings or missions. MABAS will continue to incorporate the use of these forms during exercises to increase divisional familiarity and accountability. Your Regional Branch Chief is a good source of information for the roster and other MABAS documents.

Page | 1

APPENDIX - 7 Page ___ of ___

ILLINOIS PRE-DEPLOYMENT ROSTER

DATE: _____ TIME: _____ LOCATION: _____ MISSION #: _____
m / d / yy

TYPE: _____ OTHER: _____ MABAS DIVISION #: _____
from to

UNIT LEADERS

(Please indicate two) Name: _____ Department: _____ Mobile Phone #: _____
 Name: _____ Department: _____ Mobile Phone #: _____

PERSONNEL ASSIGNED

Please complete yellow fields for OUT OF STATE response.

First Name	Last Name	Rank	Mobile Phone	E-mail	Regular Salary Hourly Rate	Exempt / Non-exempt	Department	Div
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								

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JANUARY 2020 MD009

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 233 W. HINTZ RD.
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 847-403-0500**

ILTF-1 MEMBERS DEPLOYED TO HURRICANE IDA

MABAS Illinois Task Force 1 Hurricane Ida Member Agency Listing

#	Fire Department/Sponsoring Agency	Number of Deployed Members	MABAS Division	County
1	Addison Fire Protection District	1	12	DuPage
2	Alsip Fire Department	1	22	Cook
3	Arlington Heights Fire Department	2	1	Cook
4	Bettendorf (IA) Fire Rescue Department	1	43	Scott
5	Carol Stream Fire District	1	12	DuPage
6	Chicago Fire Department	6	9	Cook
7	Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Department	1	3	Lake
8	Downers Grove Fire Department	1	16	DuPage
9	Elk Grove Village Fire Department	3	1	Cook
10	Elmwood Park Fire Department	1	20	Cook
11	Frankfort Fire Protection District	1	19	Will
12	Franklin Park Fire Department	1	20	Cook
13	Freeport Fire Department	1	17	Stephensen
14	Glenview Fire Department	1	3	Cook
15	Huntley Fire Protection District	1	5	Kane/McHenry
16	Lisle-Woodridge Fire District	1	16	DuPage
17	Matteson Fire Department	1	27	Cook
18	Moline Fire Department	1	43	Rock Island
19	Naperville Fire Department	3	16	DuPage
20	New Lenox Fire Protection District	1	19	Will
21	Newport Township Fire Protection District	1	4	Lake
22	North Aurora Fire Department	1	13	Kane
23	Northbrook Fire Department	1	3	Cook
24	Orland Fire Protection District	4	19	Cook
25	Rockford Fire Department	1	8	Winnebago
26	Schaumburg Fire Department	2	1	Cook
27	Schiller Park Fire Department	1	20	Cook
28	St. Clair Special Emergency Services	1	32	St. Clair
29	Sycamore Fire Department	1	6	DeKalb
30	Waukegan Fire Department	1	4	Lake
31	Westchester Fire Department	1	20	Cook

Members Deployed	45
Fire Departments/Sponsoring Agencies	31
MABAS Divisions	17
Counties (Illinois = 11, Iowa = 1)	12

MABAS DEPARTMENTS THAT DEPLOYED TO HURRICANE IDA

MABAS-Illinois Fire Engine Strike Team Hurricane Ida Member Agency Listing

#	Fire Department/Sponsoring Agency	Number of Deployed Members	MABAS Division	County
1	Addison Fire Protection District	2	12	DuPage
2	Aurora Fire Department	5	13	Kane
3	Bartlett Fire Protection District	1	1	Cook
4	Batavia Fire Department	1	13	Kane
5	Bedford Park Fire Department	1	21	Cook
6	Belleville Fire Department	1	32	St. Clair
7	Bridgeview Fire Department	2	21	Cook
8	Burbank Fire Department	2	21	Cook
9	East Side Fire Department	3	32	St. Clair
10	Elburn-Countryside Fire Protection District	3	13	Kane
11	Erie Fire Protection District	3	30	Whiteside
12	Evergreen Park Fire Department	3	21	Cook
13	Freeburg Fire Protection District	1	32	St. Clair
14	Herrin Fire Department	2	45	Williamson
15	Highland Fire Department	2	35	Madison
16	Hometown Fire Protection District	1	21	Cook
17	Homewood Fire Department	1	24	Cook
18	Jefferson Fire Protection District	2	47	Jefferson
19	Lebanon-Emerald Mound Fire Department	1	32	St. Clair
20	Marine Community Fire Protection District	1	35	Madison
21	Marion Fire Department	4	45	Williamson
22	Marseilles Fire Protection District	2	25	LaSalle
23	Murphysboro Fire Department	2	45	Jackson
24	O'Fallon Fire Department	4	32	St. Clair
25	Oak Brook Fire Department	2	12	DuPage
26	Oglesby Fire Department	1	25	LaSalle
27	Palos Fire Protection District	4	19	Cook
28	Pingree Grove Fire Protection District	2	2	Kane
29	Smithton Fire Department	1	32	St. Clair
30	South Elgin & Countryside Fire Protection District	3	2	Kane
31	Wallace Fire Protection District	1	25	LaSalle
32	West Frankfort Fire Department	1	68	Franklin
33	Westmont Fire Department	3	10	DuPage

Members Deployed	68
Fire Departments/Sponsoring Agencies	33
MABAS Divisions	14
Counties	11



MABAS Foundation

Volume 21.3

MABAS FOUNDATION

October, 2021

WHY Is There A MABAS FOUNDATION?

WHAT Is The MABAS FOUNDATION?

WHO Is The MABAS FOUNDATION?

Why a MABAS Foundation? = History

The MABAS FOUNDATION has been created as a mechanism to assist in offsetting the loss of Homeland Security Grant Federal funds over the past 20 years. A brief history helps in understanding the Why in the question.

In 1999 the then President of MABAS, Chief Jay Reardon, had a meeting with the then Director, Mike Chamness of IEMA (Illinois Emergency Management Agency). The meeting's purpose was to explore the possibility of establishing a first ever formal agreement between Illinois Fire Services and the State of Illinois regarding declarations of disaster and emergency services mutual aid capabilities. The gov-

erning Illinois statute regarding declarations of disaster state authorities and powers is the IEMA Act. Within the IEMA Act are authoring authorities for IEMA to sign intergovernmental agreements with other governmental entities establishing formal cooperative agreements and processes for use during a Governor's declaration of disaster. The IEMA Act creates an ability to establish "mobile support teams" from the governmental agencies who have formally entered into the IEMA Act agreements provisions. MABAS exists under Illinois statute as a formally recognized "Intergovernmental Cooperative Entity" and therefore was considered eligible and qualified in signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with IEMA formalizing a first ever agreement with IEMA as provided within the IEMA Act. By MABAS and IEMA agreeing and signing the MOU the statute allowed and set the parameters for mutual aid assistance between Illinois MABAS fire service member agencies and the State of Illinois IEMA

office.

Through the execution of the MOA IEMA can now access MABAS mutual aid capabilities upon the Governor's enactment of a declaration of disaster proclamation. Once enacted MABAS resources mobilized under a mission number are activated under the control of the Governor. Once activated under the IEMA Act the State of Illinois then becomes responsible for all costs (personnel expenses, equipment expense, damage, repair and logistical overhead (costs) as authorized by the IEMA Act.

MABAS first larger scale event which drew IEMA and Illinois fire services together was September 11, 2001. Although IEMA and MABAS did not officially receive requests from New York state or for the pentagon for mutual aid EMAC (Emergency Managers Assistance Compact (otherwise known as state-to-state mutual aid through FEMA)

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The experience was a great “dress rehearsal” for the state’s IEMA office and MABAS Illinois fire services to practice, exercise and get ready for the “real deals.”

The first actual “real deal” activation of a mobilization and deployment, as authorized by mission number from IEMA, was the Utica (Illinois) tornado occurring on April 20, 2004. MABAS capabilities were tasked with lifesaving technical rescue teams, community wide fire protection services, EMS skills and sustaining community coverage for the Utica Community for nearly ten (10) days following the tornado strike the evening of April 20, 2004.

Following the Utica Tornado activation, the next IEMA/MABAS mobilization and deployment challenge was also the largest activation MABAS has ever experienced – Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans and surrounding parishes initially occurring in August 2005.

IEMA received an EMAC, interstate request for fire/EMS/rescue mutual aid, from Louisiana Emergency Management. The mission authorized MABAS tasking would cover approximately 6 weeks, three rotations of approximately 1400 firefighters and 300 emergency vehicles from Illinois MABAS resource capabilities. Reimbursement to Illinois MABAS member agencies for the deployment exceeded \$10 million dollars.

The experience of the three events, 9-11 attacks, Utica Tornado and Hurricane Katrina solidified the value, partnership and need for a sustaining relationship between the state of Illinois/IEMA and local MABAS fire service agency capabilities.

Following the attacks of September 11th, 2001 an overlapping experience resulted, that being Federal funding grants to states for the purpose of local agency and state resources to prepare for the “unknowns” of the future. The new reality of “Risks”!

Soon after the 9-11 attacks our country experienced another “new risk” with anthrax attacks from an unknown source. IEMA turned to MABAS and its first responder agencies regarding how to deal with this new threat – anthrax and local communities. Suspected anthrax 9-1-1

calls for service were overwhelming our country. Local fire service hazardous materials teams were learning the new treat and realizing their team’s equipment dealing with identifying actual anthrax was inadequate. The challenge facing MABAS capabilities and resources was recognized also by IEMA. IEMA “stepped up” in supporting MABAS partnership.

The first state or federal grant received by MABAS was from the state of Illinois as administered by IEMA. The grant from IEMA to MABAS was for approximately \$300,000.00 to purchase each of the MABAS Divisional HazMat Teams, approximately 28 teams, the state-of-the-art bio



detection device for anthrax. The bio detection device for each of the 28 MABAS divisional HazMat teams gave local communities and the state of Illinois a first response credible capability to identify a “white powder 9-1-1 call” had credibility or not – A genuine lifesaver through the partnership between IEMA and MABAS.

Homeland Security and FEMA grant funds following the September 11, 2001 didn’t become a reality until late 2003. At first the federal grant funds went to state Homeland Security (SHGP) grants for coordination and administration. MABAS received its’ first Homeland Security/FEMA grant funds in late 2003 totaling several million dollars administered by IEMA. As time went on from year-to year the SHGP grant fund amounts to states steadily increased and a new FEMA – Homeland Security grant fund source, Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) was created. MABAS received grant funds from both, the state and Cook County (UASI) Homeland Security programs. At the peaks of

funding years, approximately 2009-2013, MABAS was being awarded annual grant funding amounts of \$10 to \$14 million per year. MABAS capabilities of resources were fortified and intelligence driven threats and risks were being addressed.

According to grant award and expenditure records, MABAS had invested more than \$150 million in statewide fire, EMS, US&R, TRT, HazMat, Water Rescue and command control capabilities.

Unfortunately, grant funds have been reduced to below \$6 million annually since 2017. The decline in maintaining the investments since 2003 remain unanswered and capabilities are declining throughout the MABAS statewide system. Many of the capability investments have become known as “interseperable” with new risks, like the ongoing pandemic. Regardless, MABAS has continued to provide IEMA tasked resources to fires, tornados, flooding, hurricanes, lone wolf attacks on society, school shootings, pubic health threats and more. The fear is becoming a reality that if we cannot afford to maintain capabilities, the day will come when MABAS can no longer provide the resources to meet the challenges of today and evolving threats of tomorrow.

What is the MABAS Foundation?

The MABAS foundation is a mechanism created in 2019 to assist with the reduction in federal grant funds. The foundation was created by the MABAS Executive Leadership Team as an assistive funding mechanism in meeting local fire agency mutual aid MABAS divisions in keeping the capabilities functional. The MABAS Executive Leadership Team provided \$10,000 in seed money to start the Foundation in becoming an IRS recognized, 501(c)3, non-profit agency and have the financial overhead for the many startup costs. The MABAS Foundation became a functioning element of MABAS system in 2019-2020 and continues to spread the word of its purpose to support local fire agencies, .

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special response teams and ultimately local communities when their disaster strikes by maintaining a strong, economically efficient expandable and immediately available mutual aid fire/EMS system with diverse fundamental and available capabilities.

MABAS Illinois has 69 organizational divisions statewide with approximately 38,000 firefighters and nearly 1200 MABAS member agencies, all of which are locally based municipal and fire district chartered. MABAS statewide investment of federal grant funds have created and maintained an infrastructure of specialized shared resources, teams, equipment and vehicles mostly assigned and deployed at the local fire agency level.

Maintaining and sustaining the laundry list of diverse capabilities is financially a challenge. The many critical resources MABAS provides through the statewide system includes: over 175 specialized vehicles and trailers, expedient shelter system throughout the state, specialized urban search and rescue teams (240 personnel) hazardous materials response teams (approximately 38 teams) technical rescue teams (approximately 30 teams) underwater and swiftwater rescue and recovery teams (approximately teams), highly specialized chem/bio detection equipment, a statewide communications and dispatch system and much more.

Some of the vehicles are nearly 20 years in age. Technical rescue equipment is getting difficult to maintain, technology is outdated, risks and threats are expanding, technical training and exercise requirements are ever expanding and No Sus-

tained Long-Term Funding Stream Has Been Identified.

How long can MABAS and its technical capabilities be sustained without a known funding source?



Apparatus staging to assist with Hurricane IDA.

The MABAS Foundation is one idea and effort created to offset and buy time to sustain and maintain until long term funding streams are defined!

Who is the MABAS Foundation?

The MABAS Foundation has a Board of Directors all from the private sector.

The MABAS Foundation staff are all non-compensated volunteers. No paid or compensated staff whatsoever. No MABAS Foundation payrolls!

The Who question is that it is focused on helping local fire agencies and the Citizens of Local Communities – THE TAXPAYERS!

The MABAS Foundation has three partnering private sector supporters including;

Union Pacific Railroad

WS Darley Company

Air One, Inc.

All have been highly supportive through donated pledges or directed grants to the MABAS foundation. We are grateful and will always say Thank You.

The MABAS Foundation wants to invite many more private sector businesses and companies to become our “Partners”.

We ask local Fire Chiefs to help recruit MABAS Foundation partners from their communities. MABAS brings a tremendous “Value Added” to local businesses when the disaster impacts them as a business, as a taxpayer, as a community member.

Chiefs Help us recruit new partners. MABAS Foundation materials are available to local Fire Chiefs in getting the recruitment word out. We sincerely appreciate local Fire Chiefs’ help.

The MABAS Foundation hopes to announce its first round of grant awards in 2022. Guidance will be sent out regarding grants available and the competitive submission process. Grant Eligibility will include:

MABAS Divisions

MABAS Special and Division Recognized Special Teams

MABAS Systemwide Initiatives and Programs

Grants Purpose: To create, improve or substantially reduce capabilities loss through an intergovernmental cooperative effort.



FOUNDATION DIRECTOR

ROB DEVAUN



Rob DeVaun is the North American Sales Director for Salamander Technologies, an accountability and interoperable credentialing solution provider for first responders and government admin throughout the US. Rob regularly assists with the management of responder and equipment tagging, tracking, and reporting during incidents and events, such as super bowls, RNCs, DNCs, presidential debates, hurricanes, tornados, SAR, volcanos, etc...

Over the years, Rob has valued strong relationships with the MABAS team and the mission they serve. Rob brings his professional focus on strategic sales, marketing, and business development within the tech sector to his role as a MABAS Foundation board member.

Sincerely,

Rob DeVaun

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MABAS Foundation Partners



Each month on 'Inside Darley' Paul Darley highlights industry trends, new products, best practices, thought leadership and more. The videos typically last about 4 minutes and are supplemented with insightful articles and resources. We invite the MABAS community to watch our October series here and if you want even more content, we hope you'll subscribe.

The latest video can be found here <https://darley.com/about/entry/inside-darley-october-2020>

People can sign up for newsletters here: <https://darley.com/about/newsletter-signup>



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