Emergency Management and Response - Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC)

The InfoGram

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Webinar: Protecting Healthcare Facilities from IEDs

Join the "Protecting Healthcare Facilities from IEDs" webinar on Friday, May 1, 2020, at 1 p.m. Eastern. This webinar focuses on domestic improvised explosive device (IED) incidents. The intended audience is the private sector, state and local government first responders, and public healthcare professionals.

Since 2017, United States healthcare facilities have experienced at least 247 IED incidents, ranging from bomb threats to suspicious packages. This webinar will cover:

- The current IED threat landscape.
- Common vulnerabilities for healthcare stakeholders.
- Best practices to prevent IED incidents.
- Free security planning, training, awareness and information-sharing resources to help you prepare against IED threats.

Speakers include the chief of the Counter-IED Strategy at DHS's Office of Bombing Prevention within the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

This webinar is part of a new series developed through a partnership between DHS, the Department of Health and Human Services and InfraGard National Capital Region. The series will explore physical security challenges facing healthcare, medical manufacturing and research communities due to their importance in COVID-19 response.

Registration is required in advance to attend the webinar. After you register, you'll receive connection details. Please share this invitation broadly with colleagues who may be interested in attending. If you can't join us live, you'll be able to access a recording of the webinar. You can send any questions to infragardncr@fbi.gov.

(Source: HHS)

Firefighters will deal with COVID-19 for a long time

Firehouse Magazine recently hosted a panel of fire service specialists to explore the mental stress on firefighters during the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and discuss what needs to be done in the future. The general consensus was that many firefighters will be dealing with the impact of pandemic response for years.

In some areas of the country departments see minimal impact while others are getting so many "dead on arrival" calls related to COVID-19 it seems surreal. One Fire Department of New York battalion chief said response to this pandemic already overshadows 9/11 as the crisis he'll tell his grandkids about.

Among the topics discussed in the 1-hour podcast:

- First-person account of a firefighter going through quarantine, the circumstances that put him there and some of the questions that arose in the department.
- Short- and long-term effects of COVID-19 on fire and EMS crews.

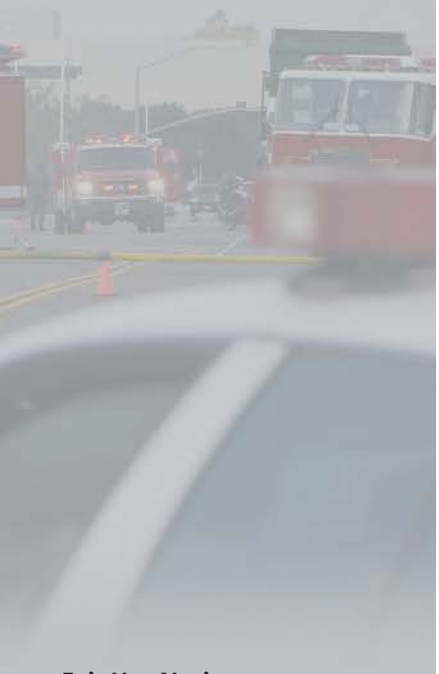
Highlights

U.S. Fire Administration

The U.S. Fire Administration operates the Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC).

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov.

Subscribe here



- How stress, depression and PTSD can impact lives and jobs.
- Signs and symptoms to be concerned about if you see them in colleagues, family members, friends or yourself.
- The importance of doing a personal size-up every day.
- The long-lasting effects of this incident on relationships between management, personnel, the public and the local government.

There is something in this podcast for everyone to digest and it has the potential to change both current response practices and those of future disasters.

(Source: Firehouse)

Fire Prevention and Safety grant period open through May 29

With pandemic response taking up a lot of our time, don't forget the Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grant application period is now open and will close at 5 p.m. Eastern on Friday, May 29, 2020.

The Notice of Funding Opportunity is available on Grants.gov. FP&S's $35 million grant program supports projects to enhance the safety of firefighters and the public from fire and related hazards. Grants are awardes within the areas of fire prevention and firefighter safety research and development.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the FP&S grant program. FEMA is hosting a series of FP&S webinars covering program costs, priorities and updates. Four webinars are scheduled in May, the website has details.

The FEMA website also lists eligibility information, application guidance materials, program videos, past successes and contact information for more details.

(Source: FEMA)

FBI releases 2019 active shooter report

The FBI released Active Shooter Incidents in the United States in 2019 this week. The report provides incident details and statistics on the 28 shootings from last year fitting the FBI's criteria.

The numbers are mostly similar to 2018 with a few exceptions:

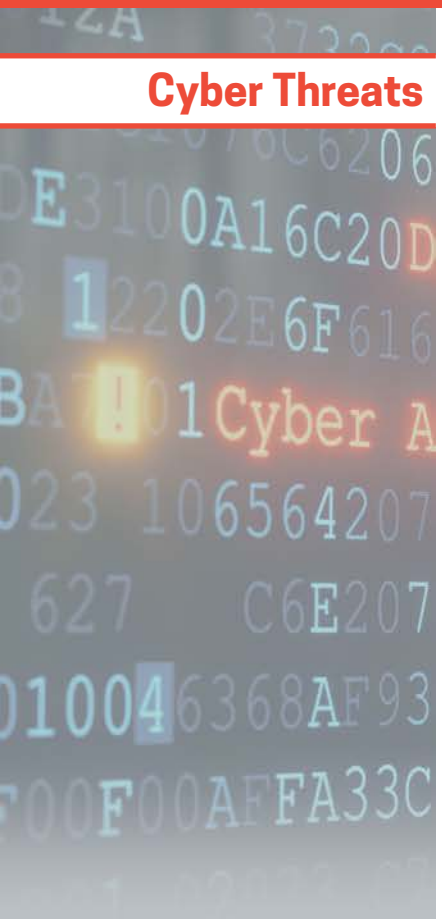
- 15 law enforcement officers were wounded in 2019 as opposed to 6 in 2018.
- No shooters wore body armor in 2018; 4 did this past year.
- 5 shooters committed suicide last year while 10 did in 2018.
- In 2019, 9 shooters were killed by police; 4 were in 2018.

A chronological list of incidents with a short description of each is included at the end. It's important to note certain types of shootings, such as gang violence, drug violence and self-defense, do not make the list.

This is the fifth report of its kind published since 2014. All past reports and more active shooter incident resources can be found on the FBI's Active Shooter webpage.

(Source: FBI)

Cyber Threats



Next Thursday is World Password Day, time to evaluate your passwords

World Password Day falls on the first Thursday of May. There's no better time for organizations to assess cyberhygiene best practices for keeping data and devices secure from cyberthreats.

In many cases, a password is the only means for protecting data. However, we've long known that passwords are the weakest link in the security chain, and malicious intruders know it as well. With more employees working remotely due to COVID-19, it's more critical than ever to go beyond solely relying on passwords for security. While it is strongly recommended to eliminate passwords wherever possible, the reality is, today's world still requires passwords.

- Use long passwords.
- Use different passwords for each account.
- Leverage a password manager.
- Use multi-factor authentication whenever possible.

(Source: IT Pro Portal)

COVID-19 Email Phishing Against U.S. Healthcare Providers

The FBI Cyber Division released a FLASH report last week detailing phishing attacks against healthcare providers in the United States. These attacks follow the increase of COVID-19-related cyberattacks seen worldwide.

These specific attacks use email subject lines with content related to the current pandemic to draw people in. The emails distribute a malicious attachment.

The FBI bulletin lists some of the details seen in these attacks, which should help cybersecurity specialists block the messages or otherwise identify ways to protect networks.

(Source: FBI)

Government workers tempted with COVID-19 scam offering free food

Hackers are finding every opportunity they can to exploit the coronavirus pandemic, even using the disease to promise free meals for government officials, Google detailed in a report Wednesday.

The attacks differ from cybercriminal schemes in that government-backed hackers are often doing it for espionage purposes rather than financial gain. Google said it found one campaign that targeted United States government employees by offering coupons and free meals from American fast food chains.

The scam involved COVID-19 messaging and directed victims to a website disguised as a page for arranging meal deliveries. The ploy was designed to steal government workers' Google account login credentials, the tech giant said.

(Source: CNET)

Cyber Information and Incident Assistance Links

MS-ISAC
SOC@cisecurity.org
1-866-787-4722

IdentityTheft.gov

IC3

Cybercrime Support Network

General Information Links

FTC scam list

CISA alerts

Law Enforcement Cyber Center

TLP Information

The InfoGram is distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures.