



The InfoGram

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Weaponized drone attack overseas raises concerns at home

Venezuelan officials arrested several people following an assassination attempt on their president using an [unmanned aerial system \(UAS\) carrying explosives](#).

During a speech at a military ceremony, the Venezuelan president was targeted with two drones laden with explosives. After both blew up, [bodyguards surrounded and shielded the president](#), and several soldiers were injured. Reportedly, this is the first known assassination attempt of a head of state using a UAS.

[UAS attacks such as these are difficult to protect against](#). The units are easy to acquire and relatively inexpensive, the operator/pilot may not be anywhere near the intended target, and it doesn't have to be very close or exact to be effective. Larger units are able to handle a heavy payload.

Security authorities repeatedly warn there are [few effective safety measures available to protect the public](#) from such attacks, and regulations remain quagmired due to a variety of civil liberties concerns and red tape issues. No-fly zones are in place in certain locations, and manufacturers are beginning to include geo-fencing in navigation systems to keep drone operators from flying in prohibited areas.

Weaponized UAS is a legitimate concern, but unlikely to occur. However, UAS can be an invaluable tool for first responders in all fields. For more information, see the Justice Technology Information Center's [UAS for Public Safety website](#).

(Source: [JTIC](#))

The Secret List turns 20 years old

What began as a work-related hobby for Chief Billy Goldfeder in the 1970s developed into a way for the fire service to examine its safety culture and near-miss incidents.

Decades later, clipped news items mailed between a handful of firefighters has become The Secret List, a robust email group of over 300,000 subscribers worldwide, accompanied by the [FirefighterCloseCalls.com](#) website, all with a mission of reporting and examining firefighter close-calls and near-misses to ensure everyone goes home.

Site managers present submitted near-miss stories in a "no BS" way that focuses on facts but never blames or embarrasses the firefighters involved. Instead, they use the incident to promote change in order to inform and instruct so the near-miss won't happen again to someone else.

Chief Goldfeder's top recommendations after so many years collecting such information stresses the basics we all should know and be doing:

- Avoid contaminates.
- Drive safely.
- Train every day.
- Stay fit.
- Get mental health support.

Highlights

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National Bulk Cash Smuggling Center provides expertise and support

IPSA Mass Casualty Symposium



U.S. Fire Administration

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

You can submit close call/near miss stories, sign up to receive the Secret List emails and navigate to other firefighter safety and health sites through the FirefighterCloseCalls.com site. Congratulations to Chief Goldfeder and his team, and here's to another 20 years!

(Source: [FireRescue1](#))

National Bulk Cash Smuggling Center provides expertise and support

Criminal and terrorist organizations must fund their activities like any other enterprise, but evading federal laws require them to do it illicitly and creatively. Sometimes this involves physically moving large amounts of cash into, out of and within the United States.

The [National Bulk Cash Smuggling Center](#) (BCSC) assists federal, state, tribal, local and foreign law enforcement efforts to restrict the flow of funds supporting criminal enterprises. It identifies, investigates and disrupts bulk cash smuggling activities around the world, and provides real-time tactical intelligence and investigative support and expertise in the transportation and smuggling of bulk cash.

By contacting the BCSC, law enforcement officers gain access to financial investigative expertise that will help them better follow the money trail and seize and forfeit criminal proceeds.

The BCSC provides more than expertise and support. Qualified law enforcement agencies may participate in equitable sharing arrangements from assets seized during bulk cash smuggling investigations. Agencies have access to investigative and forensic resources that may not be otherwise available.

The center also disseminates a weekly electronic newsletter, The C-Note, which contains information and trends related to bulk cash smuggling. For further information on the BCSC or to sign up for C-Note, please contact the center at BCSC@dhs.gov or (866) 981-5332. C-Note is also available on [HSIN-Intel](#).

(Source: [BCSC](#))

IPSA Mass Casualty Symposium

This year's International Public Safety Association (IPSA) Fall Symposium, scheduled for November 14-15, 2018, will bring together first responders, public safety and emergency managers in Washington, DC, to discuss aspects of mass casualty incidents (MCI), both violent and non-violent.

Topics cover a variety of incidents and planning, response and recovery subjects such as the Dallas, Texas, police ambush attack, the Ghost Ship warehouse fire, preparing communications centers, MCI from a federal point of view, and MCI from the survivor's perspective.

Registration is currently open to those interested. See the [full agenda and more details on the IPSA website](#).

(Source: [IPSA](#))

The U.S. Fire Administration maintains 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.

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For information specifically affecting the private sector critical infrastructure contact the **National Infrastructure Coordinating Center** by phone at **202-282-9201**, or by email at **nicc@dhs.gov**.