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Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)

Utilizing Alert & Warning in Drills and Exercises

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IPAWS Federal Guidance

Policy:

▶ ***Executive Order 13407 - Public Alert and Warning System***

- Establishes policy of the United States to have an national warning system used by government officials at all levels of government to alert and warn people of all hazards

Law:

▶ ***Public Law 114-143, The IPAWS Modernization Act***

- Enacts to law the policy statement and similar requirements found in Executive Order 13407

▶ ***Public Law 93-288, The Stafford Act***

- Sec. 202. Disaster warnings – directs FEMA to provide technical assistance to State and local governments to insure that timely and effective disaster warning is provided

Regulation:

▶ ***47 CFR Part 11 — Emergency Alert System (EAS)***

- Provides for alert and warning on private sector radio and television infrastructure

▶ ***47 CFR PART 10 — Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)***

- Provides for alert and warning to devices on wireless carrier networks



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Challenges

- Proper governance and guidance to align resources and planning
- Create national culture of Alert & Warning (A&W) as part of daily activities and planning
- Commitment for Alerting Authority participation
- Have proper Test Training & Exercises (TT&E) Subject Matter Expert to design, facilitate and conduct exercises
- Track and act on findings documented in After Action Reports



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Benefits of Alert & Warning in Exercises

- Builds public confidence
- Builds proficiency using A&W tools
- Builds and improves A&W framework
 - Policies, Standard Operating Procedures, and Plans
 - Clarifies criteria for issuing Alerts and Warning
 - Assigns roles and responsibilities
 - Identifies gaps and promotes continuous improvement
- Drives achievement of public alert and warning exercise objectives
- Provides opportunity to assess A&W tool capabilities



Integration and Planning for Different Levels of Exercises

- National Level Exercises (NLE)
 - Across multiple agencies
 - Use High level guidance and process
 - Conducted every other year
 - Types: Drill, In-person and Virtual Tabletop, Functional
- State, Local, Territory, Tribe exercises
 - Conducted based on local guidelines
 - Use Standard Operating Procedures and checklists
 - Types: Drill, In-person and Virtual Tabletop, Functional



IPAWS in Exercises

- IPAWS Team participates in phases: planning, conducting, and after action reporting
- IPAWS Team provides input to exercises in all phases
- Exercise inputs are delivered by all levels of government: Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial



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IPAWS Promotes Participation in Tests and Exercises

- National Level Exercise 2018 –May 2018
 - Stakeholders: State of Pennsylvania, Fairfax County, FEMA Region III, FEMA Operation Center participated
- U.S. Virgin Islands Operation Blue Roof Tabletop Exercise - July 2019
 - Stakeholders: Territorial Alert Originators and Radio Broadcasters
- DHS Science and Technology Next Generation First Responder - December 2018, August 2019
 - Stakeholders: City, County and State
- Observed Power Outage Exercise –September 2018



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Questions?

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