

Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Committee Annual Report 2005

Law Enforcement Committee Purpose Statement

THE ILLINOIS LAW ENFORCEMENT ALARM SYSTEM (ILEAS) is a collation of local police agencies and the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) representative for law enforcement mutual aid. The mission of ILEAS is to meet the needs of law enforcement throughout the State of Illinois in matters of mutual aid, emergency response and the combining of resources for the effective use of resources during emergencies or periods of extraordinary circumstances. Additionally, the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Committee provides the structure for researching, developing and implementing common standards for handling such emergencies and circumstances through training, information dissemination and other activities. The Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Committee is also the primary liaison agency in Illinois with other emergency response forces such as public health, fire service, communications, etc.

Accomplishments

- Weapons of Mass Destruction Special Response Teams (WMD SRT) - ILEAS has developed 9 WMD SRT's. These multi-jurisdictional and regionally-based teams, each consisting of 25-35 experienced SWAT officers, are designed, trained and equipped to operate in a contaminated area.
- Membership & Mutual Aid – From its inception ILEAS has grown to 778 law enforcement agencies with signed mutual aid agreements. Membership by-laws have been changed in 2005 to include special agencies, such as the Department of Corrections to provide specialized support during emergencies. ILEAS has implemented a computerized mutual aid network complete with pre-plans and staging areas with maps for each member agency.
- Communications – ILEAS has issued grants to local law enforcement agencies for interoperable communications and distributed 664 StarCom21 radios. Additionally, ILEAS has purchased 500 VHF mobile radios with statewide frequencies for local law enforcement agencies to use during emergencies.
- Hurricane's Katrina and Rita EMAC Activation – ILEAS was responsible for sending 300 law enforcement officers to Louisiana, for a one month period, in response to the hurricanes Katrina and Rita disasters as part of an interstate assistance compact.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – ILEAS has issued over 24,000 respirators, carrying cases and canisters – one to every law enforcement officer in the state. ILEAS has also pre-positioned 16,000 spare respirator canisters throughout the State.
- Web Page and Technology – ILEAS has completely computerized its membership, mutual aid plans, staging areas, grant application, training documentation for special teams and overtime reimbursement. The website has become a solid resource of homeland security related information for law enforcement agencies in Illinois.
- Staff - ILEAS has developed an administrative office with a full time executive director, 3 part-time employees, one full-time intern and a contract programmer.
- Mobile Command Posts – ILEAS worked with fire mutual aid to design mobile command post vehicles. ILEAS has purchased 13 of them and they are currently being distributed throughout the State.
- Local Grants – ILEAS distributed over \$10 million in grants to local law enforcement agencies for homeland security equipment, interoperable communications and training.

2005 Key Activities

- Weapons of Mass Destruction Special Response Teams (WMD SRT) – In 2005, ILEAS increased the number of WMD SRT teams from 4 to 9. These multi-jurisdictional teams, each consisting of 25-35 experienced SWAT officers, are designed, trained and equipped for several purposes:
 - Locate and solve any human threat problem in a contaminated area
 - Assist HAZMAT teams by enforcing decontamination procedures
 - Establishing and holding hard perimeters around contaminated areas
 - Assist specialized State and Federal teams who may respond to an incident

The 10th and 11th teams were formed in late 2005 and will be equipped and trained in 2006.

- Membership – In 2005, ILEAS has increased the number of law enforcement agencies that have signed mutual aid agreements from 648 to 778 – a 20% increase. There are approximately 1,052 law enforcement agencies in Illinois and 74% of them have mutual aid agreements and belong to ILEAS. The Chicago Police Department joined the network in 2005. ILEAS represents over 90% of the law enforcement officers in Illinois. Every sheriff's office and all State law enforcement agencies are now members – complete with signed mutual aid agreements.
- Communications – ILEAS has issued purchase orders for 500 VHF radios licensed with statewide frequencies in Illinois. Additionally, ILEAS began the process of distributing 664 StarCom21 radios. These radios will work on a statewide network developed by the Illinois State Police and Motorola. ILEAS has also accepted a partnership with the Illinois Telecommunications Emergency Response Team (ITERT) which is an organization developed to provide mutual aid and emergency support with regard to dispatching and technology support in Illinois.

ILEAS has contracted with a business continuity company, MessageOne, to provide a bulk emergency messaging distribution service. MessageOne's service combined with ILEAS's online database, can now reach out and deliver emergency messages to every police chief, sheriff and senior command by cell and office phones and email,

- Regional Distribution Site Security Teams (RDSST) – ILEAS has funded and is developing regional teams to respond as a crowd control element when the National Strategic Stockpile is distributed. These 50-officer teams, strategically located around the State, will be available to provide security at major distribution sites as well as any other significant crowd control problems related to homeland security. So far, the teams have been budgeted, designed and a standard operating procedure has been developed. The teams will be formed in 2006.
- Hurricane's Katrina and Rita – From September 3rd through the 29th, 2005, ILEAS and the Illinois State Police organized and deployed 300 officers from Illinois to Louisiana to aid in the Katrina disaster. Illinois was the only State to deploy local officers along with state officers as one group. Dubbed Task Force Illinois, these 300 officers (in two 150-officer iterations) took with them everything they needed to survive; food, water, shelter, radios, generators, boats, etc. All they needed was a mission and a plot of ground to establish a command area. These officers, representing 110 law enforcement agencies, drove 368,857 miles in patrol in Louisiana, worked 46,733 hours, and cost \$1,910,250 to deploy.

While deployed, a second hurricane, Rita, struck the area. Even though this was an Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) interstate response, the organizational and logistical effort was also an excellent training exercise for the ILEAS system of mutual aid inside Illinois.

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – ILEAS has purchase and distributed over 24,000 AVON FM-12 respirators - one for every law enforcement officer in the state. Additionally, each officer received a nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) canister and a carrying case. ILEAS stockpiled 16,000 additional canisters throughout the state as a contingency supply for extended emergencies.

- Web Page and Technology – ILEAS has invested heavily in its web page and technology. Along with aforementioned MessageOne, ILEAS has developed a password protected online membership database. Every agency with a mutual aid agreement can sign onto the page and develop their mutual aid plans (also known as “alarm cards”) complete with pre-planned response agencies and staging areas complete with computerized maps. All members can also list the resources that they possess which would be available to any other public safety agency. ILEAS staff can send messages to a single agency or make county, region and/or statewide messages to every chief, sheriff and senior command officer from a member agency.

This database and computer system has been leveraged successfully in the last year. ILEAS provided grants for homeland security equipment and the grant application was online and part of each agency’s online file. The Katrina reimbursement application was also online as well as training overtime reimbursement and training summaries of the WMD SRT’s.

Additionally, the web page was used as the primary means of communicating information to the membership during the Hurricane Katrina disaster and deployment. IT is now the primary source of homeland security information for law enforcement in Illinois.

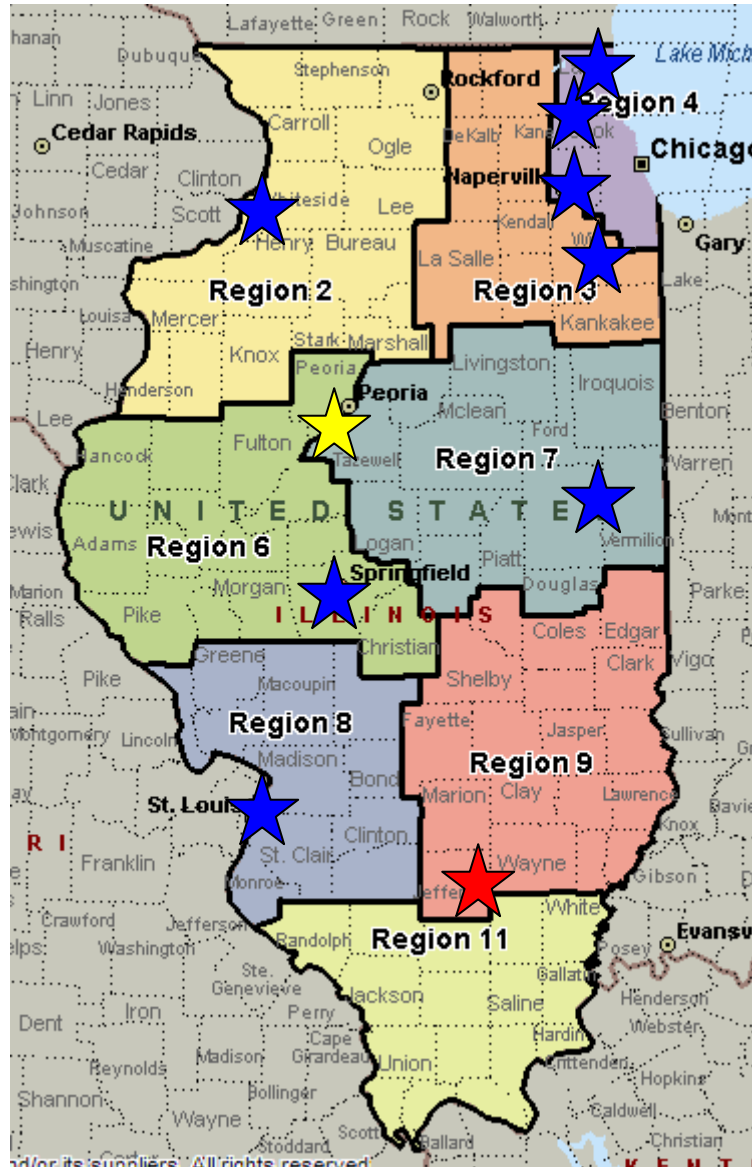
- Credentialing – ILEAS has partnered with the Illinois State Police to develop and implement a statewide credentialing system which is compatible with the Federal system and would be available to all special teams in Illinois. ILEAS is acting as the fiscal agent and the State Police are developing the contracts and the technology. These credentials are being tested in 2005 and will be implemented in 2006.
- Staff – When it was first conceived and implemented, ILEAS had no staff other than some contract support from the Regional Institute for Community Policing in Springfield, Illinois. In July of 2005, ILEAS contracted with James Page to be the first Executive Director. Since then, ILEAS has added three part-time employees - training coordinator, special teams manager and grant planner. Additionally, ILEAS has contracted with Southern Illinois University for a full time graduate school intern each semester. ILEAS also has an additional contract with a programming service to provide custom programming for its web page and member database.
- Mobile Command Posts – The Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) requested that ILEAS purchase 13 large mobile command post vehicles. ILEAS worked with the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), the fire mutual aid organization in Illinois, to develop the specifications for these vehicles. ILEAS contracted with LDV, Burlington, Wisconsin to provide these vehicles. They were distributed as state assets strategically around the State. As of this writing, 7 of the 13 have been built and distributed.
- Annual Training and Planning Conferences – ILEAS has held two very successful training and planning conferences. These conferences were attended by over 600 people, primarily from the law enforcement community in Illinois. During these conferences there are general training sessions, breakout training sessions and one entire morning where attendees meet with other attendees from their region. These regional meetings foster cooperative relations and regional mutual aid.
- Local Grants – In 2004 and 2005 ILEAS distributed \$10 million in grants to local law enforcement agencies for purposes of training, homeland security equipment and interoperable communications. ILEAS partnered with the Information Technology Committee to distribute over 500 mobile data computers (MDC) – so as to extend the field availability of information and intelligence through the ICLEAR and LEADS systems.




2006 Initiatives

In 2006, ILEAS plans to complete projects that are “in-progress” and to develop a strategy to sustain these efforts. Additionally, ILEAS plans to begin implementation of these initiatives:

- Regional Distribution Site Security Teams (RDSST) – in 2005, ILEAS funded and began the development of ten 50-officer Regional Distribution Site Security Teams. These teams will respond as a crowd control element when either the National Strategic Stockpile is distributed or for any other homeland security related civil disturbance issue arises.
- WMD Special Response Teams (SRT's) – ILEAS plans to finish the 10th and 11th teams in 2006. Additionally, the process of sustaining the present teams - replacing equipment and training new members – will continue.
- Local Grants – ILEAS plans to continue this program in FY 2006. However, the projects will be more focused on interoperable communications. ILEAS will partner with the Illinois Telecommunications Emergency Response Team (ITERT) to develop a local law enforcement grant program focused on a regional interoperable communications solution.
- Personal Protective Equipment – ILEAS will purchase additional respirators and canisters for distribution to local law enforcement agencies. This new supply is intended to provide local departments a resource for replacing worn or broken masks as well as provide masks for newly hired officers. The purpose of this 2006 effort is to continue the streamlining and uniform implementation of respirators in Illinois so that all departments are using the same mask and adopting the same standards.
- Additional Specialized Resources - In 2006, ILEAS will implement the new additional specialized resources function on the secured website. Any authorized law enforcement agency will be able to sign onto the secured website and find any specialized equipment or resource (i.e., watercraft, SWAT teams, K-9's, bomb teams, aircraft, etc.) that is available from other law enforcement agencies in the State.
- Credentialing – ILEAS, along with the Illinois State Police, will implement the new credentialing system in 2006 for all special teams to include, fire, police, public health, etc. ILEAS will also provide funds to local agencies to join the credentialing systems so as to develop a statewide standard for credentials.

ILEAS Regions and the Locations of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Special Response Teams (SRT)



-  - Fully Trained & Equipped
-  - Training and Equipping Underway
-  - Formed—Training and Equipping Not Complete