

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

1776 EAST WASHINGTON URBANA, IL 61802 (217) 384-3776 (217) 384-3765 – PHYSICAL PLANT (217) 384-3896 – FAX (217) 384-3864 – TDD Website: www.co.champaign.il.us ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT
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July 10, 2007

Mr. Corey D. Gruber
Acting Deputy Administrator
National Preparedness Directorate
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane Building 410
Washington, D.C. 20528-7000

Re: ILEAS and Champaign County Training Facility Partnership

Mr. Gruber:

The purpose of my letter is to convey to you Champaign County governments support for the ILEAS proposed training facility which would utilize our recently vacated Nursing Home. Over the past 10 years the County taxpayers have entrusted our local government with over \$60 million in new facility construction. In 2003 Champaign County and ILEAS partnered in developing office space for what was at that time a novice organization. Since that initial cooperative effort the respect for each organization has grown each year and we have consistently assisted each other on projects. ILEAS has assisted the County in obtaining funding to enhance security at our Emergency Communications Center while the County has reciprocated by developing office space for an organization which has gone from fledgling to an agency recognized throughout Illinois for its professionalism and expertise.

With the construction of a new Nursing Home facility the County Board finds itself in possession of 13 acres and a 130,000 square foot facility without a defined utilization. The County Board has directed that the facility and property will remain under County ownership but will be developed in partnership with agency(s) which has a benefit to our community. The proposed ILEAS training facility not only meets our criteria for reuse but will exceed every expectation by exposing Champaign County on a national level. The County commits to remodel the facility to meet ILEAS unique training and administrative requirements. Additionally, the County will propose a below market lease and provide maintenance support.

I want to close by assuring you that your investment dollars in this project will have a positive affect not only by providing a desperately needed unique training facility, but also enhancing the economy of Champaign County and the State of Illinois. If you invest in Champaign County you will enjoy the full support of the local governments and citizenry.

Sincerely,

Denny Imman, Champaign County Administrator of Facilities & Procurement