



Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor
Eric E. Whitaker, M.D., M.P.H., Director

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To: Jim Page, Executive Director
Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS)

From: David W. Culp, Ph.D.
Emergency Officer
Assistant Deputy Director, Office of Preparedness and Response

Re: Urbana Training Facility

Date: June 15, 2007

I am writing to you in support of the Regional Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) Training Center being planned in Urbana at the site of the former Champaign County Nursing Home. It is my understanding that while the facility is configured as a medical establishment; ILEAS is planning on converting the site to a training center. It is also my understanding that the majority of patient rooms and the building itself will be left in a medical facility configuration. This is a potentially very advantageous opportunity for the health and medical response community of Illinois. Many emergency events have the potential to require the sheltering of displaced and/or injured citizens; a requirement this facility could potentially fulfill. Furthermore the Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team (IMERT) and the Illinois Nurses Emergency Needs Team (INVENT) are fully in support of ILEAS developing this site into a training center and look forward to working with ILEAS in the future as the site evolves into an emergency response training facility and a significant resource for the State of Illinois.