

Rod R. Blagojevich  
Governor



Col. Jill Morgenthaler  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
Public Safety

2200 South Dirksen Parkway ~ Springfield, IL 62703-4554 ~ Phone: (217) 558-1334 ~ Fax: (217) 558-1335  
www.ready.illinois.gov

Mike Chamness – Chair  
Illinois Terrorism Task Force

**Members**

American Public Works Assoc.  
American Red Cross  
Archer -Daniels-Midland  
Associated Fire Fighters of IL  
Central Management Services  
Cities of Bloomington-Normal  
Cities of Champaign-Urbana  
City of Aurora  
City of Chicago  
City of Joliet  
City of Naperville  
City of Peoria  
City of Rockford  
City of Springfield  
Cook County ESDA  
Department of Homeland Security/FEMA-Region V  
DuPage County OEM  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Governor's Office  
IL Assoc. of Chiefs of Police  
IL Assoc. of Public Health Administrators  
IL Assoc. of School Boards  
IL Attorney General's Office  
IL College of Emergency Physicians  
IL Coroners Association  
IL Department of Agriculture  
IL Department of Corrections  
IL Department of Military Affairs  
IL Department of Natural Resources  
IL Department of Public Health  
IL Department of Transportation  
IL Education Association  
IL Emergency Management Agency  
IL Emergency Services Management Assoc.  
IL Environmental Protection Agency  
IL Firefighters Association  
IL Fire Chiefs Association  
IL Fire Services Association  
IL Fire Service Institute  
IL Health Care Association  
IL Law Enforcement Alarm System  
IL Law Enforcement Training & Standards Bd.  
IL Municipal League  
IL National Emergency Number Association  
IL Office of The State Fire Marshal  
IL Public Health Mutual Aid System  
IL Security Chiefs Association  
IL Sheriffs Association  
IL State Police  
IL States Attorneys Association  
Kane County ESDA  
Lake County ESDA  
Metro East (St. Clair-Madison)  
Mutual Aid Box Alarm System  
Quad Cities (Moline-E. Moline-Rock Island)  
Regional Superintendents of Schools  
School Crisis Assistance Team  
Secretary of State Police  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Will County EMA

**Committees**

Bioterrorism  
Chicago/Cook County UASI Workgroup  
Communications  
Crisis Response & Prevention  
Elected Officials/Mayors Workgroup  
Emergency Management Workgroup  
Fire Mutual Aid  
Information Technology  
Law Enforcement Mutual Aid  
Private Sector  
Public Information  
Science & Technology  
Training  
Transportation  
Volunteers & Donations

July 3, 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

Dear Mr. Gruber:

This letter is to support the proposal by the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) to lease the Champaign County Nursing Home (CCNH) facility in partnership with members of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (National Center for Biomedical Research and Training, Texas Engineering Extension Service, Center for Domestic Preparedness and Counter Terrorism Operations Support) to conduct national level law enforcement training and support other Illinois and regional homeland security preparedness and response activities.

ILEAS is a coalition of more than 850 local law enforcement agencies in Illinois whose mission 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 public safety. The Illinois State Police, every county sheriff and 748 police agencies, including the City of Chicago are members. ILEAS exists legally as a consortium, or coalition, of local agencies organized and incorporated pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Illinois (Ill. Const. Art. VII, sec. 10), the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act (5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.), the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act (745 ILCS 10/7-101 et seq.) and the Illinois Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/11-1-2.1).

ILEAS is a gubernatorial appointment to the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) and, as such, represents all local law enforcement on matters of homeland security in Illinois. ILEAS also is a pivotal member of the ITTF Training Committee and works with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, the Mobile Team Law Enforcement Training Units, the Dept. of Homeland Security Grants and Training Division and several private contractors to supply training to special teams and to officers throughout Illinois.



In addition to the partnership with members of the Training Consortium to establish a permanent location in the Midwest to conduct national law enforcement training, the State of Illinois believes the facility could also serve and support:

- Regional homeland security contingency equipment storage, including pandemic influenza equipment and pharmaceutical supplies;
- Assembly point for Emergency Management Assistance Compact and regional deployments of Illinois homeland security assets;
- Training conducted by other federal and state agencies to support the National Preparedness Goal and Illinois Homeland Security Strategy;
- Training for "emergency action" drills used by law enforcement agencies when responding to "active shooters" and Illinois National Guard units doing urban assault and room clearing exercises;
- Local training facility for the University of Illinois, Police Training Institute and Champaign County teams when not in use by the NCBRT and other contractors;
- Mass Evacuation Shelter for the State of Illinois and American Red Cross; and
- Illinois State Police regional training facility for the implementation of the Illinois Citizen and Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting system.

The ITTF has studied this proposal in detail and strongly supports this initiative. This facility would greatly enhance the ability of the State of Illinois and other Midwest states to prepare for and respond to a major event and serve as a national model for a centralized, multi-jurisdictional homeland security training facility.

Sincerely,



Mike Chamness, Chair  
Illinois Terrorism Task Force

Cc: James Page, Executive Director  
Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System