



HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE NEW MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

ILEAS' goal is to get every current member to sign the new mutual aid agreement in the next year. ILEAS has worked to make the process as simple as possible. Here are the pertinent steps to getting your agency onto the new agreement:

ARE YOU A PUBLIC AGENCY?

- A public agency is defined by the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act (5 ILCS 220/2(1)). Counties, municipalities, townships, special districts, school districts, and public community college districts are all examples of public agencies.
- If you are not a public agency, but your agency has lawful police power and you want to maintain your participation in ILEAS or are interested in joining, please review paragraph six of the mutual aid agreement and contact Jim Page at ILEAS at 217-328-3800.

OBTAIN A COPY OF THE NEW AGREEMENT

- ILEAS is mailing a hard copy to every local law enforcement agency in Illinois. The new agreement is also available for download online at www.ileas.org.
- Please note that every agency must adopt the same agreement. The key to regional and statewide mutual aid is that every agency adopt the identical agreement to all others. For that reason, individual modifications to the agreement cannot be accepted.
- If your city or county attorneys have questions, please direct them to ILEAS at 217-328-3800 or to Executive Director Jim Page at jpage@ileas.org.

ADOPTION

Your county, city, town, village or other public agency is empowered to join ILEAS by several Illinois laws. You may want to review the following:

- Constitution of the State of Illinois (Ill. Const. Art. VII, § 10)
- Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act (5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.)
- Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act (745 ILCS 10/7-101 et seq.)
- Illinois Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/11-1-2.1)

However, the procedures your agency needs to follow to adopt this agreement also depend on your own local rules and legislation. Most agencies will pass a resolution through a board or council. A sample resolution to get you started is available for download online at www.ileas.org.

Whether through ordinance, resolution or other procedure employed by your public agency, your public agency should clearly authorize someone, or someone who holds a specific office, to sign the new mutual aid agreement. Remember, the individual who signs is signing not for themselves but as a representative of the public agency which is desiring to become part of a mutual aid agreement – a public agency is never a person or position (even if elected).

SIGNATURE

Near the end of the new agreement, your public agency, through a recognized agent of the public agency, will find the place to sign and notarize your agreement. This should be completed in the presence of a Notary Public by an agent of your county, city, town, village or other public agency who has been given the authority to sign this agreement.

There is no place for ILEAS to sign the agreement because your agreement is with the hundreds of other agencies that are signing the exact same agreement. You are not entering into an agreement with ILEAS, you are creating a stronger ILEAS and reaffirming your commitment to law enforcement mutual aid throughout the State of Illinois. As part of its centralization and coordination responsibilities, ILEAS will collect all the signed agreements and keep them on file.

FILING

- Print and sign two documents. Keep one original for your records. Send a signed original to ILEAS along with any supporting documentation deemed appropriate such as the adoptive resolution.
- ILEAS will provide a copy by posting it on a secured website established just for your agency.



For further information, please contact us at:
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THE PATH FORWARD



WHAT DOES MEMBERSHIP IN ILEAS OFFER TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES?

ILEAS is the largest and most effective law enforcement mutual aid organization in the United States. Over 900 counties, cities and other units of local government have joined ILEAS. ILEAS member agencies employ over 95% of the law enforcement officers in Illinois. ILEAS' motto is "Strength Through Cooperation." Its continuing mission is to reduce costs and increase effectiveness of local law enforcement through the combining and sharing of resources and statewide coordination of mutual aid. ILEAS has been recognized by state and federal authorities as having one of the most robust law enforcement mutual aid capabilities in the United States.

STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID

When joining ILEAS, every city, county or special district which has a law enforcement capability signs the same Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement. This agreement 1) provides the capability to request or to deploy law enforcement resources both regionally and across the State of Illinois at no cost, and 2) creates the organization called ILEAS which coordinates those mutual aid requests 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. Examples include the historic Southern Illinois Flooding (2011), the tornadoes that struck Harrisburg (2012) and Washington (2013). Those affected Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs made one call to ILEAS which coordinated the response statewide. Dozens of local law enforcement officers responded to each of those calls for help – at no cost to the requesting agencies. If a disaster is declared and public assistance is authorized, ILEAS assists the responding and requesting agencies in applying for cost reimbursements from the State or Federal government. Additionally, the ILEAS mutual aid agreement provides a mutual understanding of liability with regard to insurance coverage and worker's compensation.

SPECIALIZED TEAMS OF LOCAL OFFICERS AND DEPUTIES

ILEAS has also created regionalized, multi-jurisdictional specialized teams drawn from participating agencies which are capable of responding throughout the State when necessary. These teams include Special Response Teams (SRT) and Mobile Field Force (MFF) teams. The SRT teams are regionally based SWAT teams of 25 to 35 officers that have received hundreds of hours of Federally-approved training and are equipped with the highest quality equipment available. The SRT teams can provide basic SWAT services across the State and are also trained to manage tactical problems in a contaminated or potentially contaminated environment.

The Mobile Field Forces are also regionally based and each team consists of approximately 60 highly trained and equipped officers from participating

agencies who are specially trained to deal with civil unrest and crowd control while respecting everyone's First Amendment rights. The MFF teams are also trained to provide Law Enforcement Patrol Team services to provide long term police services after disasters strike. They are, in essence, a portable police department that can be moved anywhere in the State to assist stricken jurisdictions. ILEAS also provides funding for and supports nine local Bomb Teams in Illinois.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE

When a disaster strikes requiring more law enforcement resources than your city, town, village or county has available, ILEAS will notify other member agencies in the region and coordinate as many officers and equipment requested. At least one ILEAS employee with years of law enforcement disaster management experience will be available to respond to provide planning support for the affected chief or sheriff. ILEAS will work with the Illinois State Police, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and other state and regional agencies to ensure a coordinated response providing tools for the stricken agency to effectively and efficiently manage the situation. ILEAS does NOT take over or manage the incident. That responsibility and authority remains with the local law enforcement executives and civil authorities. ILEAS provides support, both in terms of resources and planning advice based on experience. Go to the ILEAS home page at www.ileas.org for video testimonials regarding previous responses to local disasters.

ILEAS GOVERNANCE

As defined in the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, ILEAS is a public agency which has representative oversight and a staff based in Urbana, Illinois. ILEAS has a 21-member Governing Board consisting of, 1) eight chiefs of Police and eight sheriffs elected by the member agencies based out of eight regions throughout the State, 2) representatives from the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police and the Illinois Sheriffs' Association, 3) an appointee of the Director of the Illinois State Police and 4) two appointees from the Chicago Police Department. ILEAS is subject to the Open Meeting Act, the Freedom of Information Act, conducts annual independent financial audits and complies with other statutes governing public agencies. ILEAS receives its funding in the form of Federal Homeland Security Grants provided to ILEAS by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. Members pay a very low annual dues based on the agency size. Most agencies dues equal the cost of one tank of gas for a squad car.

ILEAS is not a State agency. It is a separately-existing public agency that is formed by a consortium of public agencies which have come together by intergovernmental agreement for the mutual benefit of all of the signatory public agencies. ILEAS exists to provide operational support and services to local law enforcement by harnessing and cultivating the power of collaboration and cooperation!



HISTORY OF ILEAS – HOW IT STARTED AND HOW IT GREW!

ILEAS is a consortium of over 900 local law enforcement public agencies established 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 was created as a public agency when, after September 11th, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, the Illinois Sheriffs' Association, the Chicago Police Department, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the Illinois State Police worked together to create a statewide law enforcement mutual aid organization.

ILEAS was based on the same mutual aid principles that governed the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) which is the statewide fire services mutual aid system. Based on decades long success of MABAS, ILEAS emulated MABAS' agreement and structure and expanded the concept statewide. In 2003, member agencies elected the first Governing Board. Local jurisdictions started adopting the mutual aid agreement and the first Governing Board was elected – ILEAS was in business!

ESTABLISHING MUTUAL AID

ILEAS' first order of business was collecting a database of resources possessed by its member agencies and contracting with both Northwest Central Dispatch in Arlington Heights and Peoria Dispatch for dispatch support. ILEAS maintains the database which includes number of officers/deputies, squad cars, K-9 units, SWAT teams, translators, and mobile command posts. ILEAS makes this updated database available to the dispatch centers. When a member agency is in need, it simply calls the dispatch center and makes its resource requests. The dispatch agency queries the database to determine the closest agency with that resource. That agency is then called and a request is made for them to respond to aid the stricken jurisdiction.

ILEAS' first official request for mutual aid was the tornado in Utica on April 20, 2004. That activation was so successful that the word spread throughout Illinois and hundreds of agencies joined ILEAS. From that first successful mutual aid activation in Utica, ILEAS grew rapidly and is now capable of handling virtually any size of mutual aid requests, both in- and out-of-State. ILEAS coordinated the deployment of 287 officers to assist the Chicago Police during the NATO Summit in May of 2012, 150 officers and deputies to accompany State Troopers sent to Katrina in August of 2005 and 25 local officers accompanying the Illinois State Police to New Jersey after Super-Storm Sandy in November of 2012.

IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE WAY

While ILEAS has been operationally very successful, it is always looking for ways to improve. ILEAS has fine-tuned its special team training, exercising and deployment process. ILEAS engaged the services of retired experienced senior law enforcement commanders and executives to provide planning and operational support services in the field directly to member agencies. When funds are available, ILEAS has provided millions of dollars of equipment in the form of ruggedized laptops, radiation detectors, respirators and mobile command post vehicles. ILEAS represents the homeland security needs and interests of its members to the State Terrorism Task Force and to Federal agencies when necessary.

The original database on paper was moved online for a more efficient and flexible implementation. It can now be updated in seconds and made available to every agency for use in non-emergencies. In 2014, ILEAS will start the implementation of a modernization and expansion of its resource

database capabilities. More data will be gathered about each member agency so that a more focused response to a request for assistance can be made. At the requests of various sheriffs, ILEAS will collect information about correctional resources throughout the State so that sheriffs can reach out to ILEAS for correctional mutual aid in addition to general law enforcement.

THE NEXT STEP

The law enforcement mutual aid agreement has remained a constant for the last ten years. ILEAS is no different than other vibrant and successful enterprises that are constantly looking for ways to improve and build on their success. ILEAS has undertaken a year-long examination of the mutual aid agreement and determined that it can build on success by implementing improvements to the agreement. Modifications have been identified that will offer more flexibility and provides a more robust description of ILEAS' mandate in order to protect ILEAS and its member agencies in an increasingly litigious society.

During this mutual aid agreement review, ILEAS sought advice from private counsel, General Counsel for the Governor of Illinois, General Counsel of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the Attorney General's Office. Based on that advice and discussion internally, the ILEAS Governing Board has authorized the implementation of a new updated Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement to be implemented in 2014!



COMPARING THE OLD AND NEW MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS

Since 2003, there has been an ILEAS mutual aid agreement which was initially executed by a multitude of public agencies in the wake of the events of the September 11th terrorist attacks. The original mutual aid agreement has never been updated, modified or changed since its inception. The elected representatives of those agencies desire to enhance and reaffirm their commitment to law enforcement mutual aid while outlining more specifics with regard to the relationship that currently exists between each of the public agencies forming ILEAS as a public agency and ILEAS itself.

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE CURRENT AND NEW AGREEMENTS

- Mutual aid is handled exactly the same
 - ✦ Agencies can request mutual aid assistance and receive it in the exact same fashion under the new agreement as it can pursuant the current agreement
 - ✦ The chief executive of the requesting agency is still in charge of any incident where mutual aid is rendered
- The Governing Board process is virtually identical
 - ✦ The Governing Board will still be based on elections of chiefs and sheriffs in the regions and with the appointed members from the Illinois State Police, Chicago Police and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police and the Illinois Sheriff's Association.
 - ✦ The current Governing Board stays in place until 2015 when regional elections take place.
- The ILEAS operation will not change
 - ✦ ILEAS will still employ staff to manage the mutual aid requests, special teams support, regional planning support, grant processing, etc.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE CURRENT AND NEW AGREEMENTS

- The clarity of intent that the signatory member public agencies agree to create ILEAS
 - ✦ The original agreement established the ILEAS Governing Board in one sentence. Pursuant to that, the Governing Board was created and adopted by-laws which guides its actions.
 - ✦ The new mutual aid agreement provides a very detailed and specific process for governance so that every agency signing the agreement understands the underpinnings of ILEAS, the nature of the organization, how ILEAS is governed and a clear description of the relationship of the parties executing and being formed by the agreement.
- The inclusion of the basic by-laws into the actual agreement
 - ✦ A significant portion of the new agreement sets out the process by which ILEAS is governed in a fashion that is consistent with the laws and regulations of the State of Illinois while adding clarity to the operations of ILEAS.
 - ✦ Working off the original agreement which was determined to be adequate but not ideally detailed in a fashion that promoted the adaptability and modern needs of ILEAS and those forming ILEAS, the Governing Board desires to have a set of processes which more specifically identifies how ILEAS works and recognizes the need of ILEAS to change as circumstances change.
- The establishment of an amendment process so that the agreement can be kept current without completely replacing it each time an improvement is necessary
 - ✦ The original agreement did not provide for an amendment process. If new laws or regulations require a change in the agreement, ILEAS would have to go through the entire process of implementing a new agreement by having all 900 members sign anew.

- ✦ The new agreement provides a process that amendments can be made by a vote of signatory public agencies instead of implementing an entirely new agreement
- Creating a smooth transition from the original agreement to the new agreement over a period of time
 - ✦ The new agreement is written in such a way that the current agreement and the new agreement can co-exist for a period of time to avoid operational disruption.
 - ✦ ILEAS' goal is to get every agency to sign onto the new agreement as soon as possible; but failure to sign the new agreement will not jeopardize an agency's ability to respond to or request mutual aid.
- More clearly defining the legal foundation of ILEAS and signatory public agencies' agreement:
 - ✦ As time passes and the legal environment changes, organizations need to constantly examine their foundational documents to ensure that they are compliant with current laws and court cases.
 - ✦ ILEAS is a unique organization that only has a handful of peer agencies in Illinois and it does not fit into common categories such as a unit of local government like a city or county. Because ILEAS is a public agency without the ability to levy a tax, a well-established foundation is necessary to ensure ILEAS is on solid legal footing in the future.
- Establishes a more specific minimum level of insurance coverage for participating agencies.
- Expands the definition of Law Enforcement Personnel to include Correctional Officers so that sheriffs can utilize the ILEAS mutual aid agreement to assist each other with jail emergencies

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