



# ILEAS Issues Document

## Governing Board Meeting

### December 11, 2025

### Appointment of ILEAS Board President

Since the retirement of President Metzler, Vice President Vittorio has performed the duties of the President, as set forth in the ILEAS bylaws. Because more than a year remains until the next regular election and because some ILEAS business (banking, for example) runs more smoothly with a President in office, ILEAS staff has asked President Vittorio to fill the role of President, in addition to performing the duties of President.

The bylaws provide that the person performing the duties of the President will fill vacancies among the Executive Officers, subject to the “advice and consent” of the Governing Board. In practice, Vice President Vittorio may nominate himself to the office of President and ask the Board for a vote of approval.

#### **Board Action Requested**

At this time, Staff requests that (1) Vice President Vittorio nominate himself to the office of President, and (2) the Board Vote to approve the nomination of Daniel Vittorio to President of the ILEAS Board.

### ILEAS FY25 Homeland Security Grant Budget

At the August 28<sup>th</sup> board meeting, I discussed the difficulties posed during this year’s budget planning and requests to be submitted by agencies to IEMA-OHS covered under the federal Homeland Security Grant program. In our pre-planning, we constructed a budget that matched 2024 to act as a platform to build from once the 2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was released. When it finally was released nearly 4 months late, we were surprised to see that all recipient states received funding that matched or exceeded their previous awards with the exception of Illinois, California, New York and Washington D.C. These states/districts all suffered substantial cuts to their funding with Illinois alone shouldering a **\$28,001,432** reduction, **\$25,915,569** of that coming from the UASI fund. A short deadline for grant budget submission was set prompting an emergency special meeting and a great deal of work by all involved. In the end, Illinois was able to submit a balanced and complete grant application accounting for the reduction but prepared to continue on with the funds to be awarded. ILEAS resubmitted its proposal and adjusted the total request down to **\$4,466,380.48**. **(-\$1,224,201.52)**. The tables below were presented at the August meeting to document the final numbers.

**Illinois Federal Funding**

2024 Homeland Security	2025 Homeland Security	Reduction
\$12,505,419	\$10,419,556	-\$2,085,863
2024 UASI	2025 UASI	
\$59,395,378	\$33,479,819	-\$25,915,569
<b>\$71,900,797</b>	<b>\$43,899,375</b>	<b>-\$28,001,432</b>

Grant	2025 SHSP	2025 UASI	2025 Original Total	2025 Adjusted Total	Difference	% Change
Statewide L.E. Mutual Aid Response (CAR)	272,929.00	204,760	477,689.00	477,689.00	0	0%
ILEAS Training	1,038,034.00	0	1,038,034.00	1,006,175.79	-31,858.21	-3.07%
ILEAS Communications	479,131.89	128,711.00	607,842.89	225,231.63	-382,611.26	-62.9%
ILEAS Planning	1,467,043.00	176,685.00	1,643,728.00	1,301,621.95	-342,106.05	-20.8%
Special Teams ILEAS	1,655,551.11	267,737.00	1,923,288.11	1,455,662.11	-467,626.00	-24.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,912,689.00</b>	<b>777,893.00</b>	<b>5,690,582.00</b>	<b>4,466,380.48</b>	<b>-1,224,201.52</b>	<b>-21.5%</b>

On September 29, 2025 we received this notification from Bob Evans, the IEMA-OHS Division Chief who is directly involved with our grant program. (BOLD lettering added by L.Evans)

Good afternoon,

This weekend, IEMA-OHS received the award notifications from FEMA for the FFY 25 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) and Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program. **There are items in these notifications that differ from the Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs).**

Both HSGP and EMPG had their performance periods reduced from **three years to one year (10/1/25-9/30/26)**. EMPG’s performance period listed in the NOFO was 10/1/24-9/30/27, and HSGP’s performance period listed in the NOFO was 9/1/25-8/31/28.

**Additionally, the HSGP award amounts were reduced, with the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) award at \$4,362,750 (\$10,419,556 was the amount in the NOFO) and the UASI award at \$9,395,829 (\$33,479,819 was the amount in the NOFO).**

IEMA-OHS has 60 days to accept these awards, and we are currently pursuing multiple courses of action including obtaining additional information, identifying potential impacts and scenarios, and working with the Illinois Attorney General regarding potential legal action. Our Agency will keep you informed as we know more and this situation evolves.

Thank you,  
Bob

Robert Evans, Division Chief  
Division of Preparedness and Grant Administration  
Illinois Emergency Management Agency-Office of Homeland Security

What this means is that despite assigning Illinois specific funding target amounts in the NOFO, once the final award was made, the amounts and terms were completely changed without notice. The grant funding being changed to a single year is problematic for purchasing and long-term planning and the money being reduced by another **\$30,140,796** from what was announced is a serious issue. From last year's grant total award of **\$71,900,797**, Illinois suffered an **81% cut (\$58,142,218)** leaving only **\$13,758,579** for the whole program. (UASI=**\$9,395,829**, Non UASI=**\$4,362,750**)

**Board Action Requested:**

I prepared the document on 3 December, 2025. There will be a meeting of the HSAC with IEMA-OHS staff on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. I am hopeful that we will learn more at that meeting that I am able to convey during the discussion of this topic during this Governing Board meeting on Dec. 11.

**Unmet Needs**

As part of the annual budget process, agencies supported by the HSAC begin planning in January for the approaching grant period. Each year, the IEMA-OHS awards a variety of grants to multiple agencies to achieve Illinois homeland security, emergency and disaster relief and resiliency goals. ILEAS is funded almost exclusively through these grant funds and submits budget proposals annually. During the budget cycle, all agencies make requests for funding but unfortunately, there are always more requests than money available. This means that there are always unmet needs and gaps in the agency project planning. However, history has shown that as the year progresses, and deadlines approach, many agencies are unable to utilize the funds that they were allocated, or additional funding is received and as a result, must be redistributed to ensure timely expenditure. IEMA-OHS polls all grantees to meet within their respective committees and determine an unmet needs document that consists of items that are already part of an existing program and are considered "shovel ready" for immediate action

On 8 September, 2025 a list of items including approximate cost and LEMAC prioritization was prepared and sent to IEMA-OHS. The items listed are able to be incorporated into an already approved and funded grant classification and all are scalable meaning that if only partial funding is available, we can do a portion of the purchase without having to kill the entire initiative. Note that the number 1 priority for ILEAS was the need to return funding cut from our initial budget request in order to help us meet costs associated with normal operation.

On 22 October, 2025 the Full membership of the IEMA-OHS HSAC met, reviewed and approved this proposed LEMAC unmet needs list.

**SFY 26 LEMAC Unmet Needs Priority**

8 September, 2025

Priority	Agency	Item	Cost	Scalable	Description
4	ILEAS	Program Funds	\$250,000	Yes	Available funds that can be used to recover program budget cuts.
5	ILEAS	Thermal Sights	\$70,740	Yes	EOTECH Long Range Thermal Sight 6 units \$11,790 ea. Project Completion
6	ILEAS	Tactical Comms Headsets	\$102,355	Yes	80 Tactical Signal Headsets for SRT to replace outdated/damaged equipment \$1,279 per unit. Multi-year project
7	ILEAS	Tactical Plate Carriers	\$34,931	Yes	Hyper X Tactical Plate Carriers and accessories. 45 units \$776.25 per. Multi-year project
8	ILEAS	LEMUR 2 UAS	\$105,000	Yes	Equip each supported WMD/SRT with a tactical UAS for use similar to ISP capabilities. 6 Units \$15,500 ea.
	<b>ILEAS</b>		<b>\$563,026</b>		
1	ISP	Bomb Suits	\$100,000	Yes	2 Med-ENG 10 Bomb Suits for SOS
2	ISP	SWAT OPS	\$100,000	Yes	OPS SWAT Personnel & Travel
	<b>ISP</b>		<b>\$200,000</b>		
3	ILET SB	Training Props	\$66,542	N	Manikin Bleeding Training Aid for Threat Master Instructor Course
	<b>ILET SB</b>		<b>\$66,542</b>		
<b>LEMAC Total</b>			<b>\$829,568</b>		

**Requested Board Action:**

No action. Information Only

**Broadview Protest Mutual Aid**

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency launched “Operation Midway Blitz.” The stated goal of this initiative was to “arrest illegal immigrants with criminal records and to crack down on sanctuary policies.” A large contingent of DHS agents were brought into the area to work on this directive.

The Village of Broadview is the site of an ICE facility at the center of Operation Midway Blitz. This facility has become the site for a number of protests as personnel and detainees move in and out of the compound. Broadview has a population of 7,998 with a police department of approximately 30 sworn officers. Their need for assistance in handling a situation of this size was immediately apparent. The Illinois State Police, along with the Cook County Sheriff’s Office, have both responded

with a sizeable amount of personnel and equipment in order to address the needs of the village in crowd control and security while protecting first amendment rights of the participants. Broadview is a NIPAS agency, and NIPAS agencies have played a significant role in support of this mission providing large numbers of personnel and equipment throughout. Since September 25<sup>th</sup>, ILEAS has been notified for assistance nine (9) times via the use of N.W.C.D. and twice via direct request to a MFF Commander. Requests have most often been for known protester plans to come together, usually on Fridays and Saturdays. ILEAS RPCs Tom Gallahue and Mike D’Amico have been immersed in the situation participating in near daily meetings and calls involving commanders and directors of the various responders, maintaining contact with the Broadview police command element and manning a station within the Unified Command Center when appropriate.

<a href="#">2336</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	Protest	60155	11/15/202 5 - 09:00	12/01/202 5 - 15:41	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	RPC	<b>\$ 1,361.09</b> [ 3 / 13 ]
<a href="#">2334</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	Protest	60155	11/14/202 5 - 09:00	12/01/202 5 - 14:54	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	RPC	<b>\$ 816.00</b> [ 1 / 8 ]
<a href="#">2325</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	protest	60155	11/01/202 5 - 13:33	11/01/202 5 - 15:15	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	NWCD	<b>\$ 5,038.32</b> [ 14 / 14 ]
<a href="#">2318</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	traffic control	60155	10/11/202 5 - 17:10	10/16/202 5 - 09:47	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	NWCD	<b>\$ 1,164.30</b> [ 7 / 7 ]
<a href="#">2317</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	CROWD CONTROL FOR ICE PROTEST ERS	60155	10/10/202 5 - 07:50	11/14/202 5 - 09:00	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	NWCD	<b>\$ 5,033.84</b> [ 12 / 12 ]
<a href="#">2312</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	CROWD CONTROL	60155	10/04/202 5 - 19:35	10/04/202 5 - 20:44	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	NWCD	<b>\$ 4,168.27</b> [ 20 / 20 ]
<a href="#">2311</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	Crowd Control	60155	10/03/202 5 - 19:53	10/03/202 5 - 20:49	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	NWCD	<b>\$ 1,982.80</b> [ 13 / 13 ]
<a href="#">2309</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	Traffic Control at Protest	60155	10/03/202 5 - 07:19	10/03/202 5 - 07:48	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	NWCD	<b>\$ 6,303.68</b> [ 13 / 13 ]
<a href="#">2305</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	traffic control	60155	09/26/202 5 - 20:01	09/26/202 5 - 20:43	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	NWCD	<b>\$ 425.33</b> [ 8 / 8 ]
<a href="#">2304</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	traffic control	60155	09/26/202 5 - 06:46	09/26/202 5 - 07:26	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	NWCD	<b>\$ 2,583.35</b> [ 10 / 10 ]
<a href="#">2303</a> <a href="#">EDIT</a>	Broadvie w Police Dept	EQUIPME NT REQUEST	60155	09/25/202 5 - 15:47	09/25/202 5 - 15:47	<a href="#">VIEW</a>	RPC	[ 0 / 0 ]

To date, approximately **565** total manhours have been expended in support of this mission at an estimated cost exceeding **\$33,000**.

**Requested Board Action:**

No action required. Information only

**Ballistic Shield Awards and Upcoming Training**

At the June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, the board approved the purchase of 28 additional Ballistic Shields in furtherance of a long running ILEAS priority to supply them to agencies and regional assets in need post-Uvalde. Funding for this unmet needs project was received after previously paused funds were released and a number of agencies were unable to complete their requested projects due to time restraints. Fourteen United Shield 20X30 III+Shields with Lights (Rifle) and fourteen United Shield MXV-III A 20X34 shields with Special HH Handle and lights (Pistol) grade shields were ordered 16 May, 2025 for a quoted price of **\$150,080.00**. Because of the funds original project assignments, half (7) of the agencies were required to be within the UASI zone and half (7) outside of the UASI zone.

By September, the shields ordered had arrived here at ILEAS and the panel of application evaluators had identified their recommendation for 14 agencies to each receive a set of shields. Notification letters were sent to each of the Chiefs and Sheriffs of these organizations.

UASI Agencies		Non-UASI Agencies	
Forest Park PD	North Chicago PD	Belleville PD	Rock Island Co. SO
Franklin Park PD	Orland Hills PD	Elgin PD	Wheaton PD
Melrose Park PD	Thornton PD	Fairview Heights PD	Woodridge PD
Norridge PD		Kane County SO	

In order to maximize the number of units awarded, a few changes were made to the training requirement and planning for the future. In the past, we have reduced the awarded number of shields to allow us to hold back a small portion of funding to defray the costs associated with hosting a 40-hour Shield Instructor Training Course. During this round, we reduced costs by adjusting the curriculum to be covered in 4 days instead of 5. In addition, for the first time ILEAS allowed agencies who have certified Shield Instructors to pick up their shields without undergoing training, thereby reducing class size. Belleville and Elgin both did this. There was another agency who had received prior certification but requested to attend the ILEAS shield training based on reputation. Training was held in Rolling Meadows on December 1-4.

This program has been extremely successful and well received. 170 Shields have been issued to 85 different agencies for both individual and regional use and response. Due to previously described funding challenges, this latest allocation will likely be the last for some time. In the meantime, staff intends to revisit the application process, work with the evaluation board to identify strengths and weaknesses and be prepared to start the submission process anew to meet future needs.

**Requested Board Action:**

No action. Information Only

**2026 Annual Conference**

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual ILEAS conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield Monday and Tuesday, March 30-31. We will have an early check in and hospitality available on Sunday evening, March 29. Staff have worked very hard this year reviewing input from past evaluations, working with the Conference Committee advisors and looking at other conferences to put together a great event. At this year’s conference we’ve planned to move away from having break-out sessions where everyone splits up and instead, have a number of specific trainings and speakers to address everyone together.

The conference agenda includes:

- *Covenant School Shooting in Nashville* – Commander Scott Byrd, Metropolitan Nashville PD
- *Officer Decertification – Before and After the S.A.F.E.-T Act* – Pat Hahn, ILETSB
- *Extremism in Youth-The Rise of Nihilistic Violent Behavior* – FBI Special Agent Jake Griffin
- Remarks by ISP Director Brendan Kelly
- *Statewide Terrorism Update* – Aaron Kustermann, ISP/STIC

- *Las Vegas 2017: The Route 91 Harvest Music Festival Mass Shooting at Mandalay Bay*  
Chief Deputy Nicholas Farese, Las Vegas Metropolitan PD.

In addition, we will be joined at our banquet by NFL Hall of Fame Defensive Tackle Dan Hampton of the Chicago Bears. He played for Chicago for 12 years including the 1985 Super Bowl XX Championship team.

We have had to make the difficult decision to raise the attendance fee to \$300 this year to keep up with expenses associated with hosting an event like this. This includes all the training sessions, 5 meals and hospitality. Compared to other similar events, we feel this is a very reasonable return on investment. We hope to see as many law enforcement professionals as possible.

**Requested Board Action:**

No Action. Information Only

**ICJIA Less Lethal Alternative for L.E. Grant**

The Less Lethal Alternatives for Law Enforcement Grant (LLA) was extended into its third year in Fiscal Year 26 (FY26), with \$5 million dollars earmarked for this program. The focus will be to provide Tasers and training in de-escalation techniques and other less lethal alternatives to officers throughout the State.

The continuation of this grant has afforded Staff the opportunity to offer Taser 7 or Taser 10 device packages to the remaining applicants who did not receive an award in the previous fiscal cycle. 146 agencies including the Chicago Police Department, have accepted the award and are moving through the purchasing and reimbursement process. Once all awarded items are received and all documentation submitted a reimbursement check will be sent to each of the recipient departments.

With respect to the training portion of the grant, funds have been budgeted to provide Less Lethal Alternative training across the State. ILEAS launched a request for proposals (RFP) on October 2nd seeking qualified vendors to provide in-person training to sworn law enforcement officers and deputies. The proposals were to focus on Less Lethal Alternative topics such as *de-escalation*, *procedural justice* and *cultural competency*. Five (5) vendors responded. After careful consideration of each vendor, their capabilities, and the training courses proposed to ILEAS, selected **Autism Safety 101, Axon, Calibre Press, and Force Science** to explore future contracts with.

**Autism Safety 101** will host an Autism 101 Course. This 1-day “end user” course integrates autism awareness with tactical de-escalation and less-lethal decision-making principles, ensuring safer outcomes for officers and the community members they serve. This class will be held one time in each of the 13 MTU’s. The negotiated cost is **\$3,875** per class = **\$50,375** total.

**Axon** will host 1-day combined Taser 7 and Taser 10 Instructor course at each of the 13 MTU’s. Students are required to complete eight hours of remote, online study prior to the in-person 8-hour day. Eight (8) of the courses will have a ten (10) person capacity. Five (5) of the courses will have a twenty (20) person capacity. The negotiated cost per 10 students is **\$6,786 X 18 = \$122,148**.

**Calibre Press** will host an Avoiding Preventable Uses of Force course. This 1-day “end-user” course will be offered sixteen (16) times with at least one time in each of the 13 MTU’s. The negotiated cost

is **\$8,000** per class. Total contract for Calibre Press = **\$128,000**.

**Force Science** will host a Realistic De-escalation Instructor Course. This 2-day instructor level course will provide officers the opportunity to teach others in their department and/or other area agencies and allow for an even greater reach and impact on the subject matter. The class will be held twice. The negotiated cost is **\$18,000** per class = **\$36,000** total.

**Force Science** will also host a Fundamentals of Realistic De-escalation course. This 1-day “end user” course will be held seven (7) times at varying locations throughout the state. The negotiated cost is **\$9,000** per class = **\$63,000** total.

With the two proposed courses, the total contractual cost with Force Science is **\$99,000**.

ILEAS will continue to work with the vendors and ICJIA to complete all necessary documentation and contractual agreements to move the project forward. Due to ILEAS Purchasing Policy requiring board approval for purchases or total expenditure to a single vendor over \$100,000:

**Requested Board Action:**

1. Staff requests approval to enter into the above-described contract for service with AXON Enterprise, Inc. for a cost not to exceed **\$125,000** for training pursuit to the ICJIA L.L.A. for L.E. Grant.
2. Staff requests approval to enter into the above-described contract for service with Calibre Press for a cost not to exceed **\$130,000** for training pursuit to the ICJIA L.L.A. for L.E. Grant.
3. Staff requests approval to enter into the above-described contract for service with Force Science for a cost not to exceed **\$105,000** for training pursuit to the ICJIA L.L.A. for L.E. Grant.

## **NARCAN Grant Update and Purchase**

Since October 1, 2017, ILEAS has partnered with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to provide NARCAN to first responders. Since the inception of the program, ILEAS has been awarded a total of **\$3,881,869.00**. Over the years, this partnership has grown stronger, with IDPH expressing increased confidence in ILEAS’ ability to adapt to evolving program restrictions and guidelines. When IDPH has additional funds or new initiatives related to overdose response, they consistently look to ILEAS for implementation support.

The **current grant period concluded on September 30, 2025**. Originally designed as a four-year program, the initiative was extended for an additional four years; this marks the final year of that second cycle. During this project, ILEAS has purchased and distributed **76,500** doses of NARCAN to over **670** police and fire agencies statewide. Additionally, this initiative resulted in custom on-line training certifying users in NARCAN uses and delivery.

Currently, there is no actionable information available about the continuation of the program being funded by the federal government. Staff member William “Bill” DeJarnette, who along with INDILUS, devised and built the infrastructure and implemented this outstanding service has unfortunately left employment with ILEAS as a result. We are hopeful that should IDPH be able to secure funding, they will reach out to us knowing the outstanding work that has been performed over the past eight (8) years. The future of this grant’s funding remains uncertain. Illinois has submitted an application to continue the program to the federal government; that application is pending. If there are new developments, we will notify our membership.

**Requested Board Action:**

No action needed. Information only

**DNC**

Reimbursement for the DNC was **received November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. All participating agencies were reimbursed according to their submissions.

2024 DNC	Personnel	Mileage	Fee	Total
ILEAS Agencies	\$1,282,059.24	\$2,441.96	\$0	<b>\$1,284,501.20</b>
ILEAS Personnel/Fee	\$0	\$0	\$38,535.04	<b>\$38,535.04</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,282,059.24</b>	<b>\$2,441.96</b>	<b>\$38,535.04</b>	<b>\$1,323,036.24</b>

**Requested Board Action:**

No action needed. Information Only.

**Disposal of Surplus Property**

In September, ILEAS staff identified vehicles and trailers that were no longer of use here at the training center or had been replaced with newer equipment. Two trailers and one vehicle had originally been purchased with grant funding. These units were cleared for surplus by IEMA and were given away free of charge. The remaining command post vehicle had been purchase using ILEAS Business Account Funds so a minimum bid amount of \$5,000 was requested for it. A notification went out to membership and an opportunity to submit a brief application was made available. After review by staff, the following assignments were made:

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 2006 Chevrolet Bornfree Command Post (\$6,000) | Fulton P.D.       |
| 2010 Ford Expedition                           | Grandview P.D.    |
| 2005 8X16 Trailer                              | Roodhouse P.D.    |
| 2006 Coachman Trailer                          | Brown Co. Sheriff |



All units were picked up or delivered to the agencies with great appreciation. If you have access to Facebook, Fulton Police Department posted a full article about their new vehicle on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. They were thankful for being selected to receive the unit and outlined their intention to customize it for use and share with the surrounding departments and counties.

**Requested Board Action:**

No action needed. Information only

## Assist Local Homeless Shelter

This fall, two Champaign-Urbana organizations led a local effort to open a temporary homeless shelter for men in Champaign. The Champaign-Urbana Public Health District and the Cunningham Township are using space at a vacated Illinois National Guard Armory at 109 E. Park St., Champaign. The aim of the effort is to provide overnight housing starting Nov. 24 and running to April. Their goal was 100 beds, and ILEAS was able to donate 24 vinyl hospital mattresses to their efforts. The mattresses had originally been part of a partnership with a local hospital to create extra offsite space for the hospital. With that effort no longer underway, ILEAS was able to find a home for the mattresses. Champaign County EMA was integral in making the connection between ILEAS and the shelter.

*"I want to send a note for you and the ILEAS Board on the continued support to the community that Training Center provides. You all provided 24 mattresses to the new overnight men's shelter at the old Champaign Armory. This donation will help provide bedding to our local homeless population in the cold winter months. Thank you for thinking of the community when disposing of items that could be used in the community. Thank you so much."*

*Sincerely,*

John Dwyer  
Coordinator Champaign County EMA



### **Requested Board Action:**

No action. Information Only

## ILEAS Governing Board Meeting Dates for 2026

Per the ILEAS by-laws, annual meeting dates are established by the President with advice and consent of the Governing Board. Additionally, there is a mandate that there be no less than four regular meetings throughout each year in addition to the annual Conference meeting.

### **Requested Board Action:**

Staff recommends that President Vittorio propose the following dates for regularly scheduled Governing Board meeting dates during 2026 to be approved by the board.

- January 29<sup>th</sup>
- March 30<sup>th</sup> (during annual conference)
- June 25<sup>th</sup>
- August 27<sup>th</sup>
- October 29<sup>th</sup>
- December 10<sup>th</sup>

## HB4144 Discussion

In June, MABAS Director Glen Ericksen and I met here at the ILEAS training center to discuss an idea that they were exploring that would attempt to correct financial shortfalls due to unplanned reductions. Both ILEAS and MABAS are heavily reliant on federal homeland security grant funds for day-to-day operations to serve our member agencies and the citizens of Illinois. In the years following 9/11, ILEAS was sometimes allocated close to \$20 million in a single year. Predictably, as more time passed those years of large funding allocations began to wane. A multitude of programs and projects that were proposed and approved were winnowed down to a few key areas of service to include the WMD/SRT, Mobile Field Force project, support of EOD, the RPC program and the Mutual Aid and resource management services.

The cuts in federal support threatens to effectively end ILEAS as we have known it for the past 22 years. To ward off extinction of both organizations, HB4144 was proposed and submitted by MABAS with language that included ILEAS. Originally sponsored by Rep. Mary Beth Canty, the initiative has picked up a number of additional supporters. (ctrl+click should take you to the bill)

[Illinois General Assembly - Bill Status of HB4144](#)

My intent is to bring this house bill to the attention of the board and discuss possible future actions.