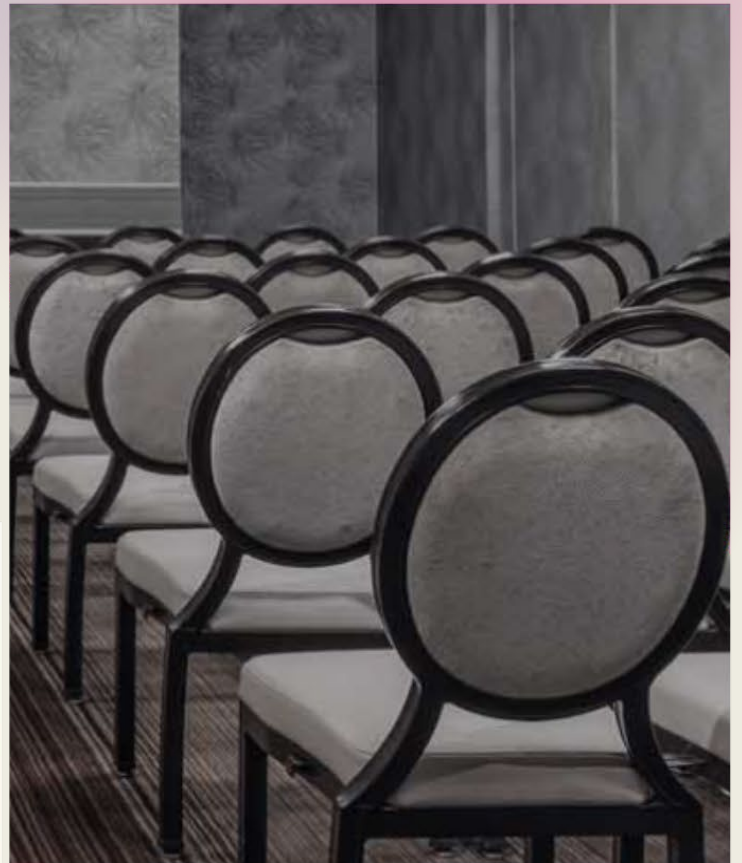




Nevada
Preparedness
Summit 2024
Feb 27th - 28th

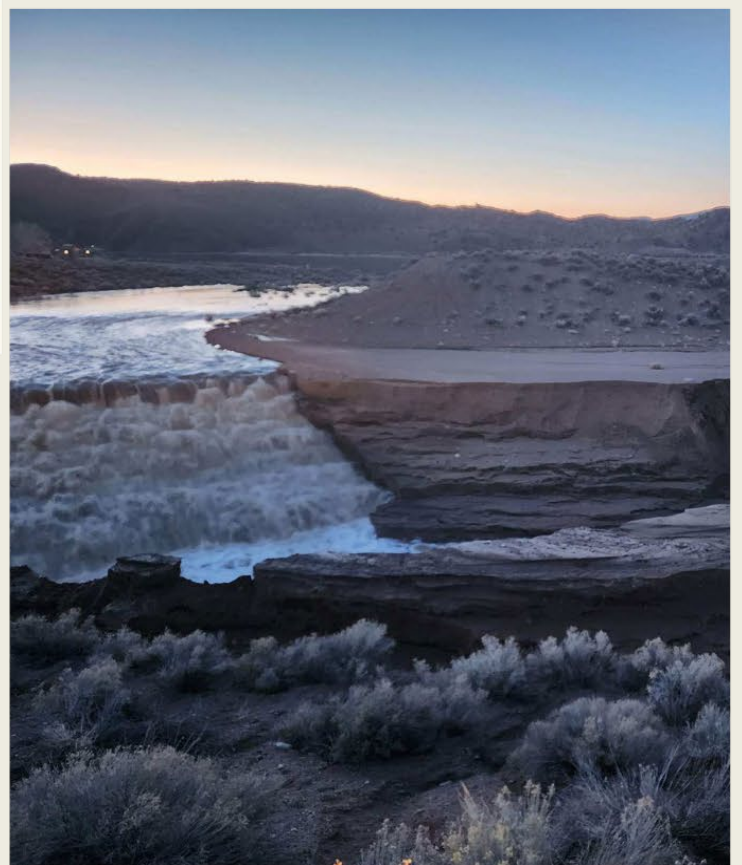


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Pre-Summit Agenda

Monday, February 26, 2024

7:30am – 8:00am	Registration	Las Vegas Valley Water District 1001 S Valley View Blvd Las Vegas, Nevada, 89107
8:00am – 12:00pm	<p>Art of the Mass Gathering</p> <p>Matthew Ché Kowal <i>Co-Founder at Majestic Collaborations</i></p> <p>Tom Claeson <i>Project Director</i> <i>Performing Arts Readiness</i></p> <p>Registration Site: https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fevents.humanitix.com%2fthe-art-of-mass-gatherings-in-nevada&c=E,1,j7X8GO3yLdozYUp1qkWejJXmzbY519z18ES6yZioWQnhAlBnMmm1dtKR7iDuHsnFNS3438nCXYaD_STPUfZYiODXVU-c6cczAfkQR6jcB1I2LsFosUXB&typo=1</p>	Las Vegas Valley Water District 1001 S Valley View Blvd Las Vegas, Nevada 89107
1:00pm – 3:00pm	<p>NevadaContinuity.com Administrator Training</p> <p>Dean Kiernan <i>Clark County School District Emergency Management</i></p> <p>Jennifer Posten <i>RSI</i></p> <p>Registration Site: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RQJNHFI</p>	Las Vegas Valley Water District 1001 S Valley View Blvd Las Vegas, Nevada 89107
<p>9:00 am – 11:30 am</p> <p>1:00pm – 2:30pm</p>	<p>International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) AEM/CEM Exam</p> <p>Todd DeVoe <i>IAEM Region 9 President</i></p> <p>Lindsey Bartlett <i>IAEM Region 9 Treasurer</i></p> <p>Registration Site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 AM Session: https://www.iaem.org/Events/Event-Info/sessionaltcd/02262024EXAM2 • 1:00 PM Session: https://www.iaem.org/Events/Event-Info/sessionaltcd/02262024EXAM <p>Registration Site: Learn more about the IAEM AEM/CEM Certification and Exam Here: https://www.iaem.org/certification/application/initial-certification</p>	Las Vegas Valley Water District 1001 S Valley View Blvd Las Vegas, Nevada 89107
5:00pm – 7:00pm	NEPA Board of Directors Dinner	The Charcoal Room

Full Summit Agenda

Tuesday, February 27, 2024		
7:30am – 4:30pm	Registration	Foyer
8:00am – 8:40am	<p>Opening Ceremonies</p> <p><i>Presentation of the Flag and National Anthem</i></p> <p>President’s Opening Remarks Matthew Williams <i>NEPA President</i> <i>Organizational Resilience Coordinator</i> <i>University of Nevada, Reno</i></p> <p>Nevada’s Emergency Manager/Homeland Security Chief Opening Remarks David Fogerson <i>Division Administrator, Nevada’s Emergency Manager and Homeland Security Chief</i> <i>Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security</i></p> <p>Keynote Address Robert “Bob” Fenton, Jr. <i>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 9 Regional Administrator</i></p>	SALON A, B
8:50am - 9:30am	Breakout Session #1	
	Meeting #1 - Panel Discussion - Gary Scronce, Caleb Cage, and Chris Smith Leading and Managing People—Lessons Learned	SALON A,B
	Meeting #2 - Chris Batterman Tabletop Scenarios; Who, What, When, Why, How	SALON E
	Meeting #3 - Keith Johnson and Robert Patrizi U.S. Dept of Justice, ESF #13 Program - Who we are, what we do, and lessons learned from the Maui Fire response	SALON F
	Meeting #4 - Dawn Johnson What's New with National Weather Service Hydrology and Meteorology?	SALON G
9:40am - 10:20am	Breakout Session #2	
	Meeting #1 – Panel Discussion – Taylor Allison, Jon Bakkedahl, Kara Easton, and Adam Wilson Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse: Foraging into the Future for Quad-County Emergency Management	SALON A,B
	Meeting #2 - Chuck Lineback Prediction and Planning of the Next Pandemic Zoonotic: Incorporating AI In Biological Planning	SALON E
	Meeting #3 - Jesse Murray Lessons from NV Energy's execution of the Natural Disaster Protection Plan	SALON F
	Meeting #4 - Guy Demarco and Patsy McFadden Emotional Intelligence in Emergency Management	SALON G
10:30am - 11:10 am	Breakout Session #3	
	Meeting #1 - Tribal Meeting with DEM Chief Fogerson Tribal Emergency Manager and Public Health Preparedness Meeting with DEM Chief Fogerson	SALON A,B
	Meeting #2 - Roxann Crawford Gaps and Shortfalls for People with Disabilities in Recent Disaster Response and Recovery	SALON E

	Meeting #3 - Rev. Bryan A. Ostaszewski Coping with Grief after Disaster or Traumatic Event	SALON F
	Meeting #4 - Jennifer Posten and Kelly Echeverria How to Supercharge Your Planning: Unveiling a new module in NevadaContinuity.com	SALON G
	Breakout Session #4	
11:20am – 12:00pm	Meeting #1 - Panel Discussion- Craig Nimsgern, Josie Ross, Louie Valdez, Julie Chapman, Kristin Harrell Straight from the Clerk's Mouth. How the Henderson Office of the City Clerk became Event Action Plan believers	SALON A,B
	Meeting #2 - Kyle Cerfoglio Nevada National Guard JOC 101	SALON E
	Meeting #3 - Vanessa Gatto and Jenelle Miller Blank Space: Filling the Gaps in Mutual Aid with Swift Collaboration	SALON F
	Meeting #4 - James Johnston Social and Emotional Intelligence for Emergency Managers	SALON G
12:00pm – 1:00pm	NEPA Awards Luncheon	SALON A,B
1:00pm - 1:50pm	General Session: Cybersecurity Futures 2030: New Foundations for Preparedness Dawn Thomas <i>Managing Director at CNA's Institute for Public Research</i> Matthew Nagamine <i>Manager of Strategic Partnerships at the UC Berkeley Center for Long-Term Cybersecurity</i>	SALON A,B
2:00pm -2:50pm	General Session: State of the International Association of Emergency Managers Region 9 Todd DeVoe <i>IAEM Region 9 President</i>	SALON A,B
	Breakout Session #5	
3:00pm – 3:40pm	Meeting #1 - Panel Discussion - Billy Samuels, Brian O'Neal, Diana Clarkson, and Jason Douglas Collaborative Response and Recovery: Mt. Charleston/Hurricane Hilary Lessons Learned	SALON A,B
	Meeting #2 - CJ Myers Special Event Planning and Crowd Management	SALON E
	Meeting #3 - Kristina Freas Disaster Preparedness Factors of Adults Over the Age of 65	SALON F
	Meeting #4 - Dan Berc A Look at Recent Weather and Water Disasters in Nevada Through the Lens of Climate Change	SALON G
3:50pm – 4:30pm	NEPA Annual Members Meeting	SALON A,B
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Networking Reception	Foyer



Networking Reception Sponsored By:



Wednesday, February 28, 2024		
7:30am – 12:00pm	Registration	Foyer
8:00am – 8:45am	Opening Remarks	SALON A, B
8:00am – 8:40am	Opening Remarks and Keynote Address Brock Long <i>Executive Chairman of Hagerty Consulting</i> <i>Former Administrator of FEMA</i>	SALON A, B
8:50am - 9:30am	Breakout Session #1	
	Meeting #1 - Daniel Thayer Reno Sparks Tribal Health Lessons Learned during an Emergency and Improvement Planning	SALON A,B
	Meeting #2 - Craig Nimsgerm and Josie Ross Win friends and influence planning, Henderson’s preparation for a Special Election	SALON E
	Meeting #3 - Noah Boyer State of Nevada Bomb: Public Safety Bomb Squad’s Responsibilities, Capabilities and Adaptation to Emerging Threats	SALON F
	Meeting #4 - Rob Warfield Operation TOMODACHI– The U.S. Military response to the Black Swan of 2011–The Great Japan Earthquake, Tsunami, and Nuclear Catastrophe	SALON G
9:40am - 10:20am	Breakout Session #2	
	Meeting #1 - Lee Cabaniss and Matt Petersen Emergency Management and Coordination (who says we have enough staffing?)	SALON A,B
	Meeting #2- Paul Burke Development and Operations of the National Center for Virtual Search	SALON E
	Meeting #3 - Daniel Scott Marketing Emergency Management: Strategies to Enhance Public Awareness and Engagement	SALON F
	Meeting #4 - None	SALON G
10:30am - 11:10 am	Breakout Session #3	
	Meeting #1 - William Savran Nevada Seismological Laboratory and Providing Real-Time Situational Awareness for Earthquakes and Wildfires in Nevada and the Greater Lake Tahoe	SALON A,B
	Meeting #2 - Chris Smith and Aaron Kenneston Who should consider a Recovery Exercise? You should! How to plan and execute an effective recovery exercise.	SALON E
	Meeting #3 - Lucas Basham Murphy Rethinking MSELs: Leading and Adapting in Dynamic Emergency Management	SALON F
	Meeting #4 - JaLae Thompson ESF #6 (Mass Care): The American Red Cross National Readiness Initiative	SALON G
11:20am – 12:00pm	Breakout Session #4	
	Meeting #1 - Panel Discussion - Molly Bargmann, Andrew Phelps, Daniel Barnes, and Josie Ross Navigating the Shift: Preparing Gen Z and Millennial Leaders for Succession in Emergency Management	SALON A,B
	Meeting #2 - Shea Schulz and Corin Roth Nevada's Preliminary Damage Assessment Tool - 2023 Lessons Learned	SALON E

	<p>Meeting #3 Jordan Arnswald and Chris Cacace Understanding the Nuclear Emergency Support Team (NEST): The What, Who and Why</p>	SALON F
	<p>Meeting #4 - Dan Berc The National Weather Service and Emergency Management: Decision Support for Event Operations</p>	SALON G
12:00pm - 1:00pm	<p>Networking Luncheon</p> <p>County Emergency Manager Lunch Meeting with Chief Fogerson</p>	SALON A,B
1:00pm – 1:50pm	<p>General Session: An Inclusive Way in Moving beyond the buzzword of "Whole Community Inclusion" in Emergency Management</p> <p>Sadie Martinez <i>Access and Functional Needs Coordinator</i> <i>Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management</i></p> <p>Ethan Williams <i>Planning Supervisor</i> <i>Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management</i></p>	SALON A,B
2:00pm – 2:50pm	<p>General Session: Panel Discussion - Advancing Trauma Trained Response in Emergency Management</p> <p>Lorea Arostegui <i>MSW, Social Worker, Mass Victimization Advocate & Office of Emergency Management Liaison</i> <i>Resiliency & Justice Center (formerly known as the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center)</i></p> <p>Misty Richardson <i>Clark County Assistant Emergency Manager</i> <i>Clark County Fire Department/Office of Emergency Management</i></p> <p>Misty Robinson <i>Public Health Preparedness Supervisor</i> <i>Southern Nevada Health District</i></p> <p>Tennille Pereira <i>Attorney and Director of the Resiliency & Justice Center</i> <i>Las Vegas with the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada</i></p>	SALON A,B
	Breakout Session #5	
3:00pm – 3:40pm	<p>Meeting #1 - Lisa Christensen and Herman Fillmore Disasters within Disasters - Improve, Adapt, and Overcome</p>	SALON A,B
	<p>Meeting #2 - Aakin Patel Overview of Cybersecurity threat activities in Nevada for 2023</p>	SALON E
	<p>Meeting #3 - Ross Armstrong Ethical Emergencies–Maintaining Compliance with Nevada’s Ethics Law</p>	SALON F
	<p>Meeting #4 – None</p>	SALON G
3:50pm – 4:30pm	Closing Remarks	SALON A,B



Speaker Biographies

Keynote Speakers

February 27 at 8:00AM – 8:40 AM



Robert “Bob” Fenton, Jr. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 9 Regional Administrator

FEMA Region 9 Administrator Robert J. Fenton, Jr., was appointed in July 2015.

Since joining FEMA in 1996, Mr. Fenton has played a significant role in numerous large-scale response and recovery operations in the U.S. He has responded to more than 100 federal disasters, including the 9/11 World Trade Center terrorist attacks; Hurricane Katrina; four Florida hurricanes in 2004; super typhoons Pongsona, Mangkhut, and Yutu in the Pacific; the Kilauea volcano eruption; multiple wildfire major disaster declarations, including the largest in the nation’s history; and as the federal coordinating officer for COVID-19 response in four states, three territories, and over 150 federally-recognized tribes.

From 2006 to 2009, Mr. Fenton served in the dual roles of director of disaster assistance and acting director of disaster operations in Region 9, where he was responsible for the delivery and coordination of all-hazards disaster planning, response, and recovery in the region.

Mr. Fenton worked in various executive leadership roles at FEMA headquarters in Washington, D.C., from 2009-2015, including as the deputy associate administrator in the Office of Response and Recovery, where he was instrumental in crafting the reorganization of the Response Directorate and the Office of Response and Recovery, as well as leading the Response Directorate’s efforts on whole community catastrophic planning, doctrine development, staff training and credentialing, and exercises. Mr. Fenton also led the agency’s development and implementation of the National Response Framework, Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-8, disaster workforce, and a grant modernization initiative.

In 2017, Mr. Fenton served as the acting FEMA administrator during the transition between presidential administrations. He filled that same role from January 2021 to May 2021.

February 28 at 8:00AM – 8:40 AM



Brock Long, Former Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Hagerty Consulting’s Executive Chairman

Mr. William “Brock” Long, former Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Hagerty Consulting’s Executive Chairman has more than 18 years of experience assisting and supporting local, state, and federal governments to build robust emergency management and public health preparedness programs nationwide. He specializes in strategic planning, Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) exercises, evacuation, public safety, recovery management, and response logistics. Mr. Long provides strategic direction and leadership to Hagerty’s full complement of emergency management programs and professionals. He offers subject matter expertise for select projects and contributes to the growing body of knowledge in the emergency management community.

Mr. Long will host a candid fireside chat, where he will discuss the state of the emergency management profession and necessary changes for our nation to become more resilient. This discussion will also highlight the important roles state, tribal, and local governments and private/ non-profit organizations play within the emergency management process, as well as the challenges associated with and lessons learned, serving as the nation’s lead emergency manager during some of the country’s most catastrophic disasters.

General Session Speakers

February 27 at 1:00PM – 1:50PM

Cybersecurity Futures 2030- New Foundations for Preparedness: The global cybersecurity landscape is rapidly changing – and by 2030, it will once again be radically transformed. To better understand how technological, political, economic, and environmental changes are impacting the future of cybersecurity for governments and organizations, the UC Berkeley Center for Long-Term Cybersecurity (CLTC), the World Economic Forum Centre for Cybersecurity, and CNA’s Institute for Public Research collaborated on Cybersecurity Futures 2030, a foresight-focused research initiative that aimed to inform cybersecurity strategic plans around the globe. The Cybersecurity Futures 2030 project includes insights that are broadly applicable across countries and regions, and across preparedness disciplines. The findings are based on discussions held at a series of in-person workshops conducted throughout 2023, including in Dubai, UAE; Washington, D.C.; Kigali, Rwanda; New Delhi, India; and Singapore, as well as a virtual workshop with participants from multiple European countries and the U.K. The workshops were centered around discussion of four scenarios that portray diverse “cybersecurity futures,” fictional (but plausible) depictions of the world roughly in the year 2030. The scenarios were designed to explore trade-offs in goals and values that decision-makers will have to contend with in the near future. This session provides a range of key recommendations for decision-makers to prepare for digital security challenges, including data privacy, talent development, and sustainability, and stresses that online spread of mis- and disinformation are becoming core cybersecurity concerns. The goal of the session is to allow decision-makers to put the findings into context of their organizational roles and responsibilities, and to think more broadly about how findings from this report could re-shape their organizations’ futures.



Dawn Thomas, Managing Director at CNA’s Institute for Public Research:

Ms. Thomas is a Managing Director at CNA’s Institute for Public Research, a not-for-profit research organization based in Arlington, VA, USA. She is currently the Co-Director of the Center for Emergency Management Operations and the Director of the Center for Critical Incident Analysis. Over the past 20 years, Ms. Thomas has worked on diverse emergency preparedness issues, helping state, local, regional, and federal entities prepare for and respond to cyberattacks, public health outbreaks, biological attacks, earthquakes and tsunamis, mass casualty chemical incidents, bombing attacks, active shooters, and large-scale general and medical evacuations. She has provided analytic support, exercise design and delivery, and futures work to a wide range of jurisdictions and organizations, such as Washington, DC; Los Angeles, California; Houston, Texas; DHS I&A, CISA, FEMA, and the OHA; the U.S. Navy and Space Force; the State of Alaska; and the University of Michigan. Ms. Thomas frequently conducts incident analysis during and after real-world incidents and events, such as the last three US Presidential Inaugurations, the COVID-19 outbreak, cybersecurity incidents that disrupted operations, and natural hazards. Ms. Thomas has a BS from Carnegie Mellon University and an MA from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She studied theater in her earlier life, although her audience is now limited to a husband, son, cat, and dog.



Matthew Nagamine, Manager of Strategic Partnerships at the UC Berkeley Center for Long-Term Cybersecurity:

Matthew Nagamine is the Manager of Strategic Partnerships at the UC Berkeley Center for Long-Term Cybersecurity (CLTC), where he cultivates impactful relationships with key partners and allies to support CLTC’s research programs. Matt oversees CLTC’s Grants Program and manages the Cybersecurity Futures initiative. Matt earned his Bachelor’s degree in Political Science with a minor in African American Studies from UC Berkeley.

February 27 at 2:00PM – 2:50pm

Unity, Innovation, Resilience: Forging Paths in the Profession of Emergency Management

In this presentation, Todd DeVoe underscores the profound responsibilities of emergency managers. He advocates for unity, empowerment, and vision within the profession and emphasizes the critical need for preparedness, response, and recovery in the face of diverse and complex emergencies. Todd DeVoe delves into the essence of emergency management through literary wisdom and philosophical insights. He will emphasize the proactive engagement and self-starting attitude essential for navigating emergency management challenges. He highlights the legacy of past emergency management pioneers and urges present practitioners to innovate, challenge norms, and pave the way for future generations. Furthermore, Todd underscores the importance of organizations like NEPA and IAEM in fostering collaboration, sharing best practices, and

supporting emergency management professionals worldwide. Todd calls for collective action and solidarity in confronting adversity, ensuring that communities facing crises receive the necessary aid and resilience-building support. Todd believes emergency management professionals embody courage, compassion, and unwavering commitment to pursue a safer, more resilient future. He encourages individuals to draw strength from one another and to leave a trail of hope and steadfast dedication in their efforts to serve others.



Todd DeVoe, International Association of Emergency Managers Region 9 President:

Todd De Voe is an experienced emergency management professional serving in the City of El Segundo's Fire Department Emergency Management Division. In addition to his pivotal role in emergency management, Todd is a multifaceted professional who is an educator, writer, and podcaster. As the host of The EMN Newsletter Podcast, 'The Leader's Cafe', and the Co-Host of Disaster Politics, Todd's reach extends into information dissemination and insightful discussions. At the core of his editorial responsibilities, Todd serves as the editor-in-chief of The Emergency Management Network newsletter. Furthermore, he has made significant contributions as a contributing author to the book "Campus Crisis Management, a Comprehensive Guide for Practitioners" and authored numerous white papers and studies. A perpetual learner, Todd holds two master's degrees, demonstrating his commitment to pursuing knowledge. His Masters of Public Administration project focused on the Lakewood model of government (Cal State Fullerton), and his Masters of Emergency Management Leadership (The University of Applied Research and Development Auckland NZ) thesis delved into "the role of emergency management and the disaster-resilient community." Todd's dedication to academic excellence is underscored by his graduation from the National Emergency Management Executive Academy's Cohort VII. Beyond academia, Todd actively researches and writes on pivotal emergency management issues, crisis leadership, business continuity, and community resilience. His influence extends to policy shaping, where he plays a crucial role as the President of the International Association of Emergency Managers Region 9.

February 28 at 1:00PM – 1:50PM

An Inclusive Way in Moving beyond the buzzword of "Whole Community Inclusion" in Emergency Management: Colorado's Approach to Inclusive Emergency Management. How to include Access & Functional needs as a "how to" tied to the "must dos" when working across many support partners. We will introduce a universal resource language that helps build resiliency and saves life and property quicker. We will introduce the Access & Functional Needs RESOURCE framework as well as share the blueprint and strategies to implement from a local to state level supports to help "Everybody" prepare and learn what the CMIST resources are and to prepare for the resources disruptions, so that "Anybody" can identify what the resources are and have a "Somebody" to focus on equity and inclusion so that "Nobody" is left behind. WE will share all the "use it " so we "don't lose" opportunities that help when turnover occurs in emergency management. We will share where we have come from and where we are going in Inclusive Emergency Management.



Sadie Martinez, Colorado State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's Access and Functional Needs Coordinator:

Sadie Martinez is the Colorado State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's Access and Functional Needs Coordinator. She supports state agencies and local jurisdictions in the development of inclusive, whole community emergency-operations plans that adequately account for people with Access and Functional Needs. She provides emergency-preparedness workshops and serves as the Access and Functional Needs subject matter expert during state-level planning initiatives. Sadie uses the CMIST resource framework, which provides a whole-community inclusion approach to identify the actual resource needs of the community in Communication, Maintaining Health/Medical, Independence, Support Services and Safety, and Transportation resources, rather than a specific "special need" or vulnerability. This helps responders and agencies better understand what capabilities to acquire before, during, and after a disaster by approaching Access and Functional Needs from a resource perspective. This helps create a shared language that reaches across language, disability, under-resourced, under-served barriers, and emergency management.

Ethan Williams, Planning Supervisor at the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM):



Ethan Williams is the Planning Supervisor at the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) and oversees the Office of Emergency Management's strategic, pre-incident, continuity, and Whole Community planning programs. Prior to joining DHSEM, he served for over 20 years as a Naval Flight Officer in the U.S. Navy in a variety of operational and planning positions around the

world. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the University of Denver.

February 28 at 2:00PM – 2:50pm

Advancing Trauma Trained Response in Emergency Management: A resiliency center director, social worker and emergency manager will present on lessons learned in the aftermath of the nation's deadliest mass shooting in recent history. They will provide insight on how they overcame many of the mistakes and systemic obstacles made by integrating victim services directly into emergency management and response protocols. They will discuss key collaborative efforts between victim service providers and the public sector that effectively integrated the victim's perspective into emergency response planning and response to ensure a more trauma-informed system.



Tennille Pereira, licensed attorney in Las Vegas with the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and the Director of the Resiliency & Justice Center:

Tennille Pereira is a licensed attorney in Las Vegas with the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and the Director of the Resiliency & Justice Center (formerly known as the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center). When 1 October happened, Tennille facilitated and provided civil legal services for the bereaved families and survivors of the 1 October shooting at the Family Assistance Center. Tennille worked as a staff attorney advocating on behalf of all those impacted in the early months of recovery with the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center and was appointed to her current position as the Director in 2019. Under her leadership the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center was honored with the prestigious National Victim Service Award by the Office for Victims' of Crime in 2020, the Congressional Crime Survivors & Justice Caucus Allied Professional Award in 2023 and was designated as the first Statewide Victim Assistance Center for Nevada in 2021. She is a member of the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee and the NMVRC National Resiliency Center Director's Forum. Tennille was appointed to the 1 October Memorial Committee by Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak and elected as the Chairwoman of that Committee. She has successfully led several initiatives for systemic change for victim services across the state of Nevada including legislative changes that incorporate victim advocacy into every stage of emergency response from planning through long-term recovery. She is often sought out by other communities in the aftermath of mass violence for her expertise in response, recovery and community-wide healing. In 2023, Tennille successfully transitioned the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center into the Resiliency & Justice Center, a permanent resiliency center focused on providing long term services to all those impacted by 1 October as well as local survivors of violent crime. The Center also serves as a state-wide resource for any mass incident in the state of Nevada and provides guidance to statewide emergency management organizations regarding victim services.



Misty Robinson, Public Health Preparedness Supervisor, Southern Nevada Health District

A native of Dallas, Texas, Misty Robinson received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a Master of Arts in international relations, both from the University of North Texas. Since joining the Southern Nevada Health District in 2006, Ms. Robinson has led the District's preparedness efforts by developing plans for the Health District's response to all hazards, especially in response to public health emergencies such as a pandemic or bioterrorism. She also plans and conducts exercises and training to prepare the District for emergencies. She has responded to multiple events, including the 2009-2010 H1N1 pandemic and the Las Vegas Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting. She currently serves as Emergency Support Function 8 – Public Health and Medical Services Coordinator under the County's Multi-Agency Coordination Center for the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, coordinating with multiple organizations and agencies to assist in the response effort. Ms. Robinson is a part-time Emergency Management Department instructor at Truckee Meadows Community College, teaching Public Health and Disasters to Bachelor-level students. Ms. Robinson is also pursuing a Ph.D. in public health at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and a member of the State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Government Coordinating Council under the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.



Misty Richardson, Assistant Emergency Manager, Clark County Fire Department

Misty Richardson, BA, MEP, Assistant Emergency Manager for Clark County, Nevada, began her public service career as the youngest Deputy Brand Inspector in the State of Nevada, where her efforts focused on animal welfare and combating agro-terrorism. Misty joined Clark County in 1999, serving our most vulnerable population, abused and neglected children. She joined the Clark County Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security in 2009. Most recently, on December 6, 2023, Misty was assigned to establish, the

Information and Notification Center also known as Reunification Center, to support victims and families of the tragic shooting at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV.) The Clark County Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security is responsible for standing up the Information and Notification Center as well as the Individual and Family Assistance Center (IFAC) after a mass casualty event. The seamless, timely availability of the Center was the result of effective implementation of lessons learned and best practices established after the tragic October 2017 Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting. Misty has served as the Assistant Emergency Manager for Clark County, Nevada since February 2018. Misty is responsible for programmatic management of emergency preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. As the Regional Recovery Coordinator for COVID-19, Misty played key roles in activities related to isolation and quarantine facilities, points of dispensing/vaccine sites, and high-level executive policy group and multi-agency coordination. In addition, Misty has played an integral role in several high-profile disaster response and recovery efforts, including public health emergencies, wildfires, floods, winter storms, and even Hurricane Hilary. Following the shooting at the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival in October 2017, Misty served as Deputy Multi Agency Coordination Center (MACC) Manager, MACC Liaison to the Family Assistance Center (FAC), and lead project manager for the transition to the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center (VSRC). She serves on the Recovery Steering Committee as well as the VSRC Workgroup, which includes responder wellness services. She is a member of the National Homeland Security Association Board, the Southern Nevada BioWatch Advisory Committee, the Southern Nevada Healthcare Preparedness Coalition, Clark County Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the Nevada Charter Schools Safety Committee., Misty also plays key roles in special events planning such as the annual F-1 Race, annual New Year's Eve Celebrations, and served on the Super Bowl 58 Public Safety Committee.



Lorea Arostegui, Mass Victimization Advocate, Office of Emergency Management

Lorea Arostegui is a licensed Master of Social Work and has worked for Clark County Nevada for 20 years. The past 7 years she has been working with the Resiliency & Justice Center (formally known as the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center). When 1 October happened, Lorea assisted with Coroner Notifications at the Individual and Family Assistance Center. Lorea continued to work as a Social Worker at the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center since it opened assisting those individuals impacted and was reassigned to her current position as the Mass Victimization Advocate for Clark County as well as the Liaison between the Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and the Resiliency and Justice Center. While working, the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center was honored with the prestigious National Victim Service Award by the Office for Victims of Crime in 2020, the Congressional Crime Survivors & Justice Caucus Allied Professional Award in 2023 and was designated as the first Statewide Victim Assistance Center for Nevada in 2021. She is also the Secretary for the Nevada Emergency Preparedness Association. Lorea has advocated for trauma informed victim services to be at the forefront of long-term plans in emergency management and now holds a seat at the Multi Agency Command Center for large scale functions in her community as well as serves at the co-chair of the Formula1 & Superbowl Safety Committee for IFAC and Reunification Centers. Lorea has been called to assist other communities in the aftermath of mass violence for her expertise in behavioral health, response, recovery, and community-wide healing. In 2023, Lorea was part of the successful transition of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center into the Resiliency & Justice Center, a permanent resiliency center focused on providing long term services to all those impacted by 1 October as well as local survivors of violent crime. The Center also serves as a state-wide resource for any mass incident in the state of Nevada and provides guidance to statewide emergency management organizations regarding victim services.

Breakout and Panel Session Speakers

February 27 at 8:50AM – 9:30AM

Leading and Managing People - Lessons Learned: As Emergency Managers, we have a wide array of job specific technical training available to us through a wide range of outlets, be they sponsored by the County or State EMA, available via FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI), trade organizations such as IAEM or from Homeland Security Consortium partners. As we move up on the Emergency Management profession though, fewer resources are available that focus on effectively managing or leading staff members. This session will provide an opportunity for those newer to managing and leading staff to benefit from very experienced managers/leaders sharing lessons they have learned during their careers, primarily from working in Nevada. For experienced managers, these lessons can serve as reminders and continuous learning on leading and managing people. The session will explore ideas for effectively leading and managing staff and teams during "blue sky" days, as well as during crisis/disaster situations. Our intent is to leave ample time at the end of the workshop for questions from the audience, as well as for the audience to share from their experience.



Gary Scronce, Sr. Director at Innovative Emergency Management:

Gary Scronce holds a B.S. and M.S. in Nuclear Engineering from Kansas State University. He worked as a systems engineer and core analysis engineer at the River Bend Nuclear Station in Louisiana for over 12 years. While at RBNS, he served as part of the Emergency Response Organization. Since 1998, Mr. Scronce has been a full-time emergency management consultant at IEM, leading IEM's preparedness practice for much of that time. He is currently a Sr. Director at IEM.



Caleb Cage:

Caleb Cage has served in several leadership and policy positions throughout his fifteen-year career with the State of Nevada. In addition to working in the areas of veterans services, economic development, and workforce development, Cage has worked in emergency management roles. First, he was appointed to serve as the Emergency Manager and Homeland Security Advisor from Nevada in 2015 to 2019 and later he served as director for the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chris Smith, Innovative Emergency Management and Truckee Meadows Community College:



Chris is an experienced emergency management senior executive having served at the local, state, and federal levels. During this time, he has planned with, organized for, equipped, trained, and exercised thousands of individuals across the country. He has served in over 175 presidentially declared disasters in all states, territories, and several tribal nations. During his career, he led efforts to distribute approximately \$51B to disaster survivors in the United States. After service in Carson City, NV. and Washington, D.C., he returned home to Northern Nevada to continue his work in emergency management with IEM (Innovative Emergency Management) and Truckee Meadows Community College.

February 27 at 8:50AM – 9:30AM

Tabletop Scenarios - Who, What, When, Where, Why, & How: This session will help participants understand the who, what, when, where, and why of tabletop exercises. Participants will walk away with an understanding of the importance of using tabletop exercises, how to create one, and how to participate in one.



Christopher Batterman, Emergency Management Coordinator for the Clark County School District in Las Vegas, Nevada:

Chris is an Emergency Management Coordinator for the Clark County School District in Las Vegas, Nevada. Before Emergency Management, Christopher created the national award-winning Bonanza High School Fire Science Academy, which educates and trains high school students in the field of firefighting. He is a two-time Nevada Teacher Educator of the Year recipient, recipient of the national ACTE Business Partnership of the Year award, and national conference speaker.

February 27 at 8:50AM – 9:30AM

U.S. Dept of Justice, ESF #13 Program - Who we are, what we do, and lessons learned from the Maui Fire response: The U.S. Department of Justice/ Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) is the primary federal agency responsible for the Emergency Support Function 13 - Public Safety and Security - program. This session will provide a brief overview of the ESF 13 program, including how the program operates during both blue skies and grey skies. Additionally, presenters will discuss their experiences during their response to the Maui fires in August of 2023 and lessons learned from that response.



Keith Johnson, USDOJ/ESF13 Field Coordinator for Region 9 and Liaison Officer to Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and FEMA IMAT for Maui Fires response



Robert Patrizi, USDOJ/ESF13 Regional Law Enforcement Coordinator and ESF13 Incident Commander for Maui Fires response

February 27 at 8:50AM – 9:30AM

What's New With National Weather Service Hydrology and Meteorology? The National Weather Service is modernizing Hydrologic Web Dissemination, making data and resources more accessible and useful to emergency managers, the water resources community, and the public. The new National Water Prediction Service (NWPS) will replace the legacy Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) in Spring of 2024. Learn about how this will improve the delivery of water resources information including new tools to assist with critical water decisions. This session will also discuss the latest tools and messaging techniques for meteorological products coming from the National Weather Service. Attendees will be walked through product usage in real-time.



Dawn Johnson, Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service, Reno NV:

Dawn Johnson is the Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Reno, NV. In this position, she is the main point of contact and liaison between the office and those in key public safety or infrastructure roles. Dawn has been with the agency since 2004, and in Reno since 2009, with a focus on how we can improve forecast messaging so that users are ultimately able to make better informed decisions. Dawn enjoys partaking in outdoor recreation, weightlifting, baking, and cooking. She has three very active children; her oldest daughter is 9 and boy/girl twins are 7.

February 27 at 9:40AM - 10:20AM

Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse: Foraging into the Future for Quad-County Emergency Management: Participants will embark on a journey with the four newly appointed Quad-County Emergency Managers (representing Carson City, Douglas, Lyon, and Storey Counties) as each organization develops a full-time Emergency Management program. The Quad EMs will reflect on lessons learned from the first year at the reins, including overcoming limited to no succession planning, building and/or rebuilding EM programs with scarce resources, and fostering relationships with local, state, and federal stakeholders. This presentation will have an emphasis on regionalization as the four EMs fortify a regional model that aims to strengthen mutual aid agreements, establish efficiency, and serve as a peer support network.



Taylor Allison, Lyon County Emergency Manager:

Taylor Allison is the Lyon County Emergency Manager. She brings 14 years of local government and nonprofit leadership experience in public and behavioral health, health care preparedness, communications, and emergency response. Taylor has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Marketing Management and a Master's in Business Administration, Healthcare Management from Western Governors University.



John Bakkedahl, Deputy Emergency Manager at Carson City Fire Department:

John previously served at DEM in various roles including Deputy Administrator, Preparedness Manager, and State Training Officer. Jon holds a Bachelor's in Radiologic Technology and a Master's in Crisis and Emergency Management from UNLV.



Adam Wilson Director of Emergency Management:

Adam aims to modernize and professionalize the department with his 18 years of experience. He holds a Bachelor's in Emergency Management and has served as a Police Sergeant and a US Air Force Sergeant leading Special Operations units.



Kara Easton Emergency Management Director for Douglas County:

Kara previously served as the Emergency Management Specialist for the City of Las Vegas, with extensive work in ICS training, stakeholder collaboration, planning and exercise, and served as the Logistics Section Chief for the City of Las Vegas emergency operations.

February 27 at 9:40AM - 10:20AM

Prediction and Planning of the Next Pandemic Zoonotic: Incorporating AI In Biological Planning: Most pandemics (e.g., HIV/AIDS, severe acute respiratory syndrome, pandemic influenza and even Ebola) originate in animals, are caused by viruses, and are driven to emerge by ecological, behavioral, or socioeconomic changes. Despite their substantial effects on global public health and growing understanding of the process by which they emerge, no pandemic has been predicted before infecting human beings. We review what is known about the pathogens that emerge, the hosts that they originate in, and the factors that drive their emergence. We discuss challenges to their control and new efforts to predict pandemics, target surveillance to the most crucial interfaces, and identify prevention strategies. We will discuss how new mathematical modeling, diagnostic, communications, and informatics technologies can identify and report hitherto unknown microbes in other species, and thus new risk assessment approaches are needed to identify microbes most likely to cause human disease and assist planners to evaluate current plans for diseases and infections affecting their communities.



Chuck Lineback, MS, NRP, NHDP-BC, Biological Program Manager for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Office of Emerging Threats:

Chuck is the Biological Program Manager for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Office of Emerging Threats in Washington, DC. Chuck was the former Program Manager at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) Noble Training Facility overseeing daily operations of training and national exercises to the CONUS first responder and first receivers. Prior to working at the CDP, Chuck worked as an Installation Emergency Manager for Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany GA and Marine Corps Installation East.

Chuck is a Nationally Registered Paramedic, Board Certified in National Healthcare Disaster Preparedness by the American Nurses Association, and a certified Emergency Manager. He has written numerous training and education programs including the Health Sector Emergency Preparedness program for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid, the Emergency Management program for the United States Marine Corps and Key Planning Factors and Considerations for Response to and Recovery from Biological Incidents.

Chuck holds a Master of Science Degree in Homeland Security with a focus in Post Disaster Healthcare Response.

February 27 at 9:40AM - 10:20AM

Lessons from NV Energy's execution of the Natural Disaster Protection Plan: Since 2019, NV Energy has developed and executed the Natural Disaster Protection Plan to mitigate the potential for wildfires caused by NV Energy's facilities, as well as hardening those facilities to be more resilient to increasing instances of extreme weather throughout the state. The plan has several components, including increased investments in infrastructure, improved situational awareness, proactive de-energization, increased inspections, and improved incident and emergency response. This presentation will provide an overview of the features of the program and specifically highlight the emergency response, situational awareness, and proactive de-energization programs known as Public Safety Outage Management (PSOM).



Jesse Murray, Vice President of Electric Delivery and Natural Disaster Protection for NV Energy:

Jesse is currently the Vice President of Electric Delivery and Natural Disaster Protection for NV Energy. In this role, Jesse oversees the field operations, wildfire mitigation, and emergency management functions for the company. He has over 20 years of experience in utilities and other operations roles and have led efforts to improve NV Energy's emergency response capabilities. He was born and raised in Las Vegas and has resided in northern Nevada for almost 25 years.

February 27 at 9:40AM - 10:20AM

Emotional Intelligence in Emergency Management: Emergency management is built on relationships and awareness of others. That starts with an individual assessment of emotions. The science of emotions shows that how we feel affects our decision making and the way we interact with others. This session dives into the tenets of emotional intelligence and why understanding emotional intelligence can help you be a better emergency manager or responder.



Guy DeMarco, Emergency Management Specialist with the City of Las Vegas and Genos Emotional Intelligence Practitioner:

Guy DeMarco has been an Emergency Management Specialist with the City of Las Vegas for seven years. He is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) with the International Association of Emergency Managers.

Patsy McFadden, Organizational Development and Training Manager with the City of Las Vegas (ret.) and Genos Emotional Intelligence Practitioner:



Patsy McFadden is a retired Organizational Development and Training Manager with the City of Las Vegas and owner/principal consultant of Patsy McFadden Consulting. She has more than 25 years of professional development experience. Both Guy and Patsy are certified Genos Emotional Intelligence Practitioners.

February 27 at 10:30AM – 11:10AM

Gaps and Shortfalls for People with Disabilities in Recent Disaster Response and Recovery: We will take a more in depth look at disability related gaps and shortfalls in recent disasters including Typhoon Mawar in Guam and the devastating fires in Maui, Hawaii. In identifying challenges in past disasters there is an opportunity for others to review their plans, attend training, and build relationships with resources available to them in the State of Nevada such as the newly developed Nevada G197 Inclusive Emergency Planning Training.



Roxann Crawford, Disability Integration Specialist for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX:

Roxann Crawford serves as the Disability Integration Specialist for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX. As the regional subject matter expert, Roxann works with internal federal partners and external partners to bolster equality in disaster preparedness, response and recovery. She is a highly sought after trainer, speaker, and developer for educational programs and exercises. On deployment, Roxann operates as the lead expert principal advisor to the Federal Coordinating Officer, ensuring a fully inclusive federal response, including accessible communication, programmatic, and physical accessibility for all residents impacted by disasters. Roxann partners with all federal program areas to educate and foster a whole community response that is fully inclusive of the needs of people with disabilities and provides direct programmatic and process review to create more inclusive and fully accessible options during disaster response operations, identifying barriers, and finding solutions.

February 2 at 10:30AM – 11:10AM 7

Coping With Grief After a Disaster or Traumatic Event: Grief is the normal response of sorrow, heartache, and confusion that comes from losing someone or something important to you. Grief can also be a common human response after a disaster or other traumatic event. This discussion will contain information about grief, the grieving process, and what happens when the process is interrupted and complicated or traumatic grief occurs. It also offers tips and resources for coping with both types of grief including suicide ideation.

Rev. Bryan A. Ostaszewski, Ordained Minister, Sr. Chaplain Counselor, Board Certified Mental Health Life Coach (waiting on bio)

Reverend Bryan has been trained and certified as a Disaster Emergency Response Chaplain, to serve in an environment of disaster relief service and response. There are few areas of mission services that require greater spiritual sensitivity and more rapid response to human need than a disaster. The certification has been acknowledged and recognized by CFMI, FEMA and

the Homeland Crisis Institute. The Homeland Crisis Institute is an approved CEU provider for the Texas Department of State Health Services for the following: The Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners, The Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors and the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists. Reverend Bryan has also received basic certified training through the Las Vegas Fire & Rescue Citizens Academy/Fire Corps Program, Class of 2016. And he has received 40 hours of training in Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER).

February 27 at 10:30AM – 11:10AM

How to Supercharge Your Planning: Unveiling a new module in NevadaContinuity.com: In a world facing ever-increasing challenges, the role of emergency managers has become pivotal in safeguarding communities and minimizing the impacts of disasters. This presentation delves into how a new NevadaContinuity.com module can help Emergency Managers align their planning efforts. Join us as we explore a new feature that bridges the gap between planning and action. Discover how this new user-friendly module will help your organization be more resilient.



Jennifer Posten, Certified Business Continuity Professional with Risk Solutions International

Jennifer Posten is a Certified Business Continuity Professional with Risk Solutions International (RSI). RSI and the Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) have been working together since 2010 to make the great State of Nevada more resilient.



Kelly Echeverria, Washoe County Emergency Manager:

Kelly Echeverria is the Washoe County Emergency Manager. The Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) and RSI have been working together since 2010 to make the great State of Nevada more resilient.

February 27 at 11:20AM- 12:00PM

Straight from the Clerk's Mouth. How the Henderson Office of the City Clerk became Event Action Plan Believers: On April 3rd, 2023; the City of Henderson hosted its first Ward-based special election in City history to fill a vacant City Council Seat. The Office of Emergency Preparedness recognized this event as an opportunity to work through the planning process and train/exercise capabilities with the City Clerk's office. This session will go through the initial meetings and feelings of anxiety about the undertaking of creating an EAP, through completion of a tabletop exercise and finally election day. All of this setting up for the 2024 election cycle.



Craig Nimsgern, Emergency Management Specialist for the City of Henderson

Craig Nimsgern is the Emergency Management Specialist for the city of Henderson. Primarily focused on City emergency operations planning and continuous accreditation compliance. He is a registered AEM and holds a Masters in Emergency and Crisis Management from UNLV.



Josie Ross, Emergency Management Officer for the City of Henderson:

Josie Ross is the Emergency Management Officer for the city of Henderson. Her work focuses on continuity planning, ICS training, community preparedness and exercises. She has a master's in emergency management.

Also featuring Louie Valdez, Julie Champman, and Kristin Harrell

February 27 at 11:20AM- 12:00PM

Nevada National Guard JOC 101: Will give an overview of the capabilities of the National Guard in domestic response. What we are and what we are not. Will also talk about our Joint Operations Center and the broader capabilities of the military.



Kyle Cerfoglio, Director of Domestic and Joint Operations for the Nevada National Guard:

Colonel Kyle Cerfoglio is the Director of Domestic and Joint Operations for the Nevada National Guard. He is responsible for planning, coordinating, and integrating Joint Force Headquarters-Nevada (FFHQ-NV) operations and staffing of the Joint Operations Center. He is responsible for planning, directing, and controlling all joint and inter-agency operations. Kyle is a graduate of UNR and has a master's from the Marine Corps University. His key assignments include: 152d LRS Commander, A-1, Director of Personnel, Chief of Staff for the 152nd AW and 152d MSG Commander. In 2010, he deployed, leading a Combat Convoy Squadron in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Prior to working full time with the National Guard, he was an Athletic Director and a varsity Basketball Coach, where his teams won the Nevada State Championship in 2000 and 2001. In 2008, he was named as the 'Male Role Model Coach' for Nevada.

February 27 at 11:20AM- 12:00PM

Blank Space: Filling the Gaps in Mutual Aid with Swift Collaboration: Let's "Shake It Off" - this presentation focuses on programs aimed at helping communities bounce back from disasters and become more resilient! In the wake of a disaster, the swift activation of mutual aid agreements is critical to effective response and recovery. This presentation delves into the mechanics of mutual aid, illuminating the legal frameworks and collaborative strategies that form the backbone of inter-agency support during crises. We will explore the complexities of deploying aid, focusing on the coordination among various entities to ensure a cohesive response effort. Crucially, the session will outline best practices for the meticulous documentation necessary to track the deployment of resources and personnel, which forms the foundation for post-disaster reimbursement. Attendees will learn to navigate the complicated processes of disaster reimbursement, including adherence to federal, state, and local guidelines. Through real-world case studies, we will examine past responses to distill actionable lessons, enhancing future readiness. Additionally, the presentation will highlight innovative technological tools that are revolutionizing mutual aid coordination and simplifying the reimbursement process, thereby streamlining disaster response and financial recovery. Following the session, participants will be better able to:

- **Clear Understanding of Mutual Aid Coordination:** Audience members will gain a comprehensive understanding of the benefits of engaging in mutual aid coordination and how they can be effectively activated and managed during disasters.
- **Documentation Strategies for Reimbursement:** Attendees will learn strategies to ensure meticulous documentation, which is critical for the reimbursement process post-disaster.

Leveraging Technology for Efficiency: Participants will discover how to leverage technology to facilitate mutual aid coordination and simplify the reimbursement process.



Vanessa Gatto, Director of Debris Management, AC Disaster Consulting:

Vanessa Gatto has 19 years of experience as an emergency manager professional with a history of working as a Project Manager with countless FEMA Public Assistance teams. Vanessa specializes in Debris Management, Mutual Aid Claims, FEMA Public Assistance funding and finance, EOC surge support, disaster recovery strategy, and innovative solutions to plan and maximize community recovery. Throughout her career, Vanessa has led multiple teams that have validated and assisted in reimbursing clients and contractors over \$1 billion across various events such as wildfires, hurricanes, debris, COVID-19, and Mutual Aid. Vanessa is a subject matter expert in Debris Operations, Mutual Aid Processes and Claims, Disaster Recovery Response, Financial Management, FEMA PA Eligibility & Reimbursement, and Project Management Tracking and Reporting. As ACDC's Director of Debris Management, Vanessa manages all debris projects companywide, ensuring clients maximize reimbursements by understanding state and federal eligibility criteria.



Jenelle Miller, currently assisting Florida Division of Emergency Management with debris oversight:

Jenelle Miller is a graduate from Massachusetts Maritime Academy who brings varied experience in emergency management, including invoice reconciliation, EOC surge, and finance for FEMA public assistance funding supporting multiple state clients. She previously worked with FDOT assisting in the audit of debris invoices and data review for Hurricane Michael and Hurricane Irma. Jenelle assisted Oregon DOT and the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, supporting the 2020 wildfire recovery in a debris operations and management capacity. She currently is assisting Florida Division of Emergency Management with debris oversight to ensure contractors that assisted in the debris cleanup from Hurricane Ian are contractually compliant as well as Mutual Aid services.

February 27 at 11:20AM- 12:00PM

Social and Emotional Intelligence for Emergency Managers: This breakout session is designed to aid the Emergency Manager with 4 functions of emotional intelligence including, Self-awareness, Self-regulation, Empathy, and Social Skills. These functions are then combined with the pillars of social intelligence from social dynamics, non-verbal cues, and cultural awareness. Improving these skills, Emergency Managers will advance relationships, lead a more effective team, reduce stress, and create a resilient mindset. This session will also cover some common pitfalls that lead to misunderstandings, poor communications, and poor coping strategies. We will explore the nuances of meaningful relationships as these essential connections grow to meet critical mission needs and creativity. Leadership and command concepts will be covered to explore and distinguish characteristics of success framework used to become a transformational leader.



James Johnston, City of Elko Emergency Manager:

Chief James Johnston has 23 years of experience in the Fire Service and currently is the City of Elko Emergency Manager. He is a credentialed Chief Fire Officer, Chief Training Officer, and Chief EMS Officer with the Center for Public Safety Excellence. Chief Johnston has a Master of Science in Emergency Management (UNLV), Bachelors in Fire Administration, Fire Technology, and Psychology and is a Paramedic.

February 27 at 3:00PM – 3:40 PM

Collaborative Response and Recovery: Mt. Charleston/Hurricane Hilary Lessons: This panel, which includes Billy Samuels, Clark County Fire Department Deputy Fire and County Emergency Manager; Brian O’Neal, Clark County Fire Department Assist Fire Chief and Southern Nevada Incident Management Team Type 3 Incident Commander; Diana Clarkson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Emergency Manager; and Jason Douglas, Mt. Charleston Fire Protection District Fire Chief, explores lessons learned from the Mt. Charleston/Hurricane Hilary incident. Addressing severe flooding and damage, the discussion focuses on integrated emergency response. Key points include effective operational coordination and operational communication among agencies, resource allocation challenges, community engagement strategies, the role of training in preparedness, and policy refinement. Attendees will gain insights into collaborative approaches, resource management, and community resilience, fostering improved preparedness for multifaceted incidents. The panel aims to distill practical takeaways, contributing to ongoing efforts to enhance inter-agency coordination and response capabilities.



Billy Samuels, Clark County Fire Department Deputy Fire and County Emergency Manager:

Deputy Fire Chief Billy Samuels was born and raised in Las Vegas, graduated from Valley High School in 1993, received a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Nevada, Reno and a Master’s of Science in Crisis and Emergency Management from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He began his career as a firefighter with Clark County Fire in 2001, became a paramedic in 2003, transitioned to engineer in 2005, and was promoted to captain in 2011, battalion chief in 2019, and deputy chief in 2020. Chief Samuels was also a member of the Clark County Honor Guard. Chief Samuels ran the Operations of the Family Assistance Center after 1 October, under the direction of then Deputy Chief Steinbeck. Chief Samuels’ hobbies include skiing, hiking and anything outdoors. He is married to Amanda and they are a blended family with five children.



Brian O'Neal, Clark County Fire Department Assist Fire Chief and Southern Nevada Incident Management Team Type 3 Incident Commander:

Assistant Chief Brian O'Neal was hired by the Clark County Fire Department in January 2003. He has spent most of his career serving in stations along the Las Vegas Strip, promoting to Engineer (2008), and Captain (2012) prior to Assistant Chief. Prior to his promotion, Brian served as the liaison to the Southern Nevada Counter-Terrorism Center and LVMPDs MACTAC section, training public safety personnel in both urban and rural settings in critical incident tactics and response. Brian recently completed the MPA/MCJ dual degree from the University of Colorado-Denver, with an emphasis in Homeland Security and Emergency Management. He has had numerous state and local Incident Management Team and USAR deployments including as a Plans Team Manager with NVTF1 and served in various Covid-19 responses at the local and state level. He currently manages the Southern Nevada All-Hazard Incident Management Team.

Diana Clarkson, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Emergency Manager



Jason Douglas, Mt. Charleston Fire Protection District Fire Chief:

Jason Douglas was promoted to Fire Chief of Mt. Charleston Fire Protection on January 6, 2024. He has been in the fire service for over 16 years and is a native of Las Vegas, NV. For a major portion of his career, he was a Federal Wildland Firefighter with both the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. During his time with those agencies, he was deployed to 17 different states on multiple-type wildland and emergency incidents, serving as a hotshot, helicopter, and engine crewmember. He served as a member of the Great Basin Type 3 Incident Management Team in planning and deployment for wildland fire incidents throughout the state. Chief Douglas took a captain's position with Mt Charleston Fire Protection District and was soon promoted to Assistant Fire Chief. Chief Douglas has an associate degree in Fire Science Technology Management from College of Southern Nevada. During the 2023 Hurricane Hillary flood incident in Mt Charleston, Chief Douglas was the initial Incident Commander and Community Liaison for the first 10 days of this emergency. Chief Douglas enjoys trail running, hiking and snowshoeing. He shares these hobbies with Jenae, his wife of 12 years, and their two Australian Shepherds.

February 27 at 3:00PM – 3:40 PM

Special Event Planning and Crowd Management: Discuss elements for planning and calculating occupancies for a special event.

- Show how overall occupancies are calculated: Concentrated, Unconcentrated, Standing Room Only.
- Show how exiting and pedestrian flow is calculated.
- Discuss high level crowd management techniques (Similar content to what I use now in crowd management training, absent of any stadium information)
- Crowd Psychology with historical examples, Hillsborough Stadium 1989, Astroworld Festival 2021, Station Nightclub (Great White Fire) 2003, etc.
- Crowd Categories - Critical Occupancies, Flight Response, Craze
- Crowd Fluidity
- Progressive Crowd Collapse

Conduct Critical Occupancy and Emergency Egress exercises to illustrate pedestrian flows, choke points, and value of shut-off valves for managing crowd behavior.



CJ Myers, Senior Director of Safety & Risk at Allegiant Stadium:

C.J. Myers is a Graduate Safety Professional (GSP) holding management and senior level Safety, Risk, & Security roles in the Entertainment and Tourism sectors for over 15 years. His current role is Senior Director of Safety & Risk at Allegiant Stadium, home of the Las Vegas Raiders NFL team. Experience includes creating comprehensive safety management systems and safe experiences for some of the most prominent live events in the world, with over 37 different US venues, and events ranging from major prime-time award shows (Billboard Awards, CMAs, I-Heart Radio, etc.), American Professional Football, NBA Basketball, NHL Hockey, MLS Soccer, as well as Boxing & UFC super fights. In addition, he is a board member for Safety Allies Leadership Forum, on the Advisory Group

Committee for the national American Society of Safety Professionals organization, as well as Vice President & Communications Committee head for the Southern Nevada ASSP chapter.

February 27 at 3:00PM – 3:40 PM

Disaster Preparedness Factors of Adults Over the Age of 65: The purpose of this study was to examine the relationship between lifestyle factors and disaster preparedness in older adults over the age of 65 living independently in states with a risk of natural disasters. This research aimed to contribute to the knowledge of community resilience and improving personal preparedness for vulnerable adults over the age of 65. However, further research is needed to address factors that account for disaster preparedness activities. The study explores the variables of physical disability, healthcare provider involvement, and income, assessing a relationship between factors and disaster preparedness behaviors through the theoretical lens of Locus of Control (LOC). The multiple linear regression model findings indicated that income and healthcare provider involvement were predictors of disaster preparedness, and the presence of physical disability did not produce statistically significant results. Study findings contribute to the resiliency efforts of emergency managers, healthcare providers, and community planners by investigating factors contributing to disaster preparedness behaviors of adults over the age of 65. Future research should improve assessment instruments and refine survey questions to address limitations imposed by current methodology and research design.



Kristina Freas, Emergency Manager, Panasonic Energy of North America:

Throughout Kristina's 23-year career, she has dedicated herself to the complexities of emergency management. She has honed her experience within the healthcare sector, providing emergency management oversight for large healthcare systems. She has also worked as an emergency manager with a global social media organization. Presently, she is spearheading the advancement of an emergency management program for Panasonic Energy North America. In pursuit of academic growth, she has an MS in Public Safety/Emergency Management, and most recently, she has completed her PhD dissertation. She is also proud to hold certification as a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM). My academic successes are further complemented by real-world experience, which enhanced her skill set to navigate the emergency management landscape.

February at 27 3:00PM – 3:40 PM

A Look at Recent Weather and Water Disasters in Nevada Through the Lens of Climate Change

No place is immune from the effects of weather and climate-related natural disasters. Nevada experienced more than its share in 2023. Impacts included historic flooding due to excessive spring snowmelt runoff, impacts associated with Tropical Cyclone Hilary, and an exceptionally active Labor Day storm. We will explore the causes of these events as well as where they fit climatologically. We will also look at climate change and how it has been experienced in Nevada as well as a look into the future of high-impact weather events. Can we expect greater frequency of such events due to climate change?



Dan Berc, Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service, Las Vegas, NV:

Dan Berc has served as the Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the National Weather Service (NWS) in Las Vegas, Nevada since 2012. Prior to that, he served as a meteorologist at the NWS in Riverton, Wyoming. Dan received his Bachelor of Science degree in Atmospheric Science from Northern Illinois University in 2006 with an emphasis on Geography and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). In his current capacity, Dan serves as the primary liaison between the NWS and core partners in emergency services, tribal entities, media, and the public for a 70,000-square-mile area of southern Nevada, northwest Arizona, and southeast California.

February 28 at 8:50AM – 9:30AM

Reno Sparks Tribal Health Center COVID Response, After Action Planning and Improvement Planning

A review of the Reno Sparks Tribal Health Center's COVID response from beginning to end. As well as, a review of Operational activities and separation of responsibilities from the Tribal Health Center and Tribal Administration. Providing a basic understanding of roles and responsibilities of a large scale Public Health event and who lead those activities. Reviewing the

Unified Command in relation to County Public Health and the role the Tribal Health Center lead. Detailing the importance of the Unified Command Structure within Tribal boundaries, also detailing the Tribe's Improvement Planning process, while utilizing NIMS and the Tribal Council.



Daniel Thayer, Reno Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Health Center as the Emergency Response Coordinator and Safety Officer:

Currently employed at the Reno Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Health Center as the Emergency Response Coordinator and Safety Officer providing and coordinating Emergency Response preparedness trainings, developing emergency response operating procedures and guidelines for all hazard response and, overseeing the safety program for both staff and clients pertaining to OSHA standards and assuring guidelines and policy/procedure is followed within the Clinic I have written numerous Full Scale Exercises for RSIC, RSTHC : Operation Wildfire for Hungry Valley including activation for Mass Sheltering utilizing the Red Cross, Evacuation of Hungry Valley. 7-Full Scale POD exercises. Including State of Nevada Public Health and Washoe County Public Health. I wrote the Agreement between Washoe County Public Health and RSTHC designated RSTHC as a point of dispensing site for Washoe County. Served as the Reno Sparks Tribal Health Center Incident Commander for the COVID Response Also: Division Supervisor and Demobilization Unit Leader.

February 28 at 8:50AM – 9:30AM

Win Friends and Influence Planning– Henderson’s Preparation for a Special Election: Following up on the Henderson Emergency Preparedness Session on preparing for a special election; this breakout panel features both Emergency Preparedness and members of our Clerk’s office for a question and answer seminar covering everything from addressing initial feelings of anxiousness, the event action plan process for a special election, to the addition of mental health and wellness piece that won national accolade.



Craig Nimsgern, Emergency Management Specialist for the City of Henderson:

Craig Nimsgern is the Emergency Management Specialist for the city of Henderson. Primarily focused on City emergency operations planning and continuous accreditation compliance. He is a registered AEM and holds a Masters in Emergency and Crisis Management from UNLV.



Josie Ross, Emergency Management Officer for the City of Henderson:

Josie Ross is the Emergency Management Officer for the city of Henderson. Her work focuses on continuity planning, ICS training, community preparedness and exercises. She has a master’s in emergency management.

February 28 at 8:50AM – 9:30AM

State of Nevada Bomb/Public Safety Bomb Squads’ Responsibilities, Capabilities, and Adaptation to Emerging Threats: This presentation will give a general overview of Public Safety Bomb Squads in the State of Nevada, history of Public Safety Bomb Squads, and roles and responsibilities of Public Safety Bomb Squads as required by Nevada Revised Statute 476. The presentation will also include an overview of bomb squads’ current capabilities and roles in response to explosive threats and adaptation to tactical environments and active assailant crisis response. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of ways that bomb squads can assist in nontraditional situations and changes to the bomb squad community with the implementation of National Security Presidential Memorandum 36.



Noah Boyer, Sergeant, Special Operations Division, Washoe County Sheriff’s Office, SWAT Tactical Bomb Technician:

Sergeant Noah Boyer has 18 years of law enforcement experience with Washoe County Sheriff’s Office; he currently serves in the Special Operations Division as the Bomb Squad Commander. Sergeant Boyer

completed the FBI Hazardous Devices School in 2017 and serves on the SWAT Team as a Tactical Bomb Technician.

February 28 at 8:50AM – 9:30AM

Operation TOMODACHI- The U.S. Military Response to the Black Swan of 2011-The Great Japan Earthquake, Tsunami, and Nuclear Catastrophe: On March 11, 2011, a 9.0 earthquake struck off the Northeast coast of Honshu, Japan. This earthquake lasted six minutes. It struck at a depth of 14.9 miles and was 42 miles from the Japanese coast. The quake generated a tsunami that reached a height of over 130 ft (40 meters) and impacted not only 1200 miles of Japanese coast, but also across the Pacific Ocean. The Tsunami reached the coast in under 30 minutes. It disabled the Fukushima Nuclear cooling system which resulted in three reactors melting down and the release of radioactivity into the Pacific Ocean and the atmosphere. In response, the President of the United States directed the U.S. Military to provide humanitarian assistance to Japan. Operation TOMODACHI was conducted in support of the Government of Japan to alleviate additional death and human suffering.



Rob Warfield, Utility Security and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Department of Utility Services - Henderson, NV:

Rob Warfield is a retired U.S. Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel. During his 28 years on active duty, he participated in numerous military and humanitarian relief operations around the world. These operations ranged from combat in Iraq to coordinating humanitarian relief operations in the western Pacific. This includes the "black swan" event of 2011 in northern Japan that included a 9.0 earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear accident. He is currently the Utility Security and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Department of Utility Services- Henderson, NV. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Art and Master of Science in Administrative Leadership.

February 28 at 9:40AM – 10:20AM

Emergency Management and Coordination (who says we have enough staffing: Emergency Management in rural Nevada is a fluid and all-encompassing task that takes effort from every department to elected officials and everyone in between to make the final outcome happen. From planning to the AAR this is how we have become successful in Elko County. We cannot operate on islands or build a bridge to nowhere. Coordination and communication is not innovative, it is just a simple initiative.



Lee Cabaniss, Emergency Manager, Elko County Office of Emergency Management

Lee is the Elko County Emergency Manager and has been in the role with Elko County for 3 years. Prior to becoming the Emergency Manager, he served as an EMT and paramedic for 23 years, including 15 years as a Chief Officer. Lee is a graduate of the National Emergency Management Basic and Advanced Academies, and recently received NVEM Certification.



Matt Petersen, Elko County Fire Chief / Deputy Emergency Manager (waiting on bio)

Matt is the Elko County Fire Chief and has been in the role with Elko County for 4 years. In his role as the Fire Chief Matt also serves as the Deputy Emergency Manager for Elko County. Prior to serving as the fire chief Matt served as the Emergency Manager for Elko County. Matt has served at all levels of fire service in local, state, and federal agencies for over 20 years. Matt has deployed extensively around the United States and overseas supporting fire service.

February 28 at 9:40AM – 10:20AM

Development and Operations of the National Center for Virtual Search: The National Center for Virtual Search, and the Virtual Search Process (VSP) was developed by a retired Alaska State Trooper, Paul M Burke. With over fifty years of search and rescue (SAR) experience at all levels of SAR Operations, Mr. Burke has been able to work in a wide variety of search operations from many positions: As an instructor in Search Management, and as a continuing Practitioner in the science of finding lost subjects, Mr. Burke has developed one of the most significant methodologies for understanding and processing the complexities of search operations and those who become lost. By utilizing a broad base of information and harnessing the power of the internet, Mr. Burke has taken the understanding of the Lost Person from an elementary drawing to a full color,

high resolution picture of the missing. This image, with all its depth, breadth, and definition, is then put through an algorithm with human VSP Analysts trained to understand the subject within the environment and context of their loss. As a result, SAR Resources at the outset of any search are provided with the most intricate and accurate picture of the lost subject and their environment in our experience. This process, when fully utilized, has historically achieved greater than 85% probability that the subject will be found in the operational period in which it is used. While there is no guarantee of similar results in the next case, we conduct a VSP in, we are confident in giving search managers and SAR resources a picture like no other, and the possibility of achieving results they have never had in the past. The National Center for Virtual Search is the culmination of both the operational use of VSP, and the collaboration of many search and rescue professionals throughout the US, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Each one has been a long-term educator, manager, researcher, or program developer, and above all, an active practitioner in search and rescue operations. They have been devoted to missing and lost person events for decades, and they bring their experience and skills to a national audience through the NCVS. Planning and organization of this concept has been continuing for over ten years, with the culmination of the NCVS build during the Summer of 2023. Every process and the applied science behind it are being constantly evaluated and improved. Analysts are continually being developed throughout the SAR community and the NCVS is a result of “great minds thinking alike. The presentation of the Virtual Search Process has been submitted twice to prior symposia; however, presenters were involved with National responses to major disasters at the time of those events and were unable to attend. The center is comprised of three Missions: Operations, Research, and Training:



Paul Burke, Search and Rescue Specialist/Developer of the Virtual Search Planning Process at Virtual Search Planning:

February 28 at 9:40AM – 10:20AM

Marketing Emergency Management: Strategies to Enhance Public Awareness and Engagement: Innovative strategies to enhance public awareness and stakeholder engagement in the crucial sector of emergency management. Given today’s challenging environment, this topic is not only timely but essential for fostering community resilience and preparedness. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of how to effectively communicate and market emergency management initiatives, leading to increased community preparedness and more robust engagement in public safety protocols.



Daniel Scott, Founder, Daniel Scott & Associates LLC:

Daniel Scott is a dynamic and accomplished professional with over 20 years of experience in public service, leadership, and coaching. He is highly motivated and passionate about empowering others to reach their full potential and positively impact their personal and professional lives. Daniel encourages and develops change while leading and developing others. With proven experience building teams to deliver tailored solutions, Daniel has a highly creative and flexible approach to managing complex projects. His record of accomplishment and success in collaborating with leadership speaks to his dedication to excellence.

February 28 at 10:30 AM – 11:10AM

Nevada Seismological Laboratory- Providing Real-Time Situational Awareness for Earthquakes and Wildfires in Nevada and the Greater Lake Tahoe Area: The Nevada Seismological Laboratory (NSL) at the University of Nevada, Reno operates a statewide microwave network that enables real-time observations of natural hazards. The primary mission of the NSL, over the last 50 years, has been to provide real-time observations of earthquakes and engage with decision makers and the public on seismic hazards throughout Nevada. Within the last several years, the NSL has utilized its wide-reaching communications network to provide real-time situation awareness for other natural hazards. Most notably, the early-detection of wildfires using internet capable pan-tilt-zoom cameras. The NSL also provides network connectivity for long-term ecological observatories and field research stations in the northern Sierras. We are working to bring two new technologies to Nevada to help first responders, decision makers, and the public be more informed of earthquake and fire hazards. First, we are bringing ALERTWest, a state-of-the-art command-and-control software for our wildfire cameras that has received numerous accolades in California, to the Nevada fire camera network. Most notably, the technology was named as one of the Time Magazine

Inventions of the Year for 2023. The system features real-time artificial intelligence (AI) to detect smoke during both daytime and night-time and the ability for first responders to control cameras remotely to provide situational awareness during firefighting missions. Next, we are working with the U.S. Geological Survey to bring ShakeAlert, an earthquake early-warning system, to Nevada, which can provide alerts from seconds to minutes before strong shaking arrives at a location. The warning times can provide ample time to Drop, Cover, and Hold on or make decisions on critical infrastructure in the state. This system is currently available in California, Oregon, and Washington and has been used to halt critical infrastructure and public transportation such as the Bay Area Rapid Transit from impending seismic waves. These two technologies are the culmination of on-going efforts from the NSL to provide the state of Nevada with the best available real-time information on natural hazards.

William "Bill" Savran, Network Manager of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory at the University of Nevada, Reno:

Dr. William Savran is the Network Manager of the Nevada Seismological Laboratory at the University of Nevada, Reno. He received his Ph.D. from San Diego State and UC San Diego in 2017 in Computational Geophysics. His research focuses on developing methods for evaluating probabilistic earthquake forecasting models and large-scale simulations of seismic wave propagation and dynamic rupture on earthquake faults. At the NSL, he manages the day-to-day operations of the lab, including the wildfire camera network, and oversees the networking engineering, field operations, and software and data center operations.

February 28 at 10:30 AM – 11:10AM

Who should consider a Recovery Exercise? You should! How to plan and execute an effective recovery exercise: Since the early days of emergency management, we have all been part of exercises – tabletop, functional and full scale. This is a staple activity in our profession. We receive requests from community partners to participate in a variety of functions to test capabilities they wish to push to the limit – to get a sense of what we can do if we had to in an actual emergency. However, when the lights and sirens return to quarters, there is still a lot of work to be done. Yet, as a nation, we tend not to exercise one of the most challenging phases of emergency management – Recovery. We don't practice recovery very well and this impacts how well we can recover. In this session, the team will present concepts to consider when developing a recovery exercise, focusing on the essential steps to develop, plan and execute different types of recovery-based exercises. The attendee will be able to lead an agency/entity through the exercise building blocks of how to practice a post disaster community recovery.



Chris Smith, Innovative Emergency Management and Truckee Meadows Community College:

Chris is an experienced emergency management senior executive having served at the local, state and federal levels. During this time, he has planned with, organized for, equipped, trained, and exercised thousands of individuals across the country. He has served in over 175 presidentially declared disasters in all states, territories and several tribal nations. During his career, he led efforts to distribute approximately \$51B to disaster survivors in the United States. After service in Carson City, NV. and Washington, D.C., he returned home to Northern Nevada to continue his work in emergency management with IEM (Innovative Emergency Management) and Truckee Meadows Community College.



Aaron Kenneston, Truckee Meadows Community College Emergency Management & Homeland Security:

Dr. Aaron R. Kenneston earned a Doctor of Management in Organizational Leadership from the University of Phoenix and is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) with the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM). He helped develop the Emergency Management and Homeland Security 4-year degree program for the Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC). He is a retired Army Colonel with deployments around the globe. Dr. Kenneston served as the Washoe County Emergency Manager from 2004-2021. He currently is serving as adjunct faculty for a variety of business and emergency management courses, and serves as an assessor for the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP).

February 28 at 10:30 AM – 11:10AM

Rethinking MSELs: Leading and Adapting in Dynamic Emergency Management: In an era where emergencies unfold with unprecedented unpredictability, the traditional use of Master Scenario Event Lists (MSELs) with pre-populated timelines in

emergency management exercises needs a critical reassessment. This session proposes a paradigm shift towards a more adaptive and realistic approach in constructing and utilizing MSELs. Drawing from a comprehensive analysis of past emergency responses and the limitations of rigid MSEL timelines, the presentation will explore the benefits of dynamic, scenario driven MSELs that better mimic real-world conditions and foster enhanced preparedness. Attendees will be engaged in an insightful discussion on how to effectively integrate flexibility into MSELs, ensuring that emergency response teams are not just prepared, but are adaptable to the fluid nature of real crises. This session is essential for emergency management professionals seeking to refine their approach to crisis simulations, thereby aligning training and preparedness efforts with the complexities of actual emergencies. The proposed method offers a practical roadmap for agencies to elevate their emergency response strategies, making this session a must-attend for those committed to leading the charge in next-generation emergency preparedness.



Lucas J. Basham Murphy, Operations Command Center and Emergency Operations Center at the Nevada National Security Sites:

Lucas J. Basham Murphy, currently overseeing the Operations Command Center and Emergency Operations Center at the Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS), brings over 14 years of comprehensive experience in emergency management. His career includes a role as the Senior Disaster Program Manager with the American Red Cross in Nevada and Utah, alongside international experience in Togo, West Africa. At the NNSS, Lucas plays a crucial role in managing emergency responses and facilitating seamless inter-departmental coordination. A graduate of Millersville University with a Master's in Emergency Management, and holding a Bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado, his expertise spans various aspects of disaster preparedness and response. Lucas' commitment to enhancing community resilience is evident in his collaborative efforts with government and emergency agencies. An advocate for continuous learning in the field of emergency management, he is excited to share insights and experiences at the Nevada Preparedness Summit.

February 28 at 10:30 AM – 11:10AM

ESF #6 (Mass Care): The American Red Cross National Readiness Initiative: The goal of the American Red Cross's National Readiness Initiative is to strengthen Emergency Support Function #6 (Mass Care) across the nation, through a 'supportive community' collaborative approach that aligns mass care expectations and commitments with local government and high probability/high consequence disaster threats. In this presentation, stakeholders will learn about the six-step process that the Red Cross is engaging with cities, counties, and tribes across Nevada as we build and sustain authentic relationships within local jurisdictions so that the community understands, welcomes, supports, and participates in mass care service delivery in times of need.

JaLae Thompson, Disaster State Relations Director for the American Red Cross:



With a 25-year professional background spanning emergency management, nonprofit management, community and volunteer engagement, planning and program development, JaLae Thompson is a dedicated leader in the field of disaster relief. Currently serving as a Disaster State Relations Director for the American Red Cross, JaLae plays a pivotal role in supporting FEMA Regions VI, VII, VIII and IX as well as disaster state relations in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming. In this capacity, she excels in fostering coordination among key partners, including federal, state, tribal and nonprofit entities, ensuring seamless collaboration in Preparedness, Response and Recovery initiatives. A product of Southern Idaho/Northern Nevada ranch life, JaLae holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Utah State University and an International Relations Degree from Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico. This diverse education background reflects her global perspective and contributes to her holistic approach to disaster management.

February 28 at 11:20AM – 12:00PM

Navigating the Shift: Preparing Gen Z and Millennial Leaders for Succession in Emergency Management: Join us for a panel discussion featuring local, experienced emergency managers where attendees will learn how to establish effective strategies for information-sharing and collaboration platforms that cater to both retiring experts and emerging young leaders. This includes leveraging digital tools and creating environments where knowledge is freely exchanged, ensuring that the wisdom and experience of retiring professionals are not lost, and reinforcing interoperability amongst teams. Attendees will also have the chance to engage with our panel speakers in a live question-and-answers discussion related to real-life examples in emergency management. The panel presentation will offer insights into robust succession planning processes in emergency

management. This includes identifying potential Gen Z and Millennial leaders early, providing them with mentorship opportunities, and gradually increasing their responsibilities. The focus will be on creating a seamless transition that maintains organizational stability and retains critical knowledge. A crucial aspect discussed will be methods for documenting and capturing the vast repository of disaster management institutional knowledge from retiring experts. This includes creating comprehensive documentation systems, conducting exit interviews, and developing case studies and training modules based on their experiences. The goal is to ensure that invaluable lessons and insights are preserved and accessible to the new generation of emergency managers.



Molly Bargmann, Deputy Director of Recovery, AC Disaster Consulting:

Molly Bargmann brings 14 years of nationwide local, state, and Federal disaster recovery experience. Molly specializes in FEMA Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Programs, disaster recovery strategy, and innovative solutions to plan and maximize community recovery. She has experience in multiple Emergency Operation Center (EOC) environments, using the Incident Command System, including as a State Coordinating Office, Operations Chief, and Emergency Services Branch Director for varying events. Types of events included hazardous material spills, historic flooding, tropical storms, severe weather events, ice jams, and avian flu. Molly is a subject matter expert in policy interpretation, grant implementation, grant monitoring, financial management, contract/grant tracking, and compliance. As ACDC's Deputy Director of Recovery, Molly helps manage all recovery projects company-wide, ensuring clients maximize their reimbursements by understanding eligibility criteria and innovatively seeking multiple grant sources for the company. Molly's career has provided her with an extensive skill set and real-world applications, shaping her into a dedicated leader and a sought-after emergency management professional.



Andrew Phelps, Chief Operating Officer, AC Disaster Consulting

Andrew Phelps has 20+ years as an emergency management (EM) and response student, practitioner, educator and researcher, he has gained invaluable experience leading people and organizations during emergencies as large as a billion-dollar federal disaster declaration. He is experienced in FEMA processes and grant programs, Homeland Security Grant Program, Hazard Mitigation Planning, Emergency Operation Center (EOC) training and operating procedures, and more. Andrew is a former State Director of Emergency Management for the State of Oregon where he worked for eight years prior to joining ACDC. While there, he served as the Governor's Authorized Representative and State Coordinating Officer for nine (9) Federal disaster declarations totaling over \$2 billion in federal recovery funds. Notably, he led the transition from an EM division to a cabinet-level department, which included more than doubling agency staffing levels and a 400% general fund budget increase. Andrew also sits on the FEMA National Advisory Council (NAC).



Daniel Barnes, Consultant, AC Disaster Consulting

Daniel Barnes recently graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, receiving a M.S. Degree in Emergency and Crisis Management. He brings previous state disaster recovery experience to AC Disaster Consulting, specializing in FEMA Public Assistance. Before launching a career in emergency management Daniel served four years in the United States Air Force. During his time in the Air Force, he served as a heavy equipment operator, specializing in large scale infrastructure projects.



Josie Ross, Emergency Management Officer for the City of Henderson:

Josie Ross is the Emergency Management Officer for the city of Henderson. Her work focuses on continuity planning, ICS training, community preparedness and exercises. She has a master's in emergency management.

February 28 at 11:20AM – 12:00PM

Nevada's Preliminary Damage Assessment Tool - 2023 Lessons Learned: Shea Schultz and Corin Roth will discuss the lessons learned from the deployment of the statewide PDA tool and PDA teams in 2023. Discussion will include the changes made to streamlining the data required from local jurisdictions, how to best utilize the tool, the importance of inputting accurate data, and the challenges faced when that isn't done.



Shea Schultz, Recovery Supervisor, Nevada Division of Emergency Management:

Shea Schultz, Recovery Supervisor, has been working with the Division of Emergency Management for seven years. In her time with DEM, Shea has assisted in managing over \$200 million in disaster grants, the division's recovery programs, and recovery plans. She has had a role in developing and implementing the statewide preliminary damage assessment (PDA) tool, including during the recent activations of Nevada Operations Center (NvOC) in 2023



Corin Roth, GIS Specialist, Nevada Division of Emergency Management

Corin Roth has been the GIS Analyst with the Division of Emergency Management for the past three years. During her time with DEM, she has assisted in several disaster activations creating maps, dashboards, and informational apps. Corin has also assisted with the implementation of the statewide Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) tool, using Survey123, Quick Capture, and Dashboards. With the use of these apps, she has been able to assist in creating a more systematic approach to the PDA process allowing both county and state jurisdictions to quickly respond and recover from disasters.

February 28 at 11:20AM – 12:00PM

Understanding the Nuclear Emergency Support Team (NEST): The What, Who and Why: The Nuclear Emergency Support Team (NEST) is the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA's) multi-mission nuclear emergency response capability that leverages the Department of Energy's (DOE's) world-class scientists and technical experts to contend with the Nation's most pressing radiological and nuclear challenges. NEST is the umbrella designation that encompasses all DOE/NNSA radiological and nuclear emergency response functions, some of which date back more than 60 years. NEST conducts operations in close coordination with federal mission partners, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Defense (DoD), and Department of Homeland Security, as well as State, local, tribal, and territorial governments during relevant crises. NEST's core competencies include specialized knowledge of U.S. nuclear weapons, improvised nuclear devices (IND), and radiological dispersal devices (RDD, or "dirty bombs") with expertise in spectroscopy, device modeling and assessment, radiography, atmospheric modeling, environmental monitoring, dose assessment, medical effects, and nuclear forensics. NEST capabilities include searching for nuclear threat devices based on signatures, intelligence, and investigatory information, knowledge of nuclear weapons in response to nuclear incidents and accidents involving U.S. nuclear weapons, atmospheric measurements and modeling for radiation contamination, pre- and post-detonation forensics, medical advice for management of radiation injuries, and regionally based teams who advise federal, state, local, and tribal public safety officials, first responders, and law enforcement personnel on steps to protect public health and safety or the environment during incidents involving radioactive materials. By providing dispassionate scientific advice during fearful events, NEST equips decision-makers with the knowledge to save lives and help the public recover quickly from crises.

Jordan Arnswald, Emergency Response Specialist for the National Nuclear Security Administration:



Jordan Arnswald is an Emergency Response Specialist for the National Nuclear Security Administration. She is a Federal Team Lead for the Nuclear Emergency Support Team. Previously, Jordan completed a 2-year assignment with the International Atomic Energy Agency focused on training first responders for radiological emergencies. Jordan has degrees in biology and security studies. She has a PhD in Public Safety with a concentration in Emergency Management and has conducted research on communication issues during radiological and nuclear emergencies.



Chris Cacace, Manager, Response Operations for Remote Sensing Laboratory Mission Support and Test Services, LLC:

Christopher Cacace manages the Response Operations Section at the Remote Sensing Laboratory located at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, NV. In this role, Mr. Cacace manages National Nuclear Security Administration crisis response assets for the NA-84 Office of Nuclear Incident Response, including the Nuclear Search Program (West assets), the Radiological Assistance Program Region 7 Team 4, and the Radiological Assistance Program Surge Pallet. Mr. Cacace is responsible for ensuring team proficiency and equipment readiness for a wide variety of nuclear and radiological response missions. Mr. Cacace has a combined 24 years of service as a Department of Energy contractor. He started working at the Remote Sensing Laboratory in 2015 as a Principal Technologist for the Nuclear Search Program. Prior to that, Mr. Cacace worked at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, NY for 15 years. Since his start at the Remote Sensing Laboratory, he has participated a variety of projects under the Capability Assurance Program integrating emerging

technologies into the Department of Energy's radiation detection equipment and software suites. Mr. Cacace also serves as a billeted responder for the Nuclear Search Program, Radiological Assistance Program, Consequence Management Response Team, and Aerial Measuring System. Mr. Cacace has extensive experience as an emergency responder for the National Nuclear Security Administration. He has deployed to real-world events, including the Fukushima Dai-chi Nuclear Power Plant Incident in Japan, multiple United States Presidential Inaugurations, along with several Republican and Democratic National Conventions. In addition, he has supported numerous training activities and exercise events throughout his more than two decades of service. Mr. Cacace spent 17 years as a volunteer firefighter on Long Island, where he rose to the rank of Assistant Chief. He was a responding firefighter to the World Trade Center terrorist attack in New York on September 11, 2001.

February at 28 11:20AM – 12:00 PM

The National Weather Service and Emergency Management: Decision Support for Event Operations: The National Weather Service (NWS) provides Impact-Based Decision Support Services (IDSS) to core partners in the emergency management community for incidents and planned events. This presentation will discuss the types of support we can provide during every phase from prevention to recovery. We will explore several cases that highlight our capabilities and support during both weather and non-weather incidents as well as several planned events of all scales, from small local events up to SEAR 1 events. We will also highlight recent improvements to the types of support we provide, to include probabilistic forecasts, threshold-specific probabilities, and event risk analyses for weather-related hazards.



Dan Berc, Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service, Las Vegas, NV:

Dan Berc has served as the Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the National Weather Service (NWS) in Las Vegas, Nevada since 2012. Prior to that, he served as a meteorologist at the NWS in Riverton, Wyoming. Dan received his Bachelor of Science degree in Atmospheric Science from Northern Illinois University in 2006 with an emphasis on Geography and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). In his current capacity, Dan serves as the primary liaison between the NWS and core partners in emergency services, tribal entities, media, and the public for a 70,000-square-mile area of southern Nevada, northwest Arizona, and southeast California.

February 28 at 3:00PM – 3:40PM

Disasters within Disasters - Improvise, Adapt, and Overcome: A series of tales and stories that share best practices and lessons learned from a marathon of disasters.



Lisa Christensen, Project Manager for the Washoe Tribe Preparedness Response Department

Lisa is a Washoe tribal member from Woodfords but she has resided in Dresslerville for the past 27 years. She has worked in emergency management for 4 years before going into Law Enforcement. Her Chief of Police reassigned her to the Emergency Operations Center for a year to respond to COVID-19. She resigned from the Washoe Tribe Police Department after 6 years and returned as the Operations/Planning Chief for the Washoe Tribe Emergency Operations Center. She supervised the crew and their projects within the tribal communities and worked to update the Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan with a planning team. She was a council member for Dresslerville Community for 2 terms and represented the Washoe Tribe in LEPCs within Douglas and Carson Counties. In 2015, she was appointed by Governor Sandoval to the Nevada Commission of Homeland Security which I served the Tribes of Nevada until 2022. Her heart is in serving my community and the areas around us.



Herman Fillmore, Culture/Language Resources Director for the Washoe Tribe of NV and CA

I graduated from the University of New Mexico in 2012 and have been working for my Tribe and People since. I spent one term on Dresslerville Community Council and the Washoe Tribal Council from 2018-2022. During that time, I also assisted as the Liaison Officer for the Emergency Response Center in order to assist with prevention and recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

February 28 at 3:00PM – 3:40PM

Overview of Cybersecurity Threat Activities in Nevada for 2023: This presentation will cover real world examples of actual cybersecurity threat activities seen in Nevada over the course of 2023, including impact, responses, and a summary of what response components worked well and what didn't.



Aakin Patel, Administrator of the Nevada Office of Cyber Defense Coordination:

Aakin Patel is the Administrator of the Nevada Office of Cyber Defense Coordination (OCCD). He has worked in IT jobs since 1991 and started out his career working on financial bonds trading systems on Wall Street. Once he realized that everyone but him was making the big bucks, he went to the Department of Energy at Brookhaven National Laboratory, where he continued to not make the big bucks. There, he joined the Cybersecurity team, working with the counterintelligence group to secure our scientific infrastructure. After almost a decade there, he went on to gain experience in the Hospitality, Gaming, Retail, Non-Profit, and Small Business sectors. Most recently, he was the head of Cybersecurity for LAS Airport. Aakin graduated from Stony Brook University in New York with a degree in Geophysics, even doing some graduate research work on the mountains of Nevada, which skills and knowledge base he only gets to make use of pointing out features while on road trips with people who pointedly ignore him to stare at their phones.

February 28 at 3:00PM – 3:40PM

Ethical Emergencies - Maintaining Compliance with Nevada's Ethics Law: Nevada's state and local government employees are all required to maintain compliance with Nevada's Ethics Law. Failure to do so can lead to canceled contracts with vendors, financial penalties, and even removal from public office. This session will review the provisions of the Ethics Law most relevant to emergency preparedness officials, discuss how to incorporate ethics compliance into emergency preparedness planning, and provide attendees a better understanding of how the Ethics Commission can help in both the planning and response phases of an emergency.

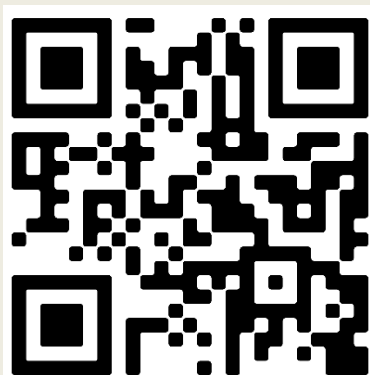


Ross Armstrong, Executive Director, Nevada Commission on Ethics:

Executive Director Armstrong was born and raised in Reno, graduating from the University of Nevada, Reno and then Willamette University College of Law. Before joining the Nevada Commission on Ethics in 2021, he was a special prosecutor in rural Nevada and then general agency attorney at the Nevada Attorney General's Office and held executive positions at the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services. He has served on multiple public Commissions including the Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission, the Coalition to Prevent the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, and the Nevada Attorney General's Committee on Domestic Violence.

Participant Feedback Survey:

Please take the time to complete the participant feedback survey for this year's NEPA Summit. Your feedback is important to improving future summits and ensuring the NEPA Summit continues to meet the needs and expectations of its participants.





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NEPA's Pre-Summit Training

COOP System Admin Training (2 Hours)

If your organization is currently participating in the www.NevadaContinuity.com system, please join us for System Admin Training for Emergency Managers. Registration is limited to 30 attendees.

Training Objectives:

Provide attendees with hands-on, interactive Admin training in the system to:

- Run Reports:
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Trainers:

Jennifer Posten – RSI
Dean Kiernan – Clark County School District

Feb. 26, 2024

1 pm – 3 pm



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THE ART OF MASS GATHERINGS IN NEVADA

Join us for a transformative 4-hour pre-summit learning session on **The Art of Mass Gatherings: Performing Arts Readiness**. Discover how festivals are evolving into dynamic classrooms for disaster resilience, enhancing safety, accessibility & sustainability. Engage with experts through panels, presentations & a hands-on mapping exercise, complemented by a practical site visit. Learn from the successes of cities fostering community engagement & preparedness through innovative programs integrating CERTs & MRCs to reimagine whole community emergency preparedness through the lens of the performing arts.

SAFETY • ACCESSIBILITY • SUSTAINABILITY • COMMUNITY

**FESTIVALS AS CLASSROOMS &
CATALYSTS FOR WHOLE-COMMUNITY
PREPAREDNESS**

**Monday, February 26th
8:00 am - noon**

**Las Vegas Valley Water District
1001 S Valley View Blvd
Las Vegas, Nevada 89107**

info@majesticcollaborations.com | theartofmassgatherings.com



LEARN MORE
BIT.LY/AOMGMC



**PERFORMING
ARTS READINESS**
a community served by **LYRASIS**

**Making Nevadans resilient
against natural hazards.**



NEVADA
SEISMOLOGICAL
LABORATORY



Save the Date!

12th Annual Nevada Rural Preparedness Summit 2024

Wednesday, May 15th - Thursday, May 16th, 2024

Elko Conference Center | 724 Moren Way | Elko, NV 89801

JOIN US THIS YEAR FOR THE 12TH ANNUAL NEVADA RURAL PREPAREDNESS SUMMIT IN ELKO, NEVADA. THIS YEAR'S THEME IS **"RESOURCES WITHOUT BORDERS,"** WHERE WE WILL EXPLORE UTILIZING AVAILABLE RESOURCES WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF OUR STATE'S BORDERS, INCLUDING EXPANDING CROSS-BORDER RELATIONSHIPS IN VARIOUS AREAS OF PREPAREDNESS.

REGISTRATION FLYER TO FOLLOW, WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING PLENARY PRESENTATIONS, TRAININGS, AND REGISTRATION SITE LINK. PLEASE EMAIL QUESTIONS TO THE NEVADA PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION AT: INFO@NPHF.ORG

