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NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2017

# The Responder

An informational source for the Emergency Responders of Chester County

## National Fire Prevention Week



In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the first National Fire Prevention Week. It began what is now the longest running public health observance, according to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center. This proclamation, is in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire. This fire killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless and destroyed more that 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. \*

\*Reproduced from NFPA's website, [www.nfpa.org/publiceducation](http://www.nfpa.org/publiceducation). © NFPA.



Members of the Fire Service accept the Fire Prevention Week 2017 Proclamation from the Board of Commissioners.



Chester County Board of Commissioners: Michelle Kichline | Kathi Cozzone | Terence Farrell  
Robert J. Kagel, Director

# FROM THE DIRECTOR...



Bobby Kagel,  
Director

## Project Updates & Monthly Stats

### Computer-Aided-Dispatch System (CADS):

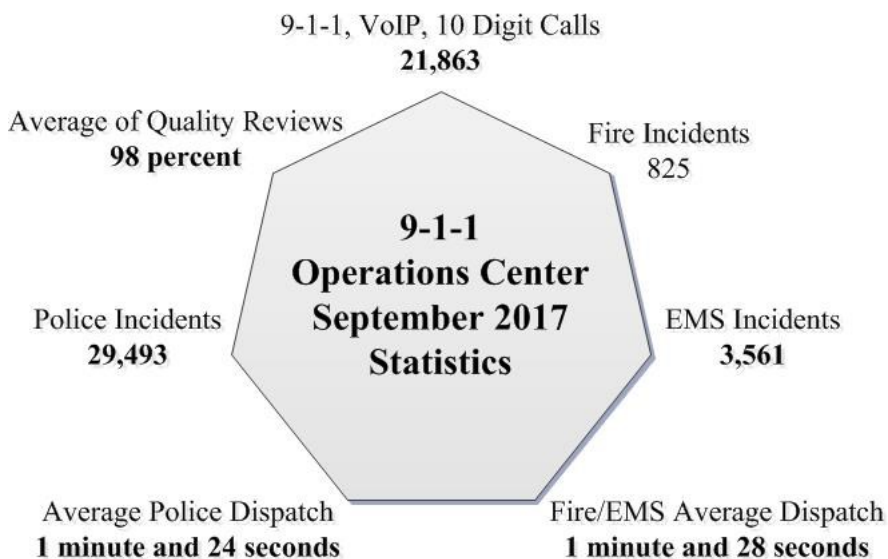
- The contract for changes to the Mobile for Public Safety (MPS) requested by the responders has been signed. We are awaiting Intergraph to assign a resource to complete the work.

### Voice Radio Project:

- We continue to work with AT&T to resolve tower space issues at the Wayne site. The Harris contract was signed to enhance in-building coverage in West Chester Borough. We are finalizing the contract with Nokia for the microwave work related to the West Chester Borough expansion.

### Training Facility:

- Last month we hosted 1,710 people at 144 events in the Academic Building. Last month we hosted 50 training sessions in the Tactical Village.



HAVE YOU SCHEDULED A TRAINING  
AT THE CHESTER COUNTY PUBLIC  
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COME TRAIN WITH US



For assistance with booking, call  
John Gillespie, Assistant Director of  
Chester County Public Safety  
Training Campus at:

610-344-4241

# CHESTER COUNTY September 2017 STATS

## FIRE MARSHAL



SEPTEMBER 2017		11	6	5	0	1			
Have you checked your batteries in all smoke alarms?		NOTIFICATIONS YTD 106	UNDETERMINED YTD 39	UNINTENTIONAL YTD 80	INTENTIONAL YTD 9	NATURAL YTD 7			
<b>ASSEMBLY</b> 2 Fires \$-- Loss Reported <i>YTD: 12 Fires</i> \$2,500 Loss Reported	<b>EDUCATIONAL</b> 0 Fires \$-- Loss Reported <i>YTD: 2 Fires</i> \$-- Loss Reported	<b>INSTITUTIONAL</b> 1 Fire \$-- Loss Reported <i>YTD: 9 Fires</i> \$-- Loss Reported	<b>RESIDENTIAL</b> 14 Fires \$971,050 Loss Reported <i>YTD: 140 Fires</i> \$9,235,125 Loss Reported	<b>BUSINESS</b> 0 Fires \$ -- Loss Reported <i>YTD: 10 Fires</i> \$1,970,000 Loss Reported					
<b>INDUSTRIAL</b> 1 Fire \$900,000 Loss Reported <i>YTD: 8 Fires</i> \$1,006,000 Loss Reported	<b>MANUFACTURING</b> 1 Fire \$-- Loss Reported <i>YTD: 4 Fires</i> \$310,000 Loss Reported	<b>STORAGE</b> 2 Fires \$80,400 Loss Reported <i>YTD: 21 Fires</i> \$1,023,400 Loss Reported	<b>OUTSIDE</b> 0 Fires \$-- Loss Reported <i>YTD: 20 Fires</i> \$139,750 Loss Reported	<b>OTHER</b> 3 Fires \$52,500 Loss Reported <i>YTD: 19 Fires</i> \$52,500 Loss Reported					
<b>RESPONDER INJURIES</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">5</span> YTD 29		<b>RESPONDER DEATHS</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">0</span> YTD 0		<b>CIVILIAN INJURIES</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">19</span> YTD 57		<b>CIVILIAN DEATHS</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">0</span> YTD 2			
1		9		0		6			
<b>ACTIVE ARSON CASES</b> YTD 12		<b>FIRE INSPECTIONS</b> YTD 106		<b>YOUTH FIRE SETTERS PROGRAMS</b> YTD 3		<b>REPORTS SENT TO ASSESSMENT</b> YTD 105		<b>FOLLOW-UP WITH INSURANCE COMPANIES &amp; INVESTIGATORS</b> YTD 101	



## COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIM SEPTEMBER NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH



Staff from Chester County Department of Emergency Services were on hand at the September 20, 2017 Board of Commissioners Sunshine Meeting where the county commissioners declared September 2017 as National Preparedness Month.

**From left to right;** Commissioner Farrell; DES Staff- Stacey Songer, Rob Linnenbaugh, Bill Turner; Commissioner Kichline and Commissioner Cozzone

## Chester County Water Resources Authority hosted their annual Municipal Storm-Water Summit and FEMA Flood Resiliency Meeting

On September 28, 2017 several speakers had the opportunity to present on a variety of topics that include county growth management, hazard mitigation, new municipal floodplain ordinances, and flood mitigation grants.

Subject Matter Experts from Chester County, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (PA-DCED) presented valuable insight and information for the 80 plus attendees.

FEMA maintains and updates data through the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), risk assessments and through their mapping program; sections of Chester County were restudied, updated and finalized in September 2017. With these new changes, some properties may be affected and require flood insurance as part of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Recently, FEMA held an open house at the Government Services Center on July 20, 2017 for Chester County residents to view these updated floodplain maps and explain and answer any questions related to new floodplain boundaries.



# CCDES Emergency Management participate in Regional Debris Management Tabletop

On Wednesday, September 27, 2017, Emergency Services along with a group of partners from Chester County participated in a regional tabletop exercise focusing on debris management.

The event was hosted by Bucks County and was a final element of the regional debris management assessment that has been conducted by Dewberry Consultants LLC, and performed in conjunction with the Southeastern PA Regional Task Force, Infrastructure Work Group.

## All five counties in Southeastern Pennsylvania participated in the tabletop.

The exercise scenario was developed based on a Category 2 Hurricane affecting the entire region and participants examined their abilities to respond, clean up, and recover from such an event. William Turner, Deputy Director for Emergency Management, lead the discussion for Chester County's group with participants from the Chester County Health Department, London Britain, London Grove, Uwchlan, and West Whiteland townships; providing great input and a local perspective to the scenario.


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**CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**



**Chester County Law Enforcement Firing Range**

- All the steel baffles have been installed in the 50-yard range and work has begun on the 100-yard range.
- The parking lots are under construction and expected to open by mid-October.
- The contractor has begun hanging drywall.



# Commissioners honor CCDES employee with Citation

At the Board of Commissioners Sunshine Meeting on September 20th, the Chester County Commissioners honored Rob Linnenbaugh with a Citation of Appreciation for completing the Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Agency Advanced Academy.

**From left to right:** Commissioner Farrell, DES Director Bobby Kagel, Rob Linnenbaugh, Commissioner Kichline and Commissioner Cozzone



## Annual Medical Support (MS-1) Exercise

This exercise was conducted in order to satisfy federal regulations concerning our radiological preparedness, which is required within the Emergency Planning Zone of operating commercial nuclear power plants.

The hospital personnel were evaluated in implementation of contamination control actions upon receipt of the patient by means of a “dirty to clean” litter transfer (the patient being transferred to a clean hospital litter outside the entry point). The arriving Basic Life Support unit crew and the “dirty” litter remain outside. The “patient” was moved to an appropriate treatment room and the simulated wounds and contaminants are attended to. Training for these potential events and exercise is provided via the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and Chester County Department of Emergency Services.

Training for the exercise consisted of two three-hour training sessions for the staff of the hospital and Emergency Medical Services in the area. The exercise also reviews how the EMS providers demonstrate the emergency care response of an injured patient with radiological contamination, including patient transport via ambulance to the MS-1 Hospital.

The evaluated exercise took place at the Brandywine Hospital on September 28, 2017. The participants were from the following: Brandywine Hospital, Minquas Fire Company , Chester County Department of Emergency Services and Exelon Nuclear.

The evaluation and After Action Report from FEMA/PEMA was favorable.



# CISM Corner

By Jon Paul Staley  
FF/NR-Paramedic



"Hmmm, where do I begin? I have never been one that is long winded or opens up easily, but I guess there are exceptions. I've been doing this a little over 10 years and have had my share of bad calls, but my previous squad did not offer any support other than my platoon. That day in May was no different than any other 24 hour shift I normally did, but shortly before midnight THAT call came in. We were dispatched for a shooting. I had been on numerous shootings at my previous job, but I did not know them. I knew these victims personally. I did my job to the best of my ability, returned to the station, cleaned, restocked, charted and spoke with detectives. I went home and thought nothing of it. I knew something was bothering me a few days later and unbeknownst to me the wheels had been set in motion. Several days later I met the CISM team in West Chester and everyone involved with that call was there. From the call takers to dispatchers, Police and EMS.

## Then something weird happened, everyone opened up!

I admit I was hesitant at first as I was never offered CISM before and the "just suck it up" mentality seemed to be ingrained in me. I left the meeting with a sense of relief because I truly did not know how much it affected me.

Fast forward a year or so, I reached out to Chaplain Schwartz, the county CISM Team Coordinator, again as I was beginning to close up and it was affecting not only myself, but my family and everyone around me, and don't want to end up hurting the people I care about. I don't know what drug up old memories and I started to begin a downward spiral. At that point, I talked with the Chaplain for quite a while and I came out of our talk with a new outlook. Several days later a friend of the Chaplain reached out to me and we talked and it was a good talk and I felt even better. There seems to be a little bit of stress removed and only time will tell. I need to be there for my family first and always, but also my co-workers when they need it. I guess what I am trying to say is don't be afraid to reach out because there is a team in Chester County that is there for first responders and they are the best resource because they are US.

Thanks to all for taking a few minutes out of your day to read this.

Stay safe and  
God Bless!



Pictured above: Jon Paul Staley  
FF/NR-Paramedic

### Need to talk?

Contact us:

**Facebook:** "Chester County CISM Peer Support Team"  
**E-mail:** [cism@chesco.org](mailto:cism@chesco.org)  
**Phone:** 9-1-1 Center Supervisor 610-344-5100



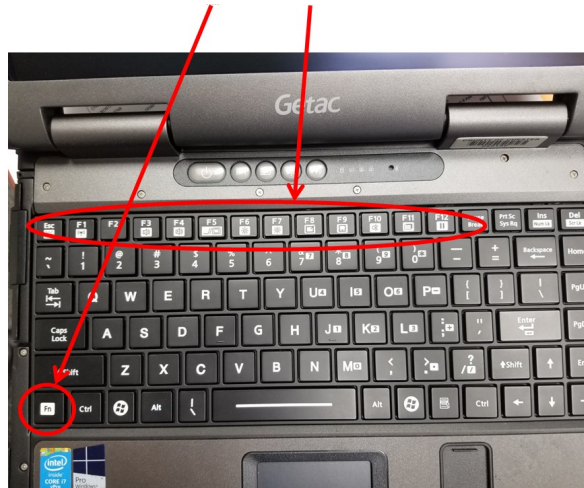
# TECH

# TIP

## MDC Hotkeys

The GETAC MDC's have hotkeys that are designed to toggle certain user functionality off and on. This is accomplished by holding down the Fn key and an F-key to produce the desired results.

PRINT  
AND  
CUT  
HOTKEY  
SHORTCUTS



**EXAMPLE**  
If you wanted to turn on the keyboard backlight, you would hold down Fn and tap the ESC key.  
Repeating this process will toggle the keyboard backlight off and on.

### COMMON HOTKEY SHORTCUTS

Key Combo	Description
Fn + ESC	Switches keyboard backlight off and on
Fn + F3	Decrease sound volume
Fn + F4	Increases sound volume
Fn + F6	Decrease screen brightness
Fn + F7	Increase screen brightness

**For more information on this tech tip, please contact:**

Bob Lee, Communication Technician  
Phone: 610-344-5057 Email: rlee@chesco.org

Government Service Center  
601 Westtown Road | Suite 012,  
West Chester, PA 19380

Public Safety Training Campus  
137 Modena Road,  
Coatesville, PA 19320

# The Responder



Questions, Comments, Concerns?  
Contact us at : eoc-pio@chesco.org