



The Monthly Sentinel

Volume 5, Issue 1

www.homelandsecurity.ky.gov

January 2011

Work Never Ends in Protecting Commonwealth from Threats

**By Thomas L. Preston
Executive Director**

Thinking back on 2010, we've experienced diverse and major challenges while nevertheless accomplishing a variety of safety and security missions.

Much of what we do is designed as long range in purpose — to activate and program disciplines that will prevent, interrupt, complicate or mitigate (the effects of) criminal acts against the Commonwealth of Kentucky, its citizens, visitors and infrastructure.

Certainly, counterterrorism is a key emphasis. We are an integral part of the national counterterrorism grid and for good reason.

But when taken in *total*, you should note our philosophy of exer-

cising foreseeability, training/preparedness, acquiring beneficial intelligence, working with first responders as well as others at the local, state and federal levels.

We are indeed on the front lines in helping protect life and property against a myriad of threats.

And citizens can help.

By participating in our *Eyes & Ears on KY* initiative, they can become more vigilant and aware citizens. Reporting suspicious activities and items directly to us assures quick attention to what just might be a significant danger.

We're pleased about citizen interest in the KOHS website; we receive nearly 13,500 hits each month! Here then, is a strong indication of interest by the general public,

which is gratifying.

Last but certainly not least, let me publicly acknowledge our staff of unselfish, dedicated professionals. Each person is educated, trained and experienced in what he or she must do in maintaining continuity.

I encourage you to read our 2010 and 2009 annual reports, which are posted in the Grant Program section on our website.

Concurrently, we remain severely below basic staffing needs in view of our assignments. Operational funds are equally restricted because of economic conditions. Facts are facts!

Yet KOHS moves onward, always remembering that no community, no state or nation can always be completely free of perils...often beyond imagination.

First Responders Involved in Emergency Exercise at Owensboro-Daviess County Airport



First responders participated in a full-scale emergency exercise at the Owensboro-Daviess County Airport last September. The activity simulated a 150-passenger aircraft accident. Areas reviewed by KOHS personnel included triage and treatment of the injured, emergency-room operations, on-scene security, incident management and related activities.



Jimmy VanCleve/State Fire Rescue Training

Islamic Extremist Expert Steven Emerson Addresses KOHS Seminar



Laurel Wood/KOHS

Steven Emerson, executive director of The Investigative Project on Terrorism, spoke to approximately 150 attendees about homegrown threats from Islamic extremists. The Investigative Project on Terrorism is one of the world's largest storehouses of archival data about Islamic and Middle Eastern terrorist groups. Emerson provided insightful information about Islamic extremist networks, financing and operations within the United States. He also previewed parts of an upcoming documentary about terrorism. The audience included military, law enforcement, educators, and various first responders from across the Commonwealth.

Rasmussen Poll Shows Many Americans Believe Devastating Terrorist Attack is Somewhat Likely

On the ninth anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, 71 percent of Americans believe it's at least somewhat likely another event this devastating will happen within the next decade. This includes 39 percent who say it's very likely.



A Rasmussen Reports™ national telephone survey conducted Sept. 7-8 found that only 22 percent of adults believe it's not very or not at all likely another 9/11 will take place in America in the next 10 years.

The number of adults who feel another terrorist attack is possible is up five points from last year when 66 percent of Americans felt that way.

Many people claim that America was changed forever by the attacks of 9/11, but only 11 percent of all adults think the country has changed for the better. A solid majority, 68 percent, believe America has changed for the worse, up nine

points from last year.

These findings show a continuing shift in opinion since a couple years after the attacks occurred. On the second anniversary of the attacks, 38 percent of Americans said that the United States has changed for the better, while 47 percent said it changed for the worse.

Forty-four percent of adults feel that many Americans have forgotten the impact of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. That's down slightly from this time last year. Almost as many, 41 percent, disagree with that assessment, but another 15 percent are not sure.

Just 22 percent feel the level of terrorism will decrease when U.S. military forces leave Iraq and Afghanistan. Thirty-nine percent say the amount of terrorism will increase, and 27 percent say it will stay about the same.

For more information, visit www.rasmussenreports.com.



Contributing Agencies:

Kentucky Office of Homeland Security
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security
 Kentucky State Police Intelligence
 FBI Louisville Division
 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
 U.S. Secret Service
 Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
 Kentucky State Police Headquarters Communications
 Lexington Division of Police
 Kentucky Department of Corrections
 Kentucky Army National Guard
 U.S. Coast Guard
 Kentucky Fire Commission

KSP Reports All-Time Number of Meth Labs Found in 2010

As the methods for illegally obtaining the ingredients to create methamphetamine evolve, it becomes easier to manufacture meth and law enforcement is seeing a spike in meth

lab incidents.

Kentucky State Police (KSP) released the October methamphetamine lab statistics and the number indicates an all-time high in the

Commonwealth.

KSP reports that there were 111 meth labs found during the month of October, exceeding all previous monthly totals, bringing the 2010 statewide total to 919.

The last record was set in 2009, when 741 labs were discovered during the course of a year. The state is on track to exceed 1,000 in 2010, after final figures are recorded.

KSP advises that if you suspect someone is making meth or you encounter a meth lab, call 1-800 DOPETIP (1-800-367-3847). Callers can remain anonymous. For more information, visit the KSP website at www.kentuckystatepolice.org.



Michael Embry /KOHS

Junnadel Bowling of the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security talks to visitors at Senior Day Out at Towne Square Mall in Owensboro about the importance of having a preparedness kit in the event of a natural or manmade disaster.

Conferences, Training, Etc.

Feb. 14-18 — Child Abuse Investigations, Nashville, (www.fvtc.edu or 800.648.4966)

March 14-17 — Less Lethal Training Program, Bowling Green (www.safariland.com/training or 800.733.3822 ext. 11798)

March 20-23 — ROCIC Narcotics Conference, Dallas (www.rocic.com or 800.238.7985 ext. 535)

April 11-12 — Cyber Investigations 105, Nashville (www.nw3c.org or 304.366.9094 ext. 2234)

Information about these events and other activities for law enforcement is available to subscribers of the Homeland Security Information Network. To learn about HSIN, visit www.dhs.gov/HSIN or contact Shelby Lawson, KOHS chief of staff and deputy executive director of operations, at Shelby.Lawson@ky.gov.

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FBI Reports Violent Crimes Drop for Third Straight Year

The estimated number of violent crimes in the nation declined in 2009 for the third consecutive year, according to figures released by the FBI. Property crimes also declined in 2009, marking the seventh straight



year that the collective estimates for these offenses dropped below the previous year's total.

The 2009 statistics show that the estimated volumes of violent and property crimes declined 5.3 percent and 4.6 percent, respectively, when compared with the 2008 estimates. The violent crime rate for the year was 429.4 offenses per 100,000 inhabitants (a 6.1 percent decrease from the 2008 rate), and the property crime rate was 3,036.1 per 100,000 persons (a 5.5 percent decrease from the 2008 figure).

These and additional data are presented in the 2009 edition of the FBI's annual report *Crime in the United States*. This publication is a statistical compilation of offense and arrest data reported by law enforcement agencies voluntarily participating in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

The UCR Program collects information on crimes reported by law enforcement agencies regarding the violent crimes of murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, as well as the property crimes of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. (Although the FBI classifies arson as a property crime, it does not estimate arson data because of variations in the level of participation by the reporting agencies. Consequently, arson is not included in the property crime estimate.)

The program also collects arrest data for the offenses listed below plus 21 additional offenses that include all other crimes except traffic violations.

Kentucky Statistics (per 100,000 inhabitants)

Violent Crime	—258.7
Murder/Non-negligent Homicide	—4.1
Forcible Rape	—35.0
Robbery	—84.1
Aggravated Assault	—135.4
Property Crime	—2,512.7
Burglary	—688.5
Larceny/Theft	—1,683.3
Motor Vehicle Theft	—140.9

In 2009, there were 17,985 city, county, university and college, state, tribal, and federal agencies that participated in the UCR Program. These agencies represented 96.3 percent of the nation's population. A summary of the statistics reported by these agencies, which are included in *Crime in the United States, 2009* follows:

- Nationwide in 2009, there were an estimated 1,318,398 violent crimes reported.
- Each of the four violent crime offenses decreased when compared with the 2008 estimates. Murder and non-negligent manslaughter and robbery had the largest decreases: 7.3 percent and 8.0 percent, respectively. In addition, aggravated assault decreased 4.2 percent, and forcible rape declined 2.6 percent.
- Nationwide in 2009, an estimated 9,320,971 property crimes were reported. Each of the property crime offenses also decreased in 2009 when compared with the 2008 estimates. The largest decline was for motor vehicle thefts: a 17.1 percent decrease from the 2008 figure. The estimated number of larceny-thefts declined 4.0 percent, and the estimated number of burglaries decreased 1.3 percent.

- Collectively, victims of property crimes (excluding arson) lost an estimated \$15.2 billion in 2009.
- The FBI estimated that in 2009, agencies nationwide made about 13.7 million arrests, excluding traffic violations.
- The 2009 arrest rate for violent crimes was 191.2 per 100,000 inhabitants; for property crime, the rate was 571.1 per 100,000 inhabitants.
- By violent crime offense, the arrest rate for murder and nonnegligent manslaughter was 4.1; forcible rape, 7.0; robbery, 42.0; and aggravated assault was 138.2 per 100,000 inhabitants.

By property crime offense, the arrest rate for burglary was 98.1; larceny-theft, 442.3; and motor vehicle theft, 26.8 per 100,000 inhabitants. The arrest rate for arson was 4.0 per 100,000 inhabitants.

In 2009, there were 14,614 law enforcement agencies that reported their staffing levels to the FBI. These agencies reported that, as of October 31, 2009, they collectively employed 706,886 sworn officers and 314,570 civilians, a rate of 3.5 employees for each 1,000 inhabitants.



New Data Show Gains in Public Health Preparedness

State and local health departments have made significant progress toward improving public health emergency preparedness and response capabilities, according to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report.

“Today’s report indicates that our nation is better prepared to respond to a public health emergency. It also reminds us that preparedness challenges remain and our efforts need to continue,” said Dr. **Ali Khan**, director of CDC’s Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response. “We must foster improvements for rapid awareness, identification, and communication of health threats; measurable preparedness goals and response plans; and ongoing support for state and local public health.”

The report, “Public Health Preparedness: Strengthening the Nation’s Emergency Response State by State,” presents data on a broad range of preparedness and response activities.

Highlights include:

- Nearly 90 percent of states and localities demonstrated the ability to activate and rapidly staff their emergency operations centers for drills, exercises, or real incidents, and 96 percent developed after action reports/improvement plans following these activities.
- Biological laboratory capabilities and capacities were strong in most states and localities. Nearly 90 percent of laboratories in the Laboratory Response Network (LRN) could be reached 24/7, and 94 percent of the labs passed proficiency tests for detecting other biological agents.
- 72 percent of LRN chemical laboratories demonstrated proficiency in core methods for detecting and measuring exposure to chemical agents, and more than half of the labs are proficient in one or more additional methods identified by

CDC as important for responding to chemical emergencies.



• All states and localities could receive and investigate urgent disease reports 24/7, and more than 90 percent of states used rapid methods to communicate with other laboratories for outbreaks, routine updates, and other needs.

CDC’s approach has been to support public health preparedness for all hazards, including natural, biological, chemical, radiological, and nuclear events. The report provides a better understanding of national and state challenges and the areas where more progress needs to be made.

Key challenges include:

- Preparing adequately for outbreaks and other public health emergencies that may occur simultaneously. This requires predictable and adequate long-term funding to improve infrastructure, staffing, and staff training in the areas of surveil-

lance, epidemiology, laboratories, communication, and response readiness.

• Quality surveillance and epidemiology can be crucial to initiating, guiding, and evaluating responses to public health emergencies. Gaps exist for measuring preparedness in the areas of surveillance and epidemiology.

• An all-hazards approach to preparedness blends with efforts to promote health and prevention of disease, injury, and disability in communities. Healthy populations are more resilient to new health threats. Building healthier communities also helps provide greater protection to populations who are more vulnerable during emergencies.

CDC released the report during ASTHO’s 6th Directors of Public Health Preparedness conference in Newport, Rhode Island. The report and state specific information is available on CDC’s website at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/publications/2010phprep>.



The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security hosted the Department of Homeland Security Domestic Nuclear Detection Office’s Advanced Preventive Radiological/Nuclear Detection Operations Course at the Kentucky Horse Park in August.