



# The Sentinel

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May 2012

## Homeland Security Conference and State Fire School On June 6-10

The Homeland Security Conference and Kentucky State Fire School will be June 6-10 in Lexington with training courses, seminars, and exhibits for firefighters and other first responders.

**Ronnie Day**, executive director of the Kentucky Fire Commission, and **Keith Jackson**, interim fire chief of the Lexington Division of Fire & Emergency Services, serve as conference co-chairs.

Thirteen new courses, from the Junior Firefighter “Mini-Academy” to “Office of the Chief,” will be offered this year.

There also will be “learn by doing” courses such as aircraft fire-fighting, pump maintenance and testing, and EMT refresher; National

Fire Academy/KCTCS degree classes; fire investigations, inspections, prevention and public education classes; seminars; and senior management.

The exhibit area in Heritage Hall, which is part of the Lexington Convention Center complex, is the largest showcase of emergency-service equipment, supplies and services in Kentucky. Exhibitors come from many states, displaying everything from collectibles to fire apparatuses.

The sponsors include the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security, Ken-

tucky Firefighters Association, Commission on Fire Protection, Personnel, Standards and Education, Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs, Eastern Kentucky University, State Fire Marshall, and Kentucky Board of EMS.

Pre-registration is recommended and completed registration forms will be accepted by mail prior to May 28.

Those registering after that date will be entered at the registration desk in Heritage Hall.

The registration form and conference brochure can be downloaded at [www.homelandsecurity.ky.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.ky.gov) and [www.kctcs.edu/kyfirecommission](http://www.kctcs.edu/kyfirecommission).



## Groundbreaking for New Fire Rescue Training Center

A groundbreaking ceremony for construction of a State Fire Rescue Training Center at the Wendell H. Ford Regional Training Center in Greenville in April.

Kentucky Fire Commission Executive Director **Ronnie Day** said the center will provide comprehensive training to National Guard troops and first responders at the local, regional, state and national levels.

**Brig. Gen. Mike Richie** noted that the facility will become only the fourth military firefighting training center in the United States.

Among those taking part in the ceremony, in addition to Day and Richie, were state Sen. **Jerry Rhoads**, State Fire Rescue Training Division Director **Bryant Stiles**, Lt. Col. **Ruth Graves**, Col. **Steven King**, Brig. Gen. **Michael J. Dornbush**, Brig. Gen. **Mark R. Kraus**, Sgt. Maj. **Greg Armstrong**, KFC Chairman **Greg Lowe**, and **Jason Hasert**, a representative from U.S. Sen. **Rand Paul's** office.

KFC funded the construction of the facility, which is expected to be completed in December.



Capt. Chris Miller, center, of the Christian County Sheriff's Office received a Kentucky Colonel certificate from KOHS Executive Director Gene Kiser. Also in the photo are state Rep. Myron B. Dossett and Daniel Nicholson of the Pennyriple Regional Citizens Corps Council. They were given a briefing on KOHS activities during their visit.

## *EKU Intern Embarks on Career Path*

**Dakotah Donnelly** began his internship with the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security in February 2012. Dakotah, the first college graduate and commissioned Army officer (2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, U.S. Army Reserves) in his family, has a special interest in critical infrastructure/key resources.

"This internship really brings to life the realities of homeland security that we study in the academic environment," said the 22-year-old intern from Eastern Kentucky University. "I am thankful for this opportunity to work with the talented individuals that really live the mission of protecting and preparing the state of Kentucky."

"In this internship I have gotten the chance to see my hard work on various projects make an impact on the safety of Kentucky," he added. "Many of the skills I acquired at EKU were applicable at KOHS as well as the skills I acquired at KOHS were applicable to my studies at EKU."

His degree is in homeland security. EKU's homeland security program is a newer degree program,



established in 2007 in response to the nation's homeland security needs and issues. The degree is designed to instruct students on how to help secure borders, airports, waterways and seaports; prepare for and respond to natural and man-made disasters; provide counterterrorism and law enforcement intelligence support; and employ the latest security technologies.

His future plans are to look for opportunities in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and its private sector partners, and eventually work with DHS's protective security advisors.

"I believe working at KOHS, EKU homeland security academics, and the training by EKU ROTC, that my future will be full of adventure," he said.



### 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

# Federal Disaster Assistance Nearly \$19.0 Million from Storms

Total federal disaster assistance approved for Kentucky survivors of the tornadoes and damaging storms of Feb. 29-March 3 now stands at more than \$18.6 million.

To date:

- Close to **5,300** Kentuckians in 21 designated counties have contacted FEMA for help or information regarding disaster assistance.
- Over **\$8.7 million** has been approved for Individual Assistance grants, including housing assistance, short-term rental assistance, home repair costs and other needs assistance.
- Nearly **\$1.8 million** of the Individual Assistance grants was for Other Needs Assistance, including payments for such eligible disaster-related items as medical and dental expenses, and lost personal possessions.
- More than **2,580** homes sus-



Marilee Callendo\FEMA

tained damages. Of those, more than **280** were destroyed.

- Nearly **3,200** inspections of damaged properties have been conducted.
- More than **\$9.9 million** in low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, renters and businesses has been approved by the Small Business Administration.
- FEMA Public Assistance has obligated more than **\$55,000** for re-

pair projects in eligible counties.

The Kentucky Fire Commission deployed two communications trailers to West Liberty, one of the hardest hit areas from the tornadoes.

For more information about the storms and FEMA assistance, visit [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

## Conferences, Training, Etc.

**May 8-11** — “Marijuana - What the Internet Isn't Telling You” and “Talk Back to Marijuana,” Hazard, Louisville, Hopkinsville, and Owensboro

**May 14-18** — Digital Evidence Training, Elizabethtown

**May 17** — Video Tele-Training: Screening of Persons by Observational Techniques, various cities

**May 21-22** — Basic Cell Phone Investigations, Bowling Green

**May 24-25** — Cell Phone Interrogations, Bowling Green

**June 12-13** — Open Source Intelligence Training, Frankfort

**June 18-21** — LSI Basic and Advanced Courses in SCAN (Statement Analysis), Owensboro

**June 18-22** — Advanced Criminal Intelligence Analysis to Prevent Terrorism, Frankfort



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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](http://www.dhs.gov/HSIN) or contact Lindsey Hix, KOHS Intelligence Analyst/HSIN Administrator, at [Lindsey.hix@ky.gov](mailto:Lindsey.hix@ky.gov).

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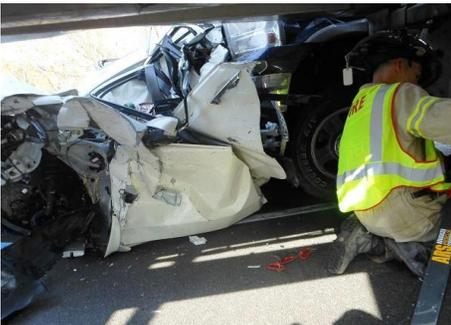
# Brodhead and Mount Vernon Fire Departments to the Rescue

The Mount Vernon and Brodhead fire departments recently responded to a seven-vehicle accident on Interstate 75 and a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of U.S. 150 and KY 461, using rescue equipment purchased through State Homeland Security Grants.

Hydraulic extrication equipment, which includes cutters, spreaders and special lighting for night use, and a strut system to help with lifting and stabilizing vehicles were used by the first responders.

“This is proof positive that the funding you have provided Brodhead

and Mount Vernon Fire Departments is being put to use and to use as a team,” said Brodhead Lt. **Brian A. Bullock**. “It’s safe to say that both departments greatly appreciated the funding your office has provided and it has also made our citizens much safer.”



## Two Christian County Communities Have Growing CERT Programs

The small rural communities of Kelly and Crofton in Christian County now have active, vibrant Community Emergency Response Team programs, thanks to the innovative approach taken by the Pennyrile Regional Citizen Corps Council.

Regional Operations Officer **Frank Brown**, a recently retired Special Forces soldier, used techniques similar to those used in civil-military operations: Reach into the belief systems of citizens, and they’ll respond enthusiastically.

Kelly’s team, started in December 2010, has 26 trained members; Crofton’s first training in January 2012 has produced 21 members.

The Kelly community now has a community organization supporting the CERT, and playing on interest surrounding the mysterious appearance of the “Little Green Men” in 1955, recently conducted a Little Green Men Day fundraiser.



**Christian County Judge/Executive Steve Tribble with CERT section leader Jay Smith at Kelly’s Little Green Men Day.**