



# THE mEMO



*A joint publication between N.C. Emergency Management and the N.C. Emergency Management Association*

## 2012 Legislative Changes: What they mean for Emergency Management

*By Norma Houston, UNC School of  
Government (Edited by Julia Jarema)*

This summer, the North Carolina General Assembly passed significant legislation that completely reorganizes and updates the state's emergency management statutes, extends the legal length of law enforcement and emergency management vehicles, and makes terrorism a criminal offense. The changes represent the most comprehensive update and reorganization of emergency management-related laws in more than three decades. The following is a synopsis of what these changes mean for the EM community.

### **Modernize NC Emergency Management Act**

The primary purpose of the Modernize NC Emergency Management Act (House Bill 843) was to consolidate and reorganize the previous statutes that addressed emergency management authorities for state and local governments and clearly define the legal responsibilities for each. For decades, emergency management has referenced authority provided in the NC Emergency Management Act of 1977 (Article 1 of G.S. Chapter 166A), as well as that in the Riots and Civil Disorders Act (Article 36A, of G.S. Chapter 14). The first defines responsibilities for direction and control of the state's emergency management program, and authorizes cities and counties to establish local emergency management programs. The latter

authorizes cities and counties to enact ordinances that impose various restrictions and prohibitions during locally declared states of emergency.

The 2012 legislation amended those emergency management statutes in four primary ways:

*First, it consolidates all state and local emergency management authorities and responsibilities into one place*, a new Article 1A of Chapter 166A. The consolidated provisions are reorganized into logical sections and parts, making it easier to research and identify relevant laws and authorities.

*Second, it clarifies and makes uniform the terminology* used throughout the emergency management statutes. For example, a state of emergency is now "declared" (previous law was either "declared" or "proclaimed," resulting in either a "declaration" or a "proclamation"). The terms "emergency" and "disaster" are similarly distinguished. Under the new law, an emergency is an actual or "imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from natural or man-made causes." In short, an emergency is the actual or imminent threat *of an event itself*, while a disaster represents the degree and severity of the emergency's impact as declared by the governor.

More importantly, the legislation draws a clear distinction between a *state of emergency declaration* and a *disaster declaration*. (The former is issued by either the governor or a local official during an imminent threat of or actual emergency, while the latter is issued by the

governor during severe emergencies, and which triggers state assistance programs.)

*Third*, the new legislation **incorporates operational practices that have evolved in recent years, and clears up points of confusion** under current law. In short, it:

- Establishes clear authority for the NC Division of Emergency Management to maintain the state Emergency Operations Center and a 24-hour operations center, plan for emergencies at nuclear power facilities, and manage mutual aid.
- Clarifies that local states of emergency remain effective until they are terminated by the issuing authority.
- Authorizes local officials to define all or part of their jurisdiction as the geographic area to which a state of emergency declaration applies.
- Clearly authorizes local officials to impose only those restrictions or prohibitions deemed necessary in response to a particular emergency (i.e. not all restrictions and prohibitions are automatically triggered during emergency declarations).
- Clarifies that local officials are authorized to impose curfews and order either voluntary *or* mandatory evacuations.
- Authorizes mayors to extend county emergency restrictions into that mayor's municipality (previously, only the municipality's governing board could take this action).
- Increases the penalty for violations of local emergency restrictions from a Class 3 misdemeanor to a Class 2 misdemeanor to be consistent with the punishment for violations of emergency orders issued by the governor.

*Fourth*, it **limits restrictions on dangerous weapons** during locally declared states of emergency. Local officials are still authorized

to impose restrictions and prohibitions on the possession, transportation, sale, purchase, storage, and use of dangerous weapons and substances and gasoline. But, under the new Act, local officials *cannot* restrict “lawfully possessed firearms and ammunition” (a firearm is defined as a handgun, rifle, or shotgun).

The changes within the “Modernize NC Emergency Management Act” were intended to help clarify responsibilities during emergencies. They were not, however, intended to fundamentally alter the legal or operational relationships between cities, counties, and the state.

The Act goes into effect Oct. 1, 2012.

Cities and counties that declare a state of emergency prior to Oct. 1 should operate under existing law, but are *strongly advised* to comply with the new limitation on lawfully possessed firearms and ammunitions discussed above if they elect to impose restrictions or prohibitions on dangerous weapons.

#### ***Other Emergency Management Changes***

Legislation from the Senate titled “Various Emergency Management Changes” (Senate Bill 798) made additional modifications that:

- **Extends the expiration dates of gubernatorial disaster declarations** (Type I declarations now will expire after 60 days; Type II expiration extended to 12 months with a total limit of 24 months; Type III disaster extended to 24 months).
- Clarifies that obligations under federal-state agreements are not affected when a Type II or Type III disaster declaration expires.
- **Expands the liability protection for private property owners** whose property is used for emergency management purposes under the direction and control of state or local

government. The protection now includes use of the property for *all* emergency management functions and activities.

- **Formally establishes the State Emergency Response Team (SERT)** and recognizes the representative state agencies that carry out emergency management support functions. It also designates the NCEM director as the SERT leader, and adds to NCEM's responsibilities management of SERT.
- Expands the functions of NCEM to **include coordination with the Agriculture Commissioner** on agriculturally-related matters in the state emergency response plan.
- **Creates the Joint Legislative Emergency Management Oversight Committee** to examine issues related to emergency management on an ongoing basis and make recommendations to the General Assembly. The committee is made up of six members each from the Senate and House.

These legislative changes go into effect immediately and will be incorporated into the "Modernize NC Emergency Management Act" when it becomes effective Oct. 1.

### ***Emergency Vehicle Length***

House Bill 741 **extended the legally-allowed length of state and local government law enforcement and emergency management vehicles to 45 feet** (from 40 feet).

### ***Terrorism Criminal Offense***

House Bill 149 created a new criminal offense of terrorism and defined it as committing an act of violence, such as murder, manslaughter, assault or violence using explosives, nuclear, biological or chemical weapons of mass destruction, with the intent to intimidate the general population or a specific group by

suggesting the activities or conduct is that of the federal, state or local government. The new terrorism offense is separate from the underlying felony, and is punishable as one felony class higher than the underlying offense (however, if the underlying felony is a Class A or B1, then the offense of terrorism is punished as a Class B1). Real and personal property used in the course of committing the offense of terrorism is subject to seizure and forfeiture.

To learn more about the legislative changes affecting emergency management, or to see a cross-reference of the new versus existing statutes, see

[http://www.sog.unc.edu/sites/www.sog.unc.edu/files/EM%202012%20Legislative%20Summary\\_0.pdf](http://www.sog.unc.edu/sites/www.sog.unc.edu/files/EM%202012%20Legislative%20Summary_0.pdf).



## **Getting Ready for the DNC**

*By Julia Jarema, NCDPS Communications*

When you host a gathering for 125,000 people, it goes without saying that there will be tremendous logistical needs for everything from communications to transportation, housing and safety.

But when the event involves the sitting president and a previous president, the communication and coordination needs can take on a life of its own. Such is the case for the Democratic National Convention to be held in Charlotte Sept. 4 - 6.

Along with the delegate meetings, there convention itself, there will be pre- and post-convention meetings, parties, festivals, parades and demonstrations. The DNC is expected to have significant impacts on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region for more than a week.

Approximately 5,000 chosen delegates from all 50 states, along with 20 governors are expected to attend the three-day convention. Another 35,000 staff and associates will accompany them. An additional 75,000 people are expected to attend events.

Various smaller gatherings, parties, concerts and parades are expected to draw crowds of 20,000 to 90,000 each.

In addition, an estimated 15,000 media will descend upon the Charlotte area from across the country, as well as internationally, to cover the week's activities.

From the beginning, the DNC as it is known, was touted as "the most open and accessible in history," with encouragement to involve the public at the grass roots level. But the price of that openness and involvement is increased planning for security and safety. With large crowds anticipated day after day and so many visitors to the state at once, it was clear months in advance that tremendous planning, coordination and cooperation among local, state and federal agencies would be vital to ensure the public's safety and efficiently manage a national special event.

Preparation efforts for the DNC began in January 2011 as 22 different subcommittees were formed to plan for various expected and unanticipated needs. The U.S. Secret Service serves as the lead agency for all aspects of safety, security, command and control. Charlotte/Mecklenburg Police Department and Charlotte Fire Department were chosen as the lead local authorities coordinating with the Secret Service and scores of other local, state and federal agencies for the event.

Since then committees have met regularly to discuss how they will address security needs, transportation, legal issues, medical coverage, crisis management, protestors, public affairs and even the credentialing of qualified workers. They want to ensure that they are ready for everything from unruly protestors, to power outages during sweltering heat, fires, hurricanes, other incidents or even multiple incidents simultaneously.

"The number and variety of agencies involved in the DNC are astonishing," described Charlotte Fire Deputy Chief Jeff Dulin who began working on DNC preparations 17 months ago. "From the Secret Service, to FBI, local sheriff's offices, Emergency Management, Highway Patrol, Alcohol Law Enforcement, the National Weather Service and Public Health, it's amazing the resources that have come together to ensure that we are prepared for just about anything. We even have teams of veterinarians who will be here to support the search dogs and horse patrol teams."

While the convention itself doesn't begin until Sept. 3, preparations and setup of the various venues will begin in late August. Credentialing for the thousands of expected law enforcement, first responders, security officials and emergency managers will begin in late August.

Several communications platforms will be used for the security, first responders and emergency managers who work the DNC.

All security, emergency response and infrastructure protection activities will be run through a well-coordinated five-location hub that includes the Multi-Agency Command Center, Emergency Operations Centers for Charlotte/Mecklenburg and the city of Concord, Char/Meck Police Command Post and the Joint Operations Center. A number of feeder locations, as well as the State Emergency Operations Center in Raleigh, also will be staffed round the clock to provide additional support for the DNC security and response efforts.

The convention itself will consume uptown Charlotte for nearly a week as streets are cordoned off, barricades installed, stages erected and venues readied to prepare for the largest event the city has ever seen.

“To say the DNC preparations have been an exhaustive effort may be a bit of an understatement by the time the convention ends,” quipped Mike Cook, NCEM western branch manager. “But this is a once-in-a-career event and at the end of the day, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region - and our entire state - will be better prepared and equipped for any type of emergency.”

Cook credited the local and state agencies who stepped up to assist with all the advanced preparation. “Their offers of assistance have been overwhelming,” he said.

## **In Northeastern North Carolina, its DAWG Help DAWG**

*By Christy Saunders, Pasquotank/Camden Emergency Management Director*

Neighbors helping neighbors is not a new concept for rural North Carolina counties and especially not for the 13 northeastern counties of Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Hyde, Hertford, Gates, Martin, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington. Sharing resources is essential when the resources are limited and geographically distant to your area.

Recognizing this is easy, but pulling together a plan to make it work cohesively during an emergency requires extensive planning, training, exercising and commitment.

In 2009, the county emergency management coordinators decided to work more closely together as a region and develop regional plans, a resource database, standard operating guidelines, mutual aid agreements and more. The Disaster Assistance Work Group, more affectionately known as the DAWG, was born.

After deciding on a name, developing official by-laws was the DAWG’s first action. These by-laws established the county rotation; outlined terms of the chairperson; determined meeting dates, location and host rotation; established voting procedures, and described the process for handling any regional equipment.

Since its conception, the DAWG has developed a robust regional resource database and regional plan. Because all 13 counties participate in the electronic plan, they are able to view each individual county’s Emergency Operation Plan. With support from the Eastern Branch Office staff, and through grant funding, the group has held multiple work sessions, drills, trainings and tabletop exercises to enhance the DAWG’s planning and response capabilities. In fact, members of the DAWG responded to help neighboring Hertford and Bertie counties during Tropical Storm Nicole in September 2010 and following the April 2011 tornados.

The group participated in a weekend tabletop exercise in Oracoke in March and has planned a four-day exercise for the fall. Ongoing projects include purchasing a credentialing system, developing a regional recovery plan, pre-preparation of communications and medical ICS forms and communications planning with Dominion Power.



*Five of the 13 DAWG members include (from left): Christy Saunders, Ann Keyes, Jarvis Winslow, Mitchell Cooper and Justin Gibbs.*

## **NC HART, Modern Minutemen**

*By Capt. Rick Scoggins and Sgt 1<sup>st</sup> Class Robert Jordan, NCNG Public Affairs*

There is something to be said about teamwork. One of the best examples of this is the partnership that exists among North Carolina Emergency Management, North Carolina National Guard, North Carolina Highway Patrol, and local North Carolina rescuers. Together, they work toward a common goal; serving the citizens in North Carolina.

One of these critical assets in NCEM is the Department of Public Safety's Helicopter and Aquatic Rescue Team, referred to as NCHART, which combines NCNG and Highway Patrol aviation assets with the skills of local rescue technicians.

NCHART first-responders train year-round to be ready to deploy all over the state in order to conduct a wide variety of rescue operations, ranging from assisting people who are stranded by flooding due to severe storms or are incapacitated by injury in the mountains.

"This is a great example of North Carolinians taking care of North Carolina," said Tim Rogers, a battalion chief with the Charlotte Fire Department, after a recent exercise earlier this spring in Salisbury.

NCHART works together with a network of aviators from the NCNG, who fly the UH-60 Blackhawk and LH-72 Lakota helicopters, to State Highway Patrol aviators who fly the Bell 407, to local first responders.

No mission succeeds without proper planning and this is perhaps the crowning achievement of NCHART under NCEM leadership. Emergency Management professionals have developed an efficient and successful method to deploy these assets where and when they are needed throughout the state.

Since the inception of the NCHART program, the collaborative efforts of NCEM, the National Guard and other agencies have resulted in

several real-world rescues. The rescues have fostered a strong bond between the agencies.

"This is the ultimate team-building and problem-solving exercise," said Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jeff Gordon, a standardization officer with Company C, 1st Battalion, 131st Aviation Regiment, headquartered in Salisbury.

Regular practice and training on updated rescue methods is the key to success. First responders must complete 80 hours of intensive training just to qualify for the team. The teams regularly train across the state. Training consists of land and water-based rescue techniques.

NCHART and the National Guard conducted water training in New Bern, July 25 – 26.

"The exercise was well carried out. It showed the talent of the HART team," said Ron Harrington, a lieutenant with New Bern Fire Rescue. "They can respond and extract subjects from just about any scenario and they're well trained in these capabilities."

North Carolina has great natural beauty with high mountains, broad lakes and deep forests. These beautiful attractions are also hazards. In July, NCHART completed two rescues bringing together all of the training, planning and practice. On July 7, the team extracted an injured hiker who was stranded on a rock ledge in Burke County (see picture on next page). The team rescued another injured hiker July 16 from Cold Mountain in Haywood County.

Recently, a hiker near Pisgah Mountain was hurt in rocky and steep terrain and could not be reached by ground rescue. After assessing the situation, local first responders called NCEM for help.

NCEM leaders dispatched NCHART rescue technicians and a NCNG UH-60 to assemble in Salisbury and fly toward the Smoky Mountains. The pilots, crews and rescue technicians, through careful synchronization and execution,

used nearly 90 feet of hoist cable to lift the hiker safely out of harm's way.

"This mission was a success due to the regular training we do with our partners in NCHART. They are part of our team," said Army Capt. Darrell Scoggins, a UH-60 pilot who participated in the rescue mission and works full-time as the supervisory instructor pilot at the NCNG Salisbury Flight Facility.

Scoggins said that the work NCNG units do with NCHART ensures pilots and rescue technicians have the ability to work together numerous times throughout the year in order to save lives.

The NCHART program has been so successful that Great Britain is considering adopting the program and implementing those operations into their emergency management practices, as well. The program also was visited this month by a representative from the Australia State Emergency Services to learn about the success of NCHART.

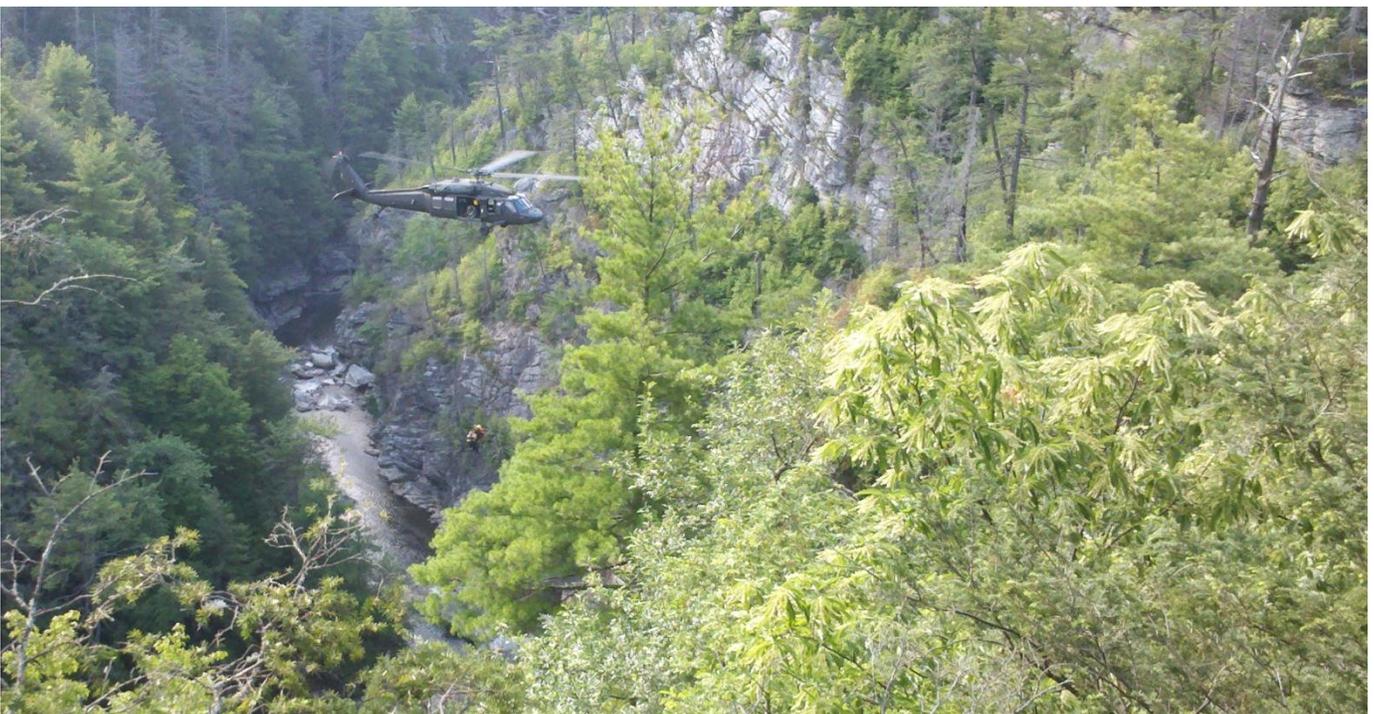
Thanks to the regular training and strong bonds formed between aviators and rescue technicians who have a passion for saving lives, the Department of Public Safety can be proud to have professionals that are ready to assist the citizens of our state.

## **Meteorologists and Emergency Managers Share Lessons Learned**

*By Melissa Greene, NCEM Area Coordinator*

While many locals and vacationers were enjoying the sun, sand and salt air July 17, more than 100 participants from local, state, federal and private agencies, along with some members from the public, attended the National Weather Service Newport Hurricane Awareness Conference. The one-day meeting was held at the NOAA Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research site in Beaufort. The meeting was developed as a partnership among the NWS, NOAA and Carteret County Emergency Management to review weather and emergency management-related topics such as: the impact and lessons learned from Hurricane Irene, hurricane climatology in the state and the 2012 hurricane season forecast.

Many in attendance represented the emergency management community who often face challenges when a hurricane impacts North Carolina. The information shared during the conference will allow the public and local, state and federal responders to be better prepared for a tropical or hurricane event.



## **New Disaster Assessment Form** by Doug Haas, NCEM Area Coordinator

Disaster Assessment, also known as Damage Assessment, is a primary tool for every emergency manager. Without it, emergency managers wouldn't know where to direct efforts, resources and personnel to minimize the impact on our residents. It is the difference between guesswork and managing a good response and recovery program. This process also transitions an event from response to recovery.

Since 1996, North Carolina has used an expedient survey form, also known as a windshield survey form, to provide an early estimate of the numbers of damaged properties to help determine the level of support needed from the state and FEMA.

For the first time in 16 years, the survey form has been changed.

A committee representing each branch office, the training and recovery sections will meet as needed to: 1) ensure that the Disaster Assessment program meets the current needs for response and recovery information, and 2) the training clearly communicates the disaster assessment process to those that will be doing the surveys. Often, this is the first information a county will have on the locations affected and the scale of the damage.

"Early on we have to have an assessment of damages from the county," said Joe Wright, NCEM central branch manager. "We're not as concerned with the dollar amount, but with the numbers of homes and businesses that were damaged severely or destroyed. We want to prioritize deployment of the preliminary damage assessment teams to those hardest hit areas."

A long-term concern has been ensuring that there is consistent training whether you are on the coast or in the mountains. Danny Gee represented the Western Branch on the Disaster Assessment Team. "We want to make sure that

everyone is taught the same information, and is taught as quickly and effectively as possible," Gee emphasized.

The revised class and forms are to be implemented right away. You can pick up a hard copy of the new expedient survey form from your nearest NCEM branch office or on the NCEM website under *Documents*, then select *County Expedient Survey Form*.

## **Four Guard airmen die fighting South Dakota fires**

*From N.C. National Guard dispatches*

Four airmen died when a specially-equipped C-130 belonging to the 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina Air National Guard, crashed July 1 while fighting a woodland fire in South Dakota.

Two other airmen aboard the C-130 were seriously injured and remain hospitalized.

Dead are Lt. Col. Paul K. Mikeal, 42, of Mooresville; Maj. Joseph M. McCormick, 36, of Belmont; Maj. Ryan S. David, 35, of Boone; Senior Master Sgt. Robert S. Cannon, 50, of Charlotte (*pictured on next page from left*).

A private memorial service was observed July 10 at the 145th Airlift Wing base in Charlotte.

"Words can't express how much we feel the loss of these Airmen," said Brig. Gen. Tony McMillan, 145 AW Commander. "Our prayers are with their families, as well as our injured brothers as they recover."

Mikeal was assigned to the 156th Airlift Squadron as an evaluator pilot and had more than 20 years of service. He leaves behind a wife and two children. McCormick was an instructor pilot and chief of training for the 156th Airlift Squadron. He was married with four children. David was an experienced navigator and was also assigned to the 156th. He joined the North Carolina Air National Guard in 2011 after prior service in the active-



duty U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife and one child. Cannon had more than 29 years with the Charlotte unit and was a flight engineer with the 145th Operations Support Flight. He was married with two children.

The names of the injured will not be released.

The C-130, based in Charlotte, was equipped with a Modular Airborne Fire Fighting System.

The crash occurred at about 6:30 p.m. mountain time near Edgemont, S.D., as the crew assisted with battling what was called the White Draw fire. The cause of the crash is unknown and is under investigation.

The crew and its aircraft, along with two other 145th C-130s and three dozen airmen, flew from Charlotte to Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 30 to assist with fighting forest fires in the Rocky Mountain

region. They were due to move to a base in Cheyenne, Wyo., on July 2.

At the declaration of Gov. Bev Perdue, flags were flown at half staff on July 3, and President Barack Obama expressed condolences honoring the dead airmen.

“This tragic loss underscores the risks and sacrifices our servicemen and women make on a daily basis,” Perdue said. “Every North Carolinian should be proud of and humbled by these patriotic Americans’ willingness to put themselves in harms way every day.”

Helping fight forest fires is a joint U.S. Department of Defense and U.S. Forest Service program designed to provide additional aerial firefighting resources when commercial and private air tankers are no longer able to meet the needs of the forest service.

## **Including Pets in Emergency Plans**

*By Kristin Skinner, New Hanover County*

The “Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act” was passed in Oct. 2006. This legislation requires that jurisdictions include pets in their planning efforts. New Hanover County Animal Control has assisted residents with their pets during times of emergencies for many years, but the county wanted to take preparations a step further and provide a pet co-location shelter. This model allows people to stay in the same facility with their pets, but in separate areas.

New Hanover County Emergency Management and Animal Control have partnered together for the past six years to plan for and activate a pet co-location shelter should the need arise. The New Hanover County co-location shelter is set up to accept up to 36 cats and 80 dogs. The Animal Services Unit shelter also takes pets once a state of emergency has been declared. At the co-location shelter, pets are identified and photographed before they are sheltered in crates that line the hallways. The pets and their owners are housed in separate areas of the shelter. The pets are cared for by trained staff. Owners are allowed to visit their pets and are required to stay at the shelter.

The incident command team is led by the New Hanover County Animal Services Unit and the shelter is operated by New Hanover County staff. In the event of a category 4 or 5 hurricane, New Hanover County would send residents inland to Johnston or Harnett County. Both counties have plans to shelter pets.

This year the pet co-location shelter drill was held June 21 at Trask Middle School. Approximately 50 people participated, many of whom have helped staff the shelter in the past.

Each year new staff is added. The drill is a wonderful opportunity to brush up on procedures and identify areas for improvement. The drill began with an overview of shelter

activation and operation procedures. Then staff unloaded equipment from the two trailers the county uses to support the shelter. Teamwork was the name of the game for this group who worked together to set up crates and other equipment. The fun part was the role play where staff lined up with stuffed animals and pretended they were coming to register their pets at the shelter. This gave everyone an opportunity to become familiar with the forms and intake process. After all the staff had the opportunity to “work” in the shelter, the crates were broken down and loaded back into the trailers. The drill wrapped up with a hot-wash where staff had the opportunity to make comments and share suggestions for improvement with the group. The shelter team was reminded to have their family disaster plans in place so each staff member would be available to work at the shelter if needed.

New Hanover County is fortunate to have such a strong group of dedicated employees from varied departments that work so well together.

## **Crawford Assumes Command of the North Carolina Wing**

*By Col. Lucy Davis, Civil Air Patrol*

A 30-year veteran of Civil Air Patrol, Col. David E. Crawford assumed command of the North Carolina Wing Civil Air Patrol July 14.

Crawford has command and staff experience at all levels of the organization as both a cadet and senior officer in all three of CAP’s congressionally chartered missions. He has served at the squadron, group, wing, region and national levels of Civil Air Patrol. This experience includes serving on the National Operations Committee, several national level working groups and experience working at national headquarters as a paid employee from 1995 to 1997. He has served as incident commander on more than 100 missions, and also has worked as mission pilot, orientation

pilot, ground team leader and member, ARCHER operator, ARCHERTRAK instructor and SDIS/ADIS instructor.

Previously the commander of the Raleigh-Wake Composite Squadron, Crawford began his four-year term as commander by expressing his vision for the future direction of the wing.

“It is my hope to see the North Carolina Wing move toward a more universal approach for our operations,” Crawford said. “We will continue reaching out to the other six wings in the Middle East Region by removing boundaries. State lines are just lines on a map, and we will encourage more interaction and joint operations between us and these wings.”

Crawford explained that when disaster strikes via hurricanes, tornadoes or floods, each wing in the region must be prepared to move quickly and effectively to assist its neighbors.

Live streaming video allowed as many as 29 members at one time to view the change of command activities from home. Crawford plans to expand the use of this technology for future events to extend CAP’s reach to members who may not be able to attend all functions.

“The future of North Carolina Wing and Civil Air Patrol is bright and I look forward to how I may positively impact CAP as the Commander of the North Carolina Wing,” said Crawford.



*Col. David Crawford (right) assumes command of the North Carolina Wing from MER Commander Col. Larry Ragland.*

Crawford is a U.S. Army veteran, having been honorably discharged in 1998. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in computer information systems from Northwest Nazarene University. He also received certification as a Project Management Professional from Project Management Institute in 2011.

He is married to the former Jacquelyn M. Dyke of Brecksville, OH, and has one daughter, Michelle.

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## **NC Wing to begin Glider Program**

*By Col. Lucy Davis, Civil Air Patrol*

The North Carolina Wing Civil Air Patrol soon will be the new home of a Regional Glider Center of Excellence. NC Wing will be receiving a new to CAP Blanik L-23 Super Blanik Glider from the Air Force Academy. It will initially be in Danville VA, which is home to the premier Regional

Glider Center of Excellence to allow our pilots and ground support personnel to get trained and ready to roll the program out in North Carolina under the guidance of the VA Wing Glider Team. The exact date the glider will arrive from Colorado has not yet been announced - but is expected to be in the next several weeks. The future home of the glider program in North Carolina will be in Greenville area.

Additionally North Carolina will be receiving a brand new 2013 C182T G1000 fresh from the factory, which will be delivered during the last week of July.

The C182T G1000 has a cruise speed of 135 knots with a range of 630 nautical miles. It will carry three passengers. The capabilities of this aircraft will include VHF and satellite telephone communications, GPS navigation. It will also be equipped with a direction finder, satellite digital imaging system and camera window.

The G-1000 will be used for airborne reconnaissance, in flight disaster and damage assessment as well as visual reconnaissance and aerial communications relay platform.



*The new Blanik L-23 Super Blanik Glider(above) and C182T G1000 (right) will soon expand the capabilities of the North Carolina Civil Air Patrol.*

## North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Salutes Civil Air Patrol

*From N.C. Department of Cultural Resources*

During World War II, the arrival of the North Carolina Civil Air Patrol (CAP) dramatically reduced the German sinking of American vessels off the North Carolina coast. In recognition of the valuable service the Civil Air Patrol provided, a N.C. Highway Historical Marker will be dedicated on Saturday, July 21, at 10:30 a.m., in Manteo at the Dare County Airport, the former CAP base.

The federal Civil Air Patrol was established to serve as "flying minutemen" for the nation. Volunteer aviators in the state's wing of the federal program conducted sea rescues, towed targets for military training, performed courier service, and fought forest fires. From

dawn to dusk, pilots prowled up and down the Outer Banks and southern North Carolina beaches for German U-boats, sailors in distress, sea mines, debris, and other hazards. They also assisted the Navy and Coast Guard in protecting the East Coast.

The most significant mission of the CAP was antisubmarine duty in 1942 and 1943. North Carolina's coast became known as "Torpedo Junction," and German Adm. Karl Doenitz indicated that the area off of Cape Hatteras was particularly fruitful for his missions. By January 1942 at least 19 German U-boats were operating along the Atlantic Coast. That month, nine allied vessels went down off the coast; 54 more were lost over the next three months.

The need for defensive action along the state's coast led to establishment of the new CAP service in North Carolina.

North Carolina Coastal CAP bases were established in Manteo and Beaufort in 1942. By 1943 the volunteer aviator force numbered 1,100 members and 14 squadrons. Only two vessels were torpedoed by U-boats during the time of the CAP base operations, compared with 78 vessels sunk and 18 damaged prior to the CAP program. The record speaks volumes to the effectiveness of North Carolina's Civilian Air Patrol.

For information on the marker dedication program and on the highway marker program visit online, or call Michael Hill at (919) 807-7290. The N.C. Highway Historical Marker Program is part of the Office of Archives and History in the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources.



Local officials gather to unveil the CAP historical marker.

## Staffing Changes

### Joining the Community

**George Bannard** – joined NCEM as an emergency management officer in July. He is a former police officer, most recently having worked for South Carolina DPS.

**Zack Wynne** – became NCEM's new Radiological Emergency Preparedness planner in late June. He had served as a homeland security planner for nearly four years.

### Saying Goodbye

**Rick Boettinger** – left NCEM June 28 to accept a new position in Pennsylvania.

**Don Moye** – begins his new role as assistant emergency services coordinator for Union County Aug. 13. He joined NCEM as an exercise officer in April 2011.

**David Skordinski** – will join the Division of Public Health as a business officer August 7. David has served the past 12 years as a grants manager for the Homeland Security program.

## Mark Your Calendars

- Aug. 1 **NC/VA Evacuation Conference**  
Nags Head  
*Annual meeting for coastal and inland counties to discuss evacuation plans and activities.*
- Aug. 7 **Brunswick Nuclear Plant Graded Exercise**
- Aug.27-31 **Set up for the Democratic National Convention**
- Sept.4-6 **Democratic National Convention in Charlotte**  
*The SEOC will activate Sept 1-7 in support of the DNC in Charlotte*
- Oct.14-18 **NCEMA Fall Conference**, Hickory  
*Annual meeting affords county and state EM staff time to discuss current issues and complete continuing education requirements.*

## Responders Learn to Tackle Swift Water

By Brian Barnes, NCEM SAR Coordinator

Thirty-two first responders from across the state converged in western North Carolina for four days to participate in an advanced swift water rescue training class.

The Swiftwater Rescue Boat Operator Course provided for responders from as far as Asheville, to Greenville and New Bern a chance to practice critical boats skills in a controlled environment to teach them to safely respond to flood emergencies. The course was offered by N.C. Emergency Management July 16-20. Participants spent the first three days at the Nantahala Outdoor Center in Swain County practicing their paddle skills. They then proceeded to Burke County to practice boat skills in the rapids on Lake James just below the Duke Power Plant.

Through coordination with Duke Power, the class was able to experience whitewater river conditions to learn how to properly react not only when things go right, but when the unexpected occurs. One portion of the class taught responders how to paddle to safety when the motor fails, while another evolution flooded the boats to teach operators how to remain calm and react appropriately to regain control of the situation. Such experience will ensure the operators are able to keep their rescue team safe in various conditions.

NCEM plans to host additional courses during the next year to provide other first responders an opportunity to expand their rescue skills. For more information, contact Brian Barnes, NCEM Search and Rescue Coordinator, 919-825-2255 or [brian.barnes@ncdps.gov](mailto:brian.barnes@ncdps.gov).

*First responders navigate the swift water of the Nantahala River to practice rescue techniques needed in rapidly rising floodwaters.*



## **Agency Charged with Protecting State Recognizes Those Who Help**

*By Julia Jarema, NCDPS Communications*

The group that is responsible for protecting the state's residents and environment through effective emergency planning wants to recognize those individuals and agencies that help North Carolina prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters.

The State Emergency Response Commission implemented the annual awards program as a way to publicly thank and distinguish those who often work behind the scenes to keep communities safe.

"There is a tremendous amount of cooperation and coordination among agencies across all level of governments in the name of homeland security," said Doug Hoell, N.C. Emergency Management director and SERC vice-chairman. "There are hundreds of agencies and thousands of individuals who work daily to keep our communities and our state safe not only from terrorists, but from chemicals and hazardous materials, as well as other man-made and natural threats."

Hoell said those efforts range from protecting food supplies to water sources, neighborhoods, parks and the environment. "Recognizing them for their achievements and accomplishments to keep our state safe is the least we can do," he said.

The 18-member SERC is comprised of representatives from various agencies, associations and departments charged with protecting the public's safety. Representatives are appointed by the governor from agencies such as: the departments of Public Safety, Transportation, Agriculture, Labor, Environment and Natural Resources; Division of Public Health; Office of Emergency Medical Services; as well as the Sheriff's, Police, Fire Chiefs and Emergency Management associations; Community Colleges; State Bureau of Investigation; State Highway Patrol;

State Fire Marshall; and International Association of Venue Managers. Members establish procedures to review and process applications and allocations for homeland security projects and funding. The group also oversees the preparation and implementation of emergency plans and SARA requirements, and review plans for preventing, responding to and recovering from acts of terrorism.

Both individuals and agencies are eligible for the annual awards. Individual Service awards recognize those whose outstanding achievements and accomplishments have contributed to the state's preparedness, response, recovery and/or mitigation efforts. Agencies, teams and groups can earn the Team Achievement award for their role in helping communities to be better equipped to deal with emergencies and disasters.

Nominees will be evaluated on several criteria including:

1. The role training, exercise and planning played in their success.
2. Ways that equipment purchased with grant funding contributed to the successful completion of their mission.
3. How Homeland Security or other emergency preparedness funds were used effectively in disaster preparation, response or recovery.

Nominations for individuals and teams must be submitted to SERC awards committee via email at [SERCAwards@ncem.org](mailto:SERCAwards@ncem.org) by November 15, 2012. The nomination forms and more information can be found on the web at [www.ncem.org](http://www.ncem.org) under State Emergency Response Commission. The five-member committee will review and evaluate the nominations in December. Awards will be presented at the quarterly SERC meeting in January.