



The Coordinator



Operation Bad Boys

Bad boys, bad boys,
whatcha gonna do...

On April 16 emergency responders from Butler County and the City of El Dorado teamed up with SBA Memorial Hospital in El Dorado to test their ability to communicate utilizing the Incident Command System and provide communication, decontamination, transportation, and treatment of injured citizens and responders in a full-scale exercise.

The grant for this exercise was awarded to the LEPC to follow up and test lessons learned from Operation Compassion, a

full-scale exercise last June.

The scenario involved the Butler County SWAT team executing a search warrant for the El Dorado Police Department. During entry, there was an exchange of gun-fire resulting in injuries and puncturing an anhydrous ammonia tank.

Participants in the exercise included: El Dorado PD, El Dorado Fire/HazMat, Butler County SWAT, EMS and Emergency Communications, Butler County Emergency Management and Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital. Butler

County Health Department, Frontier El Dorado Refinery, and Rose Hill Police Department, also provided excellent support to the exercise.

We are extremely proud of the efforts displayed by all of the participants. Look for future exercises based on lessons learned.

Thank you to the City of El Dorado for allowing us to use the old El Dorado wastewater treat-



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Welcome Keri!!!



Our office is very proud to have Keri Korthals on board with us!!! Keri is our new Clerk. Originally from Iowa, Keri & her family

are growing their roots in the Augusta community.

Keri brings with her a wealth of administrative, clerical, and organizational skills.

Keri is active in her church and children's

school activities.

Keri is married, has 3 children and Kirby, an English Springer Spaniel.

Welcome aboard Keri! You are a great asset to our department!



Weather, Weather, everywhere!



WOW! I think that is the best way to sum up our active weather we have had this spring! Outside of the March icestorm, we have had several confirmed tornado touch downs, a wide-spread flooding event, and the derecho (a high wind event).

The first tornado touched down just a few miles East and North of Douglass on April 26th. The second tornado touched down approximately 4 miles South and West of Potwin on April 28th. The Douglass tornado resulted in some outbuilding damage. Fortunately, the tornado south of Potwin occurred in rural areas and only affected a few trees. (See the insert for additional tornado information)

The big flood that inundated northern, central, western, and parts of southern Butler County occurred on the evening of April 23rd and early morning hours of April 24th. Water rescues occurred in the Wagon Wheel Ranch addition east of the City of Andover. Many residents said they have never seen water rise that fast in the last 52 years. Widespread rainfall amounts of 6+ inches were reported.

Many of you may recall the high wind event of April 2008 that blew through the northern half of Butler County. A very



similar situation occurred this year on May 8th. Unfortunately, the path took a more direct hit on the populated areas of Benton, Towanda, El Dorado and the rural areas over to the unincorporated community of Rosalia. This wind event packed 80—100 mph winds tearing off roofs, rolling trailer homes, uprooting trees, collapsing walls, and leaving many without power. In addition, a tank farm in the southern part of El Dorado had parts of 80,000 barrel tanks collapsed in. That takes some impressive wind for that to occur! Luckily, only cuts, scrapes and bruises were reported along with one minor injury from an accident on the Kansas Turnpike.

Butler County is fortunate to have good working relationships amongst our county, city partners, and surrounding counties. With our mutual aid agreements, we were able to provide resources to the following:

City of Benton received assistance from Butler County Public Works

City of El Dorado received resources from Butler County Public Works, City of Augusta, City of Andover

City of Towanda had assistance from City of Haysville, City of Derby, and City of Wichita

We are extremely pleased with our emergency responder communities (Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement) and our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members who provided countless hours responding to and helping to recover from all of these disasters.

We are waiting to hear from the State of Kansas if these events will mark our first and second federal disasters for 2009.

A big thank you to the following:

**The National Weather Service for the continued support, open communication, advanced warning, and damage assessments.

**The State of Kansas for their support, continued communication, and assistance from South Central Emergency Management Coordinator Jim Leftwich.

**Sedgwick County Emergency Management for helping coordinate their resources.



Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Every 5 years, the Butler County Hazard Mitigation Plan requires updating.

With the help of a federal/state grant, Butler County Emergency Management hired State & Local Emergency Management Consultants, LLC to spear head this project.

Due to the short time frame, the Hazard Mitiga-

tion Team met every two weeks. The Hazard Mitigation Team includes representative from Butler County, Cities, school districts, watersheds districts and the Kansas Department of Corrections just to name a few.

Butler County is very close to wrapping up this project. Everyone involved in this project has

provided great input and valuable information.

Our plan to maintain this information is to work with the State of Kansas Hazard Mitigation Office and the Butler County Hazard Mitigation Team to keep the information current. This will also help to alleviate any delays in the future planning process.

**"Great things are done by a series of small things brought together."
Vincent van Gough**

CERT

14 people took time out of their busy schedules to complete the first CERT class in 2009.

Andover Central Park Lodge provided an accommodating facility. The weather, although a little cool and misty, couldn't have been much better!

13 of the class mem-

bers signed up to become Category 2 and 3 members.

This year, we are trying a new schedule which runs the class for two Tuesdays, two Thursdays, and finishes with the big exercise on a Saturday. This schedule worked out well for those with different weekend commitments. Our next class in

October will utilize the same schedule.

Participants in the April Class include: Jerry Andrews, Jim & Mary Ford, Darryl Haynes, Bob Pippin, Jerry Smith, Richard Wasson, Bonita Zreliak-Craig, Bob Ramsey, Nathan Elmore, Matt Johnson, and Stephanie Soto.

**"Butler County is a better place to live because of Butler County CERT."
Don Smith, CERT Coordinator**



Team building activity



Splinting Practice



April 2009 CERT Class



Butler County

2100 N. Ohio Street, Suite B
Augusta, KS 67010
(316) 733-9796—office
(316) 733-0119—fax



To all of our volunteers and CERT members celebrating their birthdays from April—June!!!

Check out our new website!

www.butlercoema.org

We are in the process of changing our department website from www.bcem1.com to www.butlercoema.org.

Feel free to check out our new site. We are in the process of updating and adding information regularly.

While www.bcem1.com is still active, software and computer problems have caused a loss of information.

Thank you to Brandon Russell with Butler County EMS for helping get our new site up and running!

“Leadership is action, not position.”
Donald H. McGannon

Assumptions you CAN Make (taken from www.walkthetalk.com weekly e-mail)

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| <p>I think we have all heard the phrase: “You know what happens when you ASSUME something. I know I am always told, “quit assuming!” However, there are some assumptions you can make!</p> <p>⇒ The e-mails you send will be seen by more people than those they’re addressed to and intended for.</p> <p>⇒ Things said “just between you and me” won’t always stay that way</p> <p>⇒ In all your dealings with team members, what goes around WILL come around—back at you.</p> | <p>⇒ Your employees CANNOT read your mind. If you don’t tell them what you’re thinking, they’ll assume they know...and there’s a good chance they’ll be wrong.</p> <p>⇒ Problems you choose to avoid will usually get worse.</p> <p>⇒ “As long as you don’t hear from me, you’ll know you’re doing okay” is just not true</p> <p>⇒ Treat one team member poorly, and ten people will hear about it—including your boss...and Employee Relations.</p> <p>⇒ Your ability to get another</p> | <p>leadership position will be directly related to how well you do on the job you have now.</p> <p>⇒ Whenever you think “no one will know,” someone WILL.</p> <p>⇒ Whenever you think “no one will care,” someone WILL.</p> <p>⇒ Whenever you think “it will never be missed,” it WILL.</p> <p>⇒ Whenever you think you’re as good as you need to be, YOU AREN’T!</p> |
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