

DPS WEEKLY

January 31st, 2022



Help us welcome this new member to the DPS Family:

Kevin Knight



Position: Arkansas State Police
Telecommunication Specialist Troop E

Kevin is looking forward to working with the Department of Public Safety in a role that supports local communities. As someone who has been around government entities from a young age, he will enjoy working in a structured environment and helping protect the troopers on the road.

Did you hear the news?:

*ASP (*277) is now available as a four-digit speed dial feature on any AT&T, T-Mobile or Verizon cellular phone operating in Arkansas. Callers will be connected to an Arkansas State Police Highway Patrol Division troop headquarters nearest the caller's location. [Click here to learn more!](#)



DID YOU KNOW?

February is Earthquake Awareness Month!

What better time to learn about earthquakes and what you need to know to stay safe in the event one hits! ADEM uses the earthquake kiosk to help educate Arkansans, as it provides a wealth of information on earthquakes, the probability of one happening here in Arkansas and the importance of developing and practicing an earthquake plan. The neat thing about the kiosk is that it is mobile and available to be transported to other state agencies, schools, libraries, or any place that offers public access.

If you would like to have the kiosk in your area, contact the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management via email ateq@adem.arkansas.gov. Please take time out to learn more about earthquake preparedness by visiting [Earthquake Safety & Preparedness](#). We also encourage you to take part in the Great Shakeout Earthquake Drill coming up in October, sign up at www.shakeout.org.





THIS WEEK'S WELLNESS TIP!

Take care of your friendships:

Good friends are good for your health! Friends can help you celebrate good times and provide support during bad times. Friends prevent isolation and loneliness and give you a chance to offer needed companionship, too. Friends can also:

- Increase your sense of belonging and purpose
- Boost your happiness and reduce your stress
- Improve your self-confidence and self-worth
- Help you cope with traumas, such as divorce, serious illness, job loss or the death of a loved one
- Encourage you to change or avoid unhealthy lifestyle habits, such as excessive drinking or lack of exercise

Friends also play a significant role in promoting your overall health. Adults with strong social connections have a reduced risk of many significant health problems, including depression, high blood pressure and an unhealthy body mass index (BMI). In fact, studies have found that older adults who have meaningful relationships and social support are likely to live longer than their peers with fewer connections.

UPCOMING ADEM TRAINING

What: FEMA L0969 Communications Unit Leader Course

When: March 14-17, 2022

Where: Craighead County OEM Office, 511 Union St. Jonesboro, AR

Target group: All in-state and out-of-state residents, prerequisites are IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, IS-800, and G300 (ICS-300)

Course Description: This course helps participants establish the essential core competencies required for performing the duties of the Communications Unit Leader (COML) in an all-hazards incident. This course addresses all responsibilities appropriate to a COML operating in a local- or state-level All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT). These responsibilities include the collection, processing, and dissemination as needed to facilitate Operations of Command, General Staff, and Unit Leaders within the confines of a Type 3 AHIMT. The course is an instructor-led training that supports learning through discussion, lecture, and active participation in multiple exercises.

Selection Criteria: NIMS ICS All-Hazards training should be completed by personnel who are regularly assigned to Functional, Support, or Unit Leader positions on Type 3 or 4 AHIMTs, or by those persons who desire to seek credentials/certification in those positions.

Course Objectives

- Identify the functions of the Communications Unit and the duties and responsibilities of the COML.
- Arrive at an all-hazards incident properly equipped, gather information to assess the assignment, and begin initial planning activities of a COML.
- Plan, staff, manage, and demobilize the Communications Unit in a safe and effective manner to meet the needs of the incident.

Registration information: Register through ADEM by [Clicking here](#), **OR** register at the Emergency Management Institute's online portal [Here](#).

If you would like more information or have questions about this training, please email training@adem.arkansas.gov.

DPS Mission:

The Department of Public Safety’s mission is to enhance the safety and security of all Arkansans through ethical, character-driven behavior that promotes professionalism, clear communication, and accountability while serving as the state’s premier public safety agency.



DPS Core Values:

- **Respect** for everyone
- **Integrity** in everything we do
- Providing **excellence** in customer service
- Performance through **teamwork**
- Commitment to **servant leadership**
- Pursuit of **continuous improvement**

Each week our Mission Moment will celebrate a DPS employee who reaches above and beyond the mission of the Department of Public Safety. We honor these individuals for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to public service.

MISSION Moments

ADEM is thankful for the work that all their employees do daily! While they have a lot on their hands carrying out their regular job duties, many staffers volunteer to do more in times of disaster.

So far, ADEM employees have spent about 320 hours in the Joint Field Operation Center alongside FEMA since President Biden issued a disaster declaration for the five counties in Arkansas impacted by the December 10-11 storms and tornadoes.

When the Disaster Recovery Centers opened January 18th, eighteen ADEM employees volunteered to assist FEMA in staffing the centers for 670 hours, spending their days helping survivors get registered and apply for federal assistance.

We salute all of these employees as they make a difference for disaster survivors, and the State of Arkansas. ADEM, as well as the entire DPS Team say a big "THANK YOU" for your hard work and dedication!!

