



HOMETOWN SECURITY:

Educating Local Citizens and Leadership in Emergency Communications Response, E9-1-1, and Citizen Preparedness, Training, and Volunteer Service

The E9-1-1 Institute was formed as a support organization for the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. Our role is to assist the Caucus in promoting public education on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues, serving as an information clearinghouse and as a forum for policy discussions that will advance public policy.

Citizen Corps (www.citizencorps.gov) is the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's nationwide grassroots movement to involve all Americans in making our communities safer, stronger, and better prepared for emergencies. Through a nationwide network of more than 1,100 local Councils, Citizen Corps brings together the homeland security expertise of emergency responders with the energy and spirit of volunteers, the private sector and other community stakeholders to engage everyone in the community.

The E9-1-1 Institute and Citizen Corps can help assist your office in the planning of events and conferences in your Congressional districts focused emergency communications response, E9-1-1, and citizen preparedness. These events will utilize local and national experts to educate local citizens and leaders on 9-1-1, emergency response, and the citizen's role in hometown security.

The Institute and Citizen Corps will assist your office to:

- Define and establish an event objective;
- Develop an overall theme for the event;
- Determine your target audience;
- Establish a time-frame and agenda; and
- Identify sources of funding to conduct a successful event.

Enclosed is a form and event template that will help you determine the scope of your event. These are useful in formulating a tentative program centered on E9-1-1,

emergency communications issues, and citizen preparedness, training, and volunteer service.

Possible event ideas include:

- Examining the status of E9-1-1 in your district or state for wire line and wireless services;
- Educating the public on how to use 9-1-1 and the relationship between the 9-1-1 system, local firefighters, police officers, and other first responders;
- Highlighting local heroes – The call-takers and citizens who have saved lives in your community – and national leaders; and
- A hands-on demonstration of 9-1-1 technology – How local Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) operate.
- Explaining the hazards most likely to affect the community, the steps that all citizens should take right now to be better prepared and how they can help the community be better prepared as well.
- Hands-on demonstrations on how to create family disaster supply kits, how to create a family communications plan, how and when to turn off home utilities, discussions of hazards in the community, basic first aid demonstrations and hands-on training, recruitment for volunteer programs to support first responders, disaster relief, and community safety initiatives.

Providing information on E9-1-1 capabilities and educating the public on emergency communications issues and their role in hometown security is of great importance. By holding events in your districts/states, you will be helping to promote stronger, more effective and more capable 9-1-1 services and community that is better prepared for all emergencies. Public education is essential to making E9-1-1 and safer citizens a reality.

If you are interested in working with the E9-1-1 Institute and Citizen Corps to conduct an event in your Congressional District or State, please return the completed form to Erica Orange at:

317 Massachusetts Avenue, NE Suite 200
Washington, DC 20002
202-292-4605 - fax

Or send an electronic copy to: contactus@e911institute.org

If you have any questions, please call: 202-292-4603