



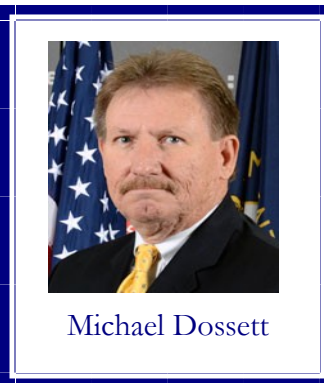
## News and Views of Kentucky Emergency Management

### Gov. Beshear Appoints Michael Dossett KYEM Director

Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear has appointed Michael Dossett as Director of Kentucky Emergency Management, effective June 1, 2014.

“Michael Dossett is the right man at the right time for this job,” said Gov. Beshear. “Kentucky’s emergency management team has a proven track record, putting it among the best in the nation. I have full confidence that, under Mike’s leadership, the safety and welfare of citizens of the Commonwealth are in good hands.”

Previously Dossett served as KYEM’s Resource Management Logistics Chief, Private Sector Coordinator



Michael Dossett

and Regional Manager from 2009 - 2013.

As Director, Mr. Dossett will plan and direct disaster response and crisis management activities, provide disaster preparedness training, and prepare emergency plans and procedures for natural and man-made disasters within the Commonwealth.

Director Dossett will work under Kentucky’s Department of Military Affairs Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Edward Tonini.

“We interviewed several highly skilled, experienced and qualified applicants for this Director’s position,” said Tonini. “We are very fortunate to have the caliber, diversity and expertise Mike Dossett brings to this post, especially as we enter tornado and flood season.”

Mike had this to say, “Emergency Management in Kentucky is made up of a great group of dedicated professionals, which ex-



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### FEMA Renews Kentucky’s Enhanced Mitigation Status

The Commonwealth of Kentucky has received notice from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of approval of Kentucky’s Hazard Mitigation Plan and the designation of an “enhanced” status for the state Hazard Mitigation Program. The plan is a long-term strategy to reduce the Commonwealth’s vulnerability to natural and manmade disasters.

Adopted plans identify hazards, and potential hazards, in communities and create a

framework to help state and community officials make decisions that may ultimately protect lives and property.

Mitigation plans are required for states and communities to receive certain types of disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects. All mitigation plans must be updated and approved by FEMA every five years.

The enhanced program designation ensures that Kentucky will continue to receive

increased funding for Hazard Mitigation Grant projects following presidentially declared disasters. Enhanced states receive 20 percent of all federal disaster expenditures, compared to 15 percent without an enhanced status. Over the past five years, because of this enhanced status, Kentucky has received an additional \$23 million in Hazard Mitigation Grant project funding from FEMA, which has been awarded to communities across the Commonwealth.

**“Geni Jo has been serving as an 'acting' the state hazard mitigation officer for several months and the governor's designation is a testament to the great work she and the mitigation staff have accomplished.”**

**Gov. Beshear Appoints Geni Jo Brawner New State Hazard Mitigation Officer**

On May 5, Gov. Beshear designated Geni Jo Brawner as Kentucky's state hazard mitigation officer. In this capacity Brawner is responsible for managing Kentucky's mitigation programs, coordinating the efforts of the Kentucky Mitigation Advisory Council, and serving as Kentucky Emergency Management's liaison with the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IV mitigation staff.

KYEM Assistant Director of Administration Stephanie Robey offered high praise for

Brawner. “Geni Jo has been serving as an 'acting' the state hazard mitigation officer for several months and the governor's designation is a testament to the great work she and the mitigation staff have accomplished.”

Ms. Brawner came to Kentucky Emergency Management in July of 2012 from the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). While working at EMAP Ms. Brawner worked with local and state emergency management programs helping them prepare for

their EMAP Assessments. She is a graduate of the University of Kentucky with a bachelor's in Social Work.



**Geni Jo Brawner**

**DMA Breaks Ground on KY National Guard Memorial** by KYNG

Kentucky's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Edward W. Tonini was joined by hundreds of current and former Citizen Soldiers and Airmen, friends and family members to celebrate Memorial Day by breaking ground for the Kentucky National Guard Memorial in Frankfort, Kentucky, May 26.

After years in the works, construction of the memorial will

begin this summer. 1st Lt. Joshua Witt, board member of the Kentucky National Guard Memorial Fund said the moment is a long time coming.

Tonini said. “This is the chance for us to recognize the reality of a \$1.3 million fund-raising goal for a project that represents the sacrifice of more than 140 Kentucky Guardsmen that gave their lives since 1912.”

The memorial will also include a 9.5-foot tall, solid bronze Daniel Boone statue and a 70-foot wide circle of pavers volunteers are calling the “sacred space.” It will have a separate entrance and its own parking.



**Family members of fallen Kentucky Guardsmen during the National Anthem at KyNG Memorial ground-breaking ceremony .**



**CAPSTONE 14**

CAPSTONE-14 is a week-long (June 14-16) disaster response and recovery exercise designed to strengthen partnerships between local, state, and federal governments, while engaging public and private sector entities in planning, response and recovery from a catastrophic earthquake occurring within the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ).

This exercise will evaluate the ability of the Commonwealth's comprehensive emergency management system to coordinate emergency information and re-

source management activities with multiple state operations centers, federal and private partners and local governments in response to a major earthquake along the New Madrid Seismic Zone. Other objectives include:

- Establish basic communications links between the 8 CUSEC States and identify areas of non-interoperability through the use of radio, satellite and internet communications
- Establish multi-state resource management emergency management coordination systems across the 8 CUSEC States and

their supporting states (Mutual Aid Support System - MASS)

- Establish a Common Operational Picture (COP) across all participants through the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and information management systems
- Integrate Private Sector participants into individual state and multi-state regional command and control activities through use of the Virtual Business Emergency Operations Center.

A CAPSTONE GIS map was demonstrated to partners and the public tracking exercise play.

## FEMA Builds Expeditionary Capacity Through IMAT Teams by FEMA Region IV

At FEMA, we're constantly working toward a faster and more effective way to respond at the outset of a disaster. We need to hit the ground running and establish a strong partnership with our state and local counterparts, so we've invested time, money and energy to strengthen the initial response teams so they can be deployed within two hours and on-site in less than 18 hours.

In the just last few years, we've reworked our plans and personnel for the response phase of disasters. Our Incident Management Assistance Teams

(IMAT) aren't new, but their importance during disaster response and recovery has increased over the years as we've expanded their roles.

To ensure these teams have the best training, personnel and experience, FEMA's IMATs are now going to consist of full-time positions and will no longer rely on collateral duty personnel to fill in.

We've recently completed an exhaustive hiring push to find the best candidates in the country for the new full-time, 12 person teams. In this

round, we've created six new regional teams and one national team. The selected candidates will live, train and exercise together in Anniston, Alabama during a three month IMAT Academy beginning on July 6 and ending on September 27. After graduation, they will serve as the forward federal presence and assist the management of disaster response & recovery. When not deployed, they will build and maintain close working relationships with region, state, tribal and local emergency management officials through planning, exer-

cise and training. We're excited about these new changes and believe that they will be great assets for our emergency response partners as we continue to build a more prepared and responsive agency.



## COMEX 2014 contributed in part by KYNG

A recent communications exercise "showcase" held at Boone National Guard Center last April provided the opportunity for Emergency Management and its partners the chance to test and improve interoperability in communications.

Eighteen different communications command vehicles and trailers from eleven different agencies took part. Most

if not all had some type of reach back communications capability to support data and voice without land base communications support.

In addition to National Guard and Kentucky Emergency Management assets, participating agencies included: the Kentucky Department of Transportation, the Labor Cabinet, Department of Public Health, Environmental Protec-

tion, Kentucky Early Warning System, the State Fire Marshall, Amateur Radio and Military Auxiliary Radio Service.

A capability that was new to the COMEX was a UAV that was able to display video locally to the participants and demonstrate how it could take quality video and pictures of a disaster scene where it was too dangerous for personnel to go.

**"If we didn't rely on them we'd be hurting, in a real disaster that's your first line of response. They are already deployed across every region of the state, out in the field and ready to respond." Chief Warrant Officer David Barker on civilian volunteers.**



COMEX 2014 UAV Photo

Left—A bird's eye view of COMEX 2014, courtesy of a unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV). Eighteen different communications command vehicles and trailers from 11 different agencies took part in COMEX 2014, a showcase for communications capabilities for first responders held at Boone Center.

## Farrier named State HazMat Coordinator

Recently Danita Farrier accepted the IPA II HazMat position and assumed the duties as the statewide HazMat Coordinator.

Previously Danita served as a Grant Specialist in the KYEM Administrative Section.

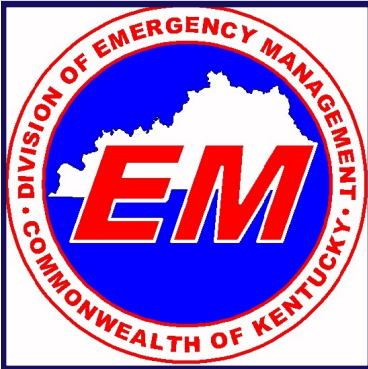
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PREPARE—RESPOND—RECOVER



## Kentucky Emergency Management

**Vision** - A resilient commonwealth that is safe, secure, and prepared for emergencies and disasters, because of the programs and efforts of a superior emergency management team that is staffed and led by professional managers and administrators."

**Mission** - Protect and restore our commonwealth.



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## Meet KYEM Director, Michael Dossett

Michael Dossett began a professional career in law enforcement in 1975, then joining the Louisville Division of Police in Louisville, Kentucky. He served with the Department for 29 years, retiring in 2004 as an Assistant Chief of Police.

Following retirement he served as the Deputy Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice from 2004 to 2008.

Mr. Dossett began his career with the Department of Military Affairs on August 16, 2009 as a

KYEM Regional Response Manager, serving Jefferson and surrounding counties.

He was promoted on March 16, 2011 as KYEM Logistics Chief and held that position within the division until his retirement on July 31, 2013.

During his prior tenure at KYEM he wore a variety of hats, to include: Regional Response Manager, Resource Management Logistics Chief & Private Sector Program Coordinator.

"I'm humbled to have the opportunity to serve as director and excited to get started!"



"I pledge to go into the counties and ask what can KYEM can do for you!"