



MEMA REPORTS

MEMA REPORTS is a monthly newsletter produced by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to help keep the Public Safety Community of Massachusetts better informed about the day's Emergency Management issues. MEMA REPORTS also appears on the MEMA website: www.mass.gov/mema.

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Meet Samantha Phillips, the New Director of MEMA

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve as the next director of MEMA. As I enter my fourth week on the job, I am impressed by the depth and breadth of the agency. I am fortunate to have stepped into a well-running organization and have the opportunity to build upon the great work spearheaded by Kurt Schwartz. In the coming weeks and months I look forward to sharing more details on my ideas and next steps for MEMA. My priorities include robust and operationally-sound planning, operational readiness, improved situational awareness, and the strategic employment of technology to support and streamline emergency management programs.

I came from local emergency management with the City of Philadelphia. MEMA's coordination with local partners is familiar territory to me. I believe strongly in our role at the state-level in supporting our local emergency management and public safety agencies as we continue to build capacity and capability across the Commonwealth. I am committed to being a collaborative partner – your feedback will ensure we are meeting that objective.

I look forward to getting to know our partners and working together as we prepare, respond, recover, and build a more resilient Commonwealth. Thank you for the warm welcome!

Thank You to Former Director Schwartz

As MEMA welcomes new Director Phillips, we thank former Director Kurt Schwartz for his dedicated service to MEMA for the last 9 years, to Massachusetts state government for more than 30 years and to the public safety community in Massachusetts for nearly 40 years. After being appointed the MEMA Director in 2010, Director Schwartz and MEMA coordinated the state's response and recovery to 13 presidentially declared disasters including most notably, the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings and related manhunt, the 2010 MWRA water main failure, the 2011 tornadoes, the 2015 record snowfall. Director Schwartz also played a significant role in the Commonwealth's response to the 2018 Merrimack Valley gas line explosions and hundreds of smaller incidents.

MEMA Staff Updates

Samantha Phillips is the new Director of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. Kelly Parker and Andrew Trice have been hired as All Hazards Planners working in the Planning Unit.

Update on March 2018 Nor'Easters

March 2-4 Storm (FEMA DR-4372)

On June 25, 2018, the Commonwealth received a disaster declaration authorizing FEMA Public Assistance funding for eligible applicants in the counties of Barnstable, Bristol, Essex, Nantucket, Norfolk, and Plymouth as a result of the March 2-3, 2018 severe winter storm and flooding event. Funding is authorized for an applicant's storm related costs including emergency work, as well as permanent repair and restoration of damaged facilities as a result of the storm event. FEMA has approved 121 Eligible Applicants for this disaster. All exploratory calls and Recovery Scoping meetings have been conducted with eligible applicants, to identify and document damages related to the event. To date, \$881,214 (federal share) has been obligated by FEMA to sub-recipients.

For more information, see: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/fema-dr-4372-ma-march-2-3-2018-severe-winter-storm-flooding>.

March 13 Storm (FEMA DR-4379)

On July 19, 2018, the Commonwealth received a disaster declaration authorizing FEMA Public Assistance funding for eligible applicants in the counties of Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, Suffolk and Worcester as a result of the March 13-14, 2018 winter storm and snowstorm event. Funding is authorized for an applicant's storm related costs including snow removal, emergency work, and permanent repair/restoration of damaged facilities as a result of the storm event. FEMA has approved 174 Eligible Applicants for this disaster. All exploratory calls and Recovery Scoping meetings have been conducted with eligible applicants, to identify and document damages related to the event. To date, \$9,017,715 (federal share) has been obligated by FEMA to sub-recipients.

For more information, see: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/fema-dr-4379-ma-march-13-14-2018-severe-winter-storm>.

On November 14, 2018, FEMA issued an Interim Recovery Policy FP 104-11-2, to clarify how FEMA is implementing changes to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Section 324, signed by the President on October 5, 2018 as part of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) of 2018. Section 324 of the Stafford Act authorized FEMA to provide contributions for management costs incurred in the administration of the Public Assistance (PA) Program. MEMA conducted a webinar on January 24, 2019 to review the new policies and procedures related to an Applicant's Management Costs. A recording of the webinar is available on the Disaster Recovery webpage, along with a copy of the new Category Z- Management Cost workbook to document eligible management costs for the March 2018 disasters. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/fema-public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit#webinar-training-guides>

Unless an applicant selected the old Direct Administrative Cost Policy prior to March 15, 2019, the new Management Cost Policy is in effect for all projects under the above disasters.

MEMA Training Update

Upcoming MEMA trainings with open seats:

Date	Class	Location
3/22-3/24	ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)	Bourne
4/1-4/3	ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)	Quincy
4/11-4/12	ICS-400: Advanced ICS	East Longmeadow
4/22	Emergency Operations Center Management & Operations (G775)	Sturbridge
4/24-4/25	ICS-400: Advanced ICS	New Bedford
4/30-5/2	ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)	Fitchburg

For a full list of training opportunities and to register, see [Training Registration System calendar](#).

In February, MEMA's Training and Exercise Unit hosted 136 students in 6 courses:

Class	Location
Basic Sheltering Concepts (BSC)	Hingham
ICS-100 NIMS-700	Middleborough
Basic Sheltering Concepts (BSC)	Raynham
ICS-300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300)	Plymouth
Intro to WebEOC	Gardner
PER-340 ATIRC	Warren

For MEMA Training opportunities, visit: <https://www.mass.gov/training-exercises-and-conferences>.

MEMA'S Mission Statement

MEMA is the state agency charged with ensuring the state is prepared to withstand, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters, including natural hazards, accidents, deliberate attacks, and technological and infrastructure failures. MEMA is committed to an all hazards approach to emergency management. By building and sustaining effective partnerships with federal, state and local government agencies, and with the private sector - - individuals, families, non-profits, and businesses - - MEMA ensures the Commonwealth's ability to rapidly recover from large and small disasters by assessing and mitigating threats and hazards, enhancing preparedness, coordinating response operations, and strengthening our capacity to rebuild and recover.

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