

September 2016**Dale Lane, Director**

1075 Mullins
Station Road
Memphis, TN 38134
www.staysafeshelby.us
(901) 222-6700

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Director Lane's Message: "It's about Partnerships"

"Thank you for your partnerships, sharing resources and equipment, and working so well together," said Shelby County Office of Preparedness Director Dale Lane addressing the September Urban Area Security Initiative meeting. "We're here to serve, to give help, and to receive help."



Every month, Director Lane welcomes emergency officials from the six UASI counties, and representatives from the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, the Tennessee Department of Homeland Security, the National Weather Service, MLGW, Shelby Cares, the University of Memphis GIS, FedEx, Medical Education and Research Institute, Shelby Farms, Memphis International Airport, the American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army to meet, exchange information, and share resources.

"These partnerships are vital in times of crisis. I commend Director Lane, his staff, and their team of dedicated reserve volunteers who maintain on-going relationships with businesses, community associations, faith-based groups and other organizations throughout Shelby County," said Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.

Caption: SCOP Director Lane welcomes emergency officials to the September UASI meeting.

Tennessee's Petroleum Availability

On September 15, Governor Bill Haslam issued a "state of emergency" to ensure an uninterrupted supply of fuel after a break in the Colonial Pipeline. "This is a precautionary measure as we are not currently seeing widespread unavailability of petroleum in Tennessee," Haslam said.

TEMA Director Patrick Sheehan reiterated, "We want to reassure Tennesseans there is petroleum available to meet the needs of consumers. Consumers need to maintain normal driving and fuel buying habits."

SCOP Assists Airplane Relocation



The Shelby County Office of Preparedness assisted the Millington Fire Department on September 1 as the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol relocated P3 Orion surveillance aircraft to Millington Regional Airport ahead of Tropical Storm Hermine. The P3's were moved to Millington for safe keeping until the storm passed. SCOP provided three solar powered light towers to help provide night time security. A total of seven planes were moved to Millington and then sent back to their home base to Jacksonville, Florida on September 3.

Caption: P3 aircraft with SCOP solar light towers. Photo by Mike Brazzell, SCOP Preparedness Officer.

Three Stars of Tennessee Award

On September 12, Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam, and Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security Commissioner, David Purkey, presented the third annual "Three Stars of Tennessee Awards" posthumously to the families of six Tennessee heroes at Conservation Hall at the Governor's Residence. The honorees were praised for "giving the ultimate sacrifice and dedicating their lives for the safety and security of their fellow citizens." Two recipients from Shelby County included Memphis Fire Services Lieutenant Rodney K. Eddins and Memphis Police Department Officer Verdell Smith, Sr.

During the ceremony, Certificates of Appreciation were also presented to Shelby County's Callen Hayes, former MLGW Crisis Management Coordinator, and Phil Boruszewski, U.S. Coast Guard Port Security Specialist.

During the September UASI meeting, Rick Shipkowski, State of Tennessee Homeland Security Director, reported on the Three Stars ceremony. He said, "We were so proud to honor our first responders, these fallen heroes and their families. We had a record-breaking crowd this year!"



Caption: Rick Skipkowski, TN Homeland Security Director, reporting on the Three Stars Award at UASI

Oklahoma Quake Rattled Shelby County

Some Shelby County citizens woke to tremors from a 5.6 magnitude earthquake that struck near Pawnee, Oklahoma at 7:02 a.m. on September 3. No injuries were reported with minor damage noted.

The Oklahoma quake reminds us that Shelby County, located in the New Madrid seismic zone, puts us at risk for a major earthquake. There will be no warning for an earthquake. The Shelby County Office of Preparedness urges citizens to practice the “Drop, Cover and Hold” earthquake maneuver with family and co-workers, survey your home and workspace to eliminate hazards, and make an earthquake plan and practice it twice a year.



For more earthquake safety information, please visit: www.cusec.org, www.usgs.gov, www.redcross.org, and www.fema.gov. To receive earthquake notifications, upload the American Red Cross (FREE) mobile app. Text GETQUAKE to 90999.

“9/11” Service Honors First Responders



Citizens from Shelby County lined the sidewalks in downtown Memphis near the Memphis Fire Museum on September 11, at 8:45 a.m. for a special “9/11” remembrance service. The Memphis Fire and Police Departments invited the public to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the “attack on America.” The “tolling of the bells” brought tears for the 343 firefighters, 60 police officers, and 8 paramedics who died as they “ran in to save those who could not save themselves” on 9/11. Presenters included

Shelby County Fire Chief Alvin D. Benson who graced the stage with a moving solo of “God Bless the USA.” After a wreath was placed on the memorial for those who died, the lonesome sounds of the Shelby County Sheriff’s Office “Pipes and Drums” played “Amazing Grace” at the close of the ceremony.



Captions: Top: Volunteers wave flags on Adams Street as a procession enters the grounds of the Memphis Fire Museum for the 9/11 event.
Bottom: Shelby County Sheriff Office Pipes and Drums.

SCOP Participates in Multi-Agency Drill



The Shelby County Office of Preparedness participated in the Memphis and Shelby County Local Emergency Planning Committee multi-agency disaster exercise on August 26. The scenario simulated an oil spill near the Wolf River Chute damaging the Canadian National North Rail Yard at 10 North Henry Street, near downtown Memphis. SCOP staff joined the U. S. Coast Guard, the Department of Homeland

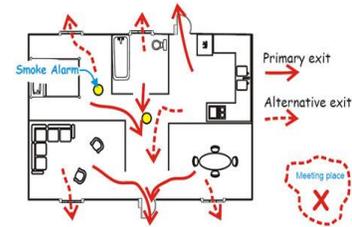
Security-Infrastructure Protection, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Memphis Office of Emergency Management, and the Memphis Police and Fire Departments for the drill. “The more frequently emergency agencies practice their disaster plans in a realistic setting, the more prepared they will be to respond in a timely and efficient manner during a real disaster,” said Jesse Gammel, SCOP Preparedness Officer.



Captions: Top: Firefighters spray foam to extinguish a simulated railcar fire during the drill. **Bottom:** Emergency officials gather to review their plans. Jesse Gammel, Preparedness Officer, is center. Photos by Shannon Towery, SCOP Preparedness Officer.

Ten Die in Fire, SCOP Encourages Family Plan

A family three adults and seven children tragically died in a house fire on Severson Avenue in Memphis on September 12. The cause was a faulty air conditioner power cord, according to Memphis Fire. It was the deadliest fire in Memphis since the 1920's. The home had a working smoke detector, but residents were not able to escape due to window bars and a security door. Heat and smoke can be more deadly than the actual fire. Asphyxiation (lack of oxygen) is the leading cause of residential fire deaths.



The Shelby County Office of Preparedness offers these fire safety tips:

- Check electrical cords to see if they are in good condition.
- Meet with your family to make a fire escape plan. Practice it twice yearly.
- Have 2 ways to escape each room, so you can get out and rescuers can get in.
- Have a smoke detector on each level of the home (near sleeping areas is best).
- Check smoke alarms biannually. Replace the batteries. Replace them every 10 years.
- Invest in “quick release” window bars that can open from the inside.
- Make sure security doors can be opened quickly.
- Practice crawling low under the smoke to your exit.
- Before opening a door, feel it with the back of your hand. If it is hot, do not open it, find another way out.
- Choose a meeting place outside the home.

If you do not have a smoke alarm, please contact your nearest fire station to obtain one.

Resource: U.S. Fire Administration www.usfa.fema.gov

Shelby County Honors Callen Hayes

On August 18 at the Urban Area Security Initiative meeting, SCOP Director Dale Lane presented Callen Hayes, former MLGW Crisis Management Coordinator, with a proclamation of appreciation from Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr. for his contributions to emergency management. Director Lane said, “In every EOC activation, we could count on Callen to work well with us, share resources, and share information in a prompt manner. We appreciate him and wish him well in his new job as the MLGW Assistant Manager of Systems Operations,” stated Levell Blanchard, SCOP Deputy Administrator. Jordan Rudolph will move into Callen’s position as the new MLGW Crisis Management Coordinator.



Caption: Left: SCOP Director Lane presents a proclamation of appreciation from Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell, Jr. to Callen Hayes, right.

Shelby Farms “Heart of the Park”



At the August UASI meeting, Natalie Wilson, Senior Manager of Events and Programs for Shelby Farms Park Conservancy, presented exciting information about the park’s \$70 M capital improvement project called, “Heart of the Park.” The newly renovated 4,500 acre park, which is the largest urban park in America, was a unique partnership between private and public donors. The successful grand opening was held on September 1. The renovations expanded the 50-acre Patriot Lake to 80 acres, now called Hyde Lake. New for visitors is an events center with a restaurant, a stage, a splash park, a wetland area, a boat house, and a bike-rental facility. The UASI group congratulated Natalie on the park renovations and encouraged everyone to go see the new features. The park will have an impact on public safety with increased number of visitors and traffic issues. The UASI group will continue to work with park officials to plan for the park’s large public events.

Caption: Senior Manager of Events and Programs at Shelby Farms, Natalie Wilson, addressed the UASI working group.

Outreach: East of Old Brownsville Neighborhood Watch



The Shelby County Office of Preparedness hosted the “East of Old Brownsville” Neighborhood Watch monthly meeting at the Shelby County Emergency Operations Center on August 18. Shelby County Mayor’s Office PIO Steve Shular and Shelby County Office of Preparedness Director Dale Lane gave the members an overview of the Office of Preparedness, the purpose of the UASI working group, when and how the emergency operations center may be activated during a disaster, and offered sound advice about how to prepare for the most common hazards that will likely occur here in Shelby County.



Captions: Left: Shelby County PIO Steve Shular, Right: SCOP Director Dale Lane

Outreach: Daughters of the American Revolution



The Shelby County Office of Preparedness was delighted to visit with members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Chickasaw Bluff Chapter, on Saturday September 17, during their monthly meeting. Attendees learned about the typical disasters that will occur in Shelby County, such as severe thunderstorms, extreme temperatures, terrorism, earthquakes, hazardous materials accidents, fires, and electrical outages. SCOP demonstrated how to create a disaster kit. All received a bag filled with preparedness literature.

Caption: DAR members learn what items go into a home-made disaster kit.

Outreach: Greater Middle Baptist Church

Reserves from the Shelby County Office of Preparedness participated in the annual “Community Health Fair and Fun Fest” on Saturday, August 20, at the Greater Middle Baptist Church at 4982 Knight Arnold Road. Families were invited to pick up bags full of preparedness brochures, earthquake hazard hunt posters, emergency number magnets, and HELP / OK signs.

Caption: A young “Spiderman” looks at the earthquake hazard hunt map with his mother at the community health fair.



Outreach: MPD Citizens Academy



The Shelby County Office of Preparedness is excited to be a guest speaker during the Memphis Police Department Citizens Academy for 2016. On September 6, SCOP spoke to the MPD Airways Precinct Citizens Academy students. After the lecture, all attending received a large bag of FEMA brochures and a HELP / OK sign.

Caption: MPD Airways Precinct Citizens Academy students on September 6.

Emergency Professionals Complete ICS 300

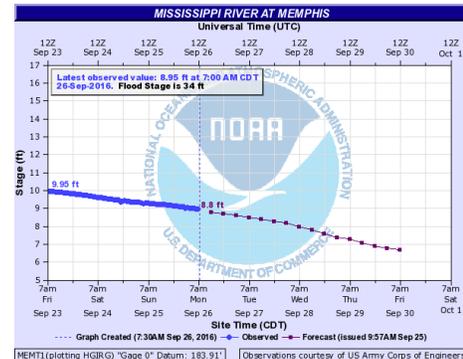


The Shelby County Office of Preparedness and Tennessee Emergency Management Agency presented the FEMA Incident Command System 300, “Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents” on September 7 and 8 at 1075 Mullins Station Road. The 2-day class, taught by Shannon Towery, SCOP Preparedness Officer / Training and Exercise Coordinator, and Rick Kiphut, Fire Chief of FedEx Fire Services, offered advanced knowledge of the National Incident Commands System (NIMS) for emergency professionals.

Mississippi River at Memphis



Captions: Left: The Mississippi River at Memphis, Mississippi River Greenbelt Park, September 22. **Right:** The NWS river level graph.



The Mississippi River at Memphis level is at 8.95 feet on September 26 according to the National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service. Flood stage is 34 feet. To track the river levels, please visit www.weather.gov.

Significant Weather / Power Outages

Weather Update from the National Weather Service:

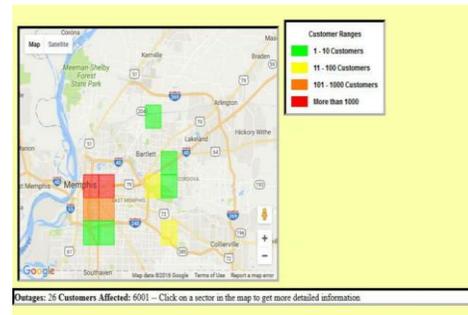
No hazardous weather is expected at this time. The probability for widespread hazardous weather is low. Spotter Activation is not anticipated at this time.

Significant Weather:

- August 1, 2, 3, 6, 11, 25: Heat Advisory Memphis Cooling Center opens
- August 4, 5: Excessive Heat Warning
- September 18, 19: Fog Advisory

Power Outages:

- August 24: 6,000 Midtown accounts
- August 25: 7,322 Memphis, Bartlett, and Lakeland customers
- September 19: 1,684 customers



Training / Exercises:

Active Shooter Awareness. The Shelby County Office of Preparedness has trained 5,000 students in active shooter awareness to date. To schedule a class for your group, please visit www.staysafeshelby.us. To view the “Run, Hide, Fight - Surviving an Active Shooter Event” YouTube video, please go to <https://youtu.be/5VcSwejU2D0>.

SKYWARN Weather Spotter: Visit www.srh.noaa.gov/meg/?n=skywarn_meetings.

Visit www.staysafeshelby.us to register for classes. Some classes have pre-requisites.

- **Search and Rescue in Community Disasters**, October 27 – 28, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- **Continuity of Government Operations Planning**, November 2, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- **Sports and Special Events Incident Management**, January 24 – 25, 2017

Volunteer! The Shelby County Office of Preparedness is actively recruiting for:



SCOP Reserves: Reserves attend monthly meetings, attend community events to hand out preparedness literature, operate amateur radios, and assist during activations as needed. A minimum of 4 hours a month is required. Please email: shelby.logan@shelbycountyttn.gov.

Shelby Cares: Reserves assist staff when sheltering is needed in Shelby County. Please email: terry.donald@shelbycountyttn.gov.

Caption: SCOP Reserve Sheronda Greenleaf greeting the public and handing out brochures at a community fair.

Ham Radio Check-In!

Licensed amateur “ham” radio operators are welcome to check in to the SCOPERNET, Mondays, 6:00 p.m., 147.09 repeater, tone 107.2.

Emergency Operations Center Activation Status:

The **Shelby County Office of Preparedness (SCOP)** and the **Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA)** are at Level 5, Normal Operations, as of September 26, 2016.

Flag Status:

Full staff.

Resources:



ReadyTN Mobile App: Visit: www.tnema.org to upload the FREE ReadyTN mobile app to your mobile devices. You will receive weather warnings from the National Weather Service, be alerted to roadway incidents with TDOT Smartway, and be notified of other emergency alerts. ReadyTN also includes helpful preparedness information for the most common hazards in your area, emergency plan checklists, and road maps.

Shelby County Office of Preparedness:

Visit us: www.staysafeshelby.us

Follow us! SCOP@SCOP_HLS_EMA

Like us! <https://www.facebook.com/StaySafeShelby/>

- **Community Emergency Response Team:** eugene.jones@shelbycountyttn.gov
- **Shelby Cares Faith-Based Sheltering:** terry.donald@shelbycountyttn.gov
- **Storm Shelter Registry:** kimberlyn.bouler@shelbycountyttn.gov
- **SCOP Reserves:** shelby.logan@shelbycountyttn.gov

Tennessee Emergency Management Agency: www.tnema.org

Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov

Emergency: call 911