

## Background

The University of the District of Columbia was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security National Training Program (HSNTP) and the Competitive Training Grant Program (CTGP). The National Legal Preparedness Training Program and its *Legal Issues and Disasters* course is funded through this grant.

**The National Training Education Division** (NTED) of the Department of Homeland Security serves the nation's first responder community, offering more than 150 courses to help build critical skills that responders need to function effectively in mass consequence events. NTED primarily serves state, local, and tribal entities in 10 professional disciplines, but has expanded to serve private sector and citizens in recognition of their significant role in domestic preparedness. To date, NTED has delivered training and broadcast information to over 2 million first responders.

**The University of the District of Columbia**, the nation's only urban land-grant institution of higher education, is a Historically Black College/University. The University is a comprehensive public institution offering quality, affordable post-secondary education to District of Columbia residents, public sector, and local and federal agencies headquartered in the Nation's Capital at the certificate, associates, baccalaureate, and graduate levels.

**The Institute for Public Safety and Justice** (IPSJ) is a central part of the Criminal Justice Program at UDC. The IPSJ seeks to meet the training needs of criminal justice, public safety, and other emergency management and response agencies. To this end, it has the capacity to provide an analysis of an agency's training needs and to design a program to meet those specific needs. The Institute also works with community and faith-based groups to strengthen their organizational capacity.

## Institute for Public Safety & Justice

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## Legal Issues and Disasters: Things You Should Know

### MGT—366



University of the District of Columbia  
Institute for Public Safety & Justice  
National Legal Preparedness Training Program

## Legal Issues and Disasters: Things You Need to Know

This course is a survey of legal issues that typically arise during emergencies. The goal of the course is to enhance the ability of state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, emergency managers and planners, first responders, and VOADs to identify potential legal issues.

The course:

- Empowers participants to identify issues and liabilities that can arise within their jurisdiction or agency responsibilities.
- Provides information regarding practices which support inclusion of whole communities which may require policy development or revisions to operations and practices.
- Examines the impact legal policies have on operations practice.

### Target Audience

- State, tribal, territorial, and local key advisors and legal counsel.
- Operational personnel such as emergency managers, planners, and first responders.
- Personnel with comparable roles in community and faith-based non-profit organizations that provide services in an emergency.

It may be useful if 2-3 members from the same agency, organization, or entity



attend as a team. That way, when participants return to their workplace, they can more easily implement what they learned. Of course attending as a team is not required.

### Legal Issues Covered

- Emergency Operations Planning
- Implications of ADA & Civil Rights for Planning
- Public Information and Warning
- Evacuation
- Emergency Shelters
- Out-of-State Volunteers
- Stafford Act
- Emergency and Disaster Declaration Process
- Debris Management
- Public Assistance Reimbursement

### Case Study

Using a case study approach, participants will examine legal issues surrounding selected emergency management challenges, be introduced to relevant legal guidance and emerging trends, and through discussion with other participants gain a sense of the larger operational and policy constraints faced by different actors involved in emergency planning, response and recovery.

### Prerequisites

None, but several FEMA Independent Study Program (ISP) courses are recommended:

- IS-700a National Incident Management System
- IS-650a Building Partnerships with Tribal Governments
- IS-21.11 Civil Rights and FEMA Disaster Assistance



### Course Length

Eight contact hours of instructor-led training (ILT)

### Management & Planning Level Course

This course is geared to the Management/Planning Level and as such is designed for managers who develop plans and coordinate the response to a mass consequence terrorist or natural event.

### Where Courses Will Be Offered

We will work with the Department of Homeland Security State Administrative Agencies (SAAs) to offer the instructor-led course in all 50 states and the six U.S. territories.

### Contact Us!!!!

If you are interested in more information about the **Legal Issues and Disasters** course, please do not hesitate to contact us.

