

# RC/PIO News & Notes 2-14-2025

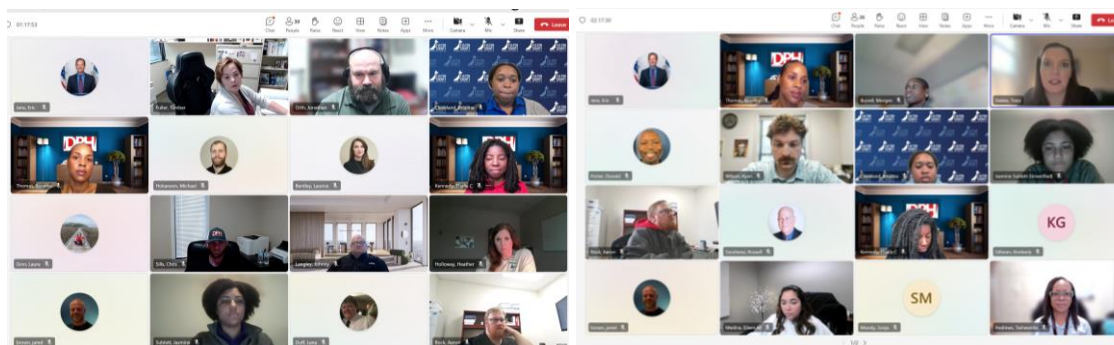


FROM Eric Jens, GA DPH Risk Communicator  
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## News and Notes

Many parts of Georgia experienced 48 hours of rainfall, resulting in scattered flooding and thousands of reported power outages. A virtual DPH Training Coordinators annual meeting that was slated to be at an Athens venue until two weeks ago is among the highlights for this week.

## Training Coordinators Workshop



DPH training coordinators from throughout the state met Tuesday and Wednesday to discuss the latest activities and plans. More than a dozen Subject Matter Experts provided presentations, and talked about how their specialty can and should be a part of exercise plans. This included Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers, digital communication platforms, Medical Counter Measures, risk communications, and the recently developed Northwest Georgia Multi-District Alliance among others. Saneika Thomas kept everything moving; from organizing, to facilitating to presenting.

01:21:17

Take control Pop out Chat People Raise React View Notes Apps More Camera Mic Share Leave

Fuller, Tim Wilson, Ryan Cleveland, ... Thomas, Sa... Hokanson, ... Burnley, La... Kennedy, T... Schutter, Ricky

### What is the initial DPH response to CBRN incident?

Varies widely based on type & scope of hazard

- Chemical – mostly health messaging, could include CHEMPACK or MCM depending on specific chemical
  - Wide release in residential area may also prompt shelter support
  - Assisting Healthcare system with supportive care needs
- Bio – patient tracking/contact tracing, MCM/SNS distribution, Healthcare system support
- Rad – CRC/population monitoring, SNS distribution, shelter support
- Nuc – similar to Rad, with additional complexity from facility/infrastructure damage and secondary/tertiary hazards

Schutter, Ricky

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# Hurrex

Thursday's tabletop exercise 'HurrEx' was held at the Georgia Emergency Management Agency State Operations Center and virtually. The scenario for 'Hurricane Warren' was modified from the real incident in 2016's Hurricane Matthew by moving the storm center 50 miles west, thereby magnifying the impact on Georgia. Exercise planners also added a simultaneous incident involving riots in Rome. This mirrored the dual response from last year's Hurricane Helene and chemical plume in Conyers. Representatives from each Emergency Support Function talked about their anticipated response actions. One of the three exercise objectives was how GEMA/HS would effectively provide public messaging during multiple events.



# State of Public Health

Augusta University this week released their 2025 State of Public Health report. The report ranks Georgia in dozens of health-related categories and compares scores from both a 12-state Southeast region and the nation overall.

[2025 report – Augusta University](#)



# Next Week Preview

The annual Rapid Response Team meeting will be held Tuesday through Thursday in Duluth next week. On Monday, the Georgia Public Health Association Executive Board is scheduled to meet virtually. Late last week, the board announced cancellation of the 95<sup>th</sup> GPHA Annual Meeting and Conference that would have been held starting April 30.

## About "News & Notes"

"News & Notes" is a weekly communication aimed at risk communicators and public information officers within Georgia's 18 public health districts. The goal of the communication is to increase preparedness through the exchange of information about significant events, training and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO or For Your Use Only. Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at [Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov](mailto:Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov)