

# Bay Area UASI



Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative Quarterly Newsletter

VOL01/ISSUE01/NOVEMBER14



*Welcome to the first edition of the Bay Area UASI newsletter. Our purpose is to keep our stakeholders informed about the great work being accomplished by the recipients of our federal homeland security grant funds. We hope you find this newsletter helpful. Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions and please share any of your UASI anecdotes with us for our next newsletter.*

*Craig Dziedzic  
General Manager  
Bay Area UASI*

## Public Information & Warning Project

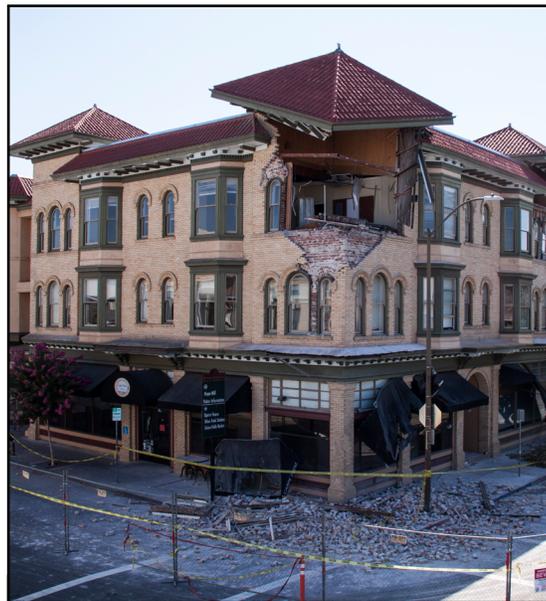
In August 2014, the Bay Area UASI Approval Authority allocated \$400,000 dollars towards building emergency public information and warning capabilities. Strong regional interest as well as risk management analysis has demonstrated this to be one of the Bay Area's highest risk and gap areas.

While most of us are familiar with traditional methods of public information and warning (i.e. the use of air raid sirens and emergency public broadcast alerts), new technologies are emerging that allow for faster and more targeted distribution of information alerts to affected populations. Using a strategic plan completed in 2012, Bay Area UASI emergency officials recently formed a working group to discuss

strategies for enhancing regional public information and warning capabilities.

The Bay Area UASI public information and warning working group is currently evaluating the viability of creating a regional contract for mass notification systems. The

current patchwork of these systems in the region causes inconsistency in the type, content, and format of alert and warnings. The regional system under consideration would improve interoperability, be consistent with state and federal standards, and create considerable cost



The recent South Napa Earthquake highlighted the importance of enhancing public information and warning capabilities throughout the Bay Area region.

savings and efficiencies for the region while allowing all entities to exercise local control and customization of their system.

# Urban Shield 2014

## Urban Shield: Exercise Overview

On September 4, 2014, the Urban Shield exercise once again tested the Bay Area's regional response capabilities. With color coded "Commands" to organize the event, more than 40 different exercise scenarios were conducted during the 48 hour continuous exercise with over 5000 participants.

## Highlight: Yellow Command

As the kickoff scenario for the 2014 Urban Shield began, "The Patriotic Brotherhood of America" set off a simulated explosion during a Military Appreciation Day celebration at Moffett Field, leaving a number of casualties and causing panic throughout the Bay Area.

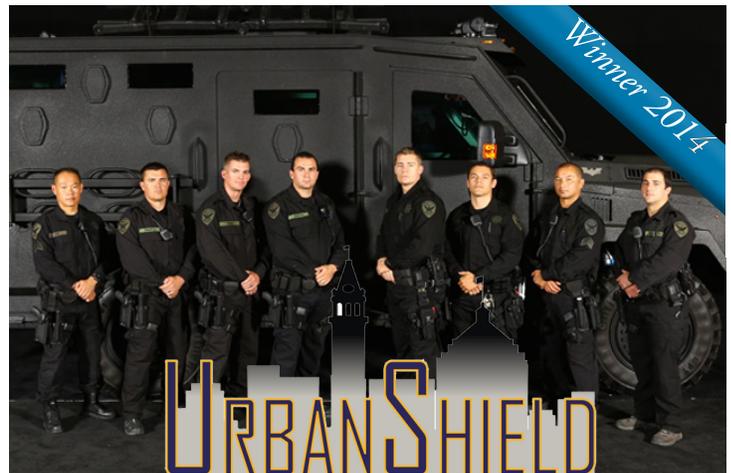


The exercise was designed to test Emergency Operations Centers, hospitals, and Public Information Officers (PIO) to respond to a mass casualty event. Bay Area PIOs were tasked with coordinating and creating unified messages to disseminate to the media and the public. A Regional Joint Information System (JIS) tested video conferencing, document sharing, and coordination and collaboration capabilities.



## Highlight: Red Command

Water rescue teams simulated the rescue of passengers from a downed aircraft in Francisco Bay during a recent scenario for Urban Shield's Red Command. The exercise was developed to mimic the "Miracle on the Hudson" crash in New York City. Other scenarios in this command simulated Rad/Nuc, HazMat, and biological incidents.



## First Place Participants

- SWAT: San Francisco Police Dept.
- EOD: US Army 71st EOD
- HazMat: Contra Costa Health Dept.
- USAR: Alameda County Fire Dept.
- Maritime: Sonoma County Fire Dept.





## Public Health

Bay Area public health officials are making final preparations for a full scale exercise to be held on November 20, 2014. The City Readiness Initiative mass vaccination exercise will test the region's ability to respond to an Anthrax attack. The exercise will be held concurrently with a statewide public health exercise also testing emergency public health and medical response capabilities.



## Training Video Wins Gold



The San Ramon Fire District's "Residential Care Facility Evacuation" training video received a gold award at the 2014 California Emergency Services Association conference.

The video can be seen at: [www.firedepartment.org](http://www.firedepartment.org)

## 10-4

In the interoperable world, 78 of 130 radio sites (60%) have been completed and 26,369 of 49,800 portable radios have been purchased. Barry Fraser, General Manager for the BayRICS Joint Powers Authority, also recently briefed the UASI management team on the latest developments in BayLoop and FirstNet.



## Preventative Rad/Nuc Program

For the past 10 months, the Bay Area has been actively developing a regional preventive radiological/nuclear detection program (PRND). Federal resources from the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) and the Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GRTI) are being provided for integration into our program. Although not selected for the Securing the Cities Grant program this year, we were highly encouraged to apply in the next cycle.

## Most Wanted

The Northern California Regional Intelligence Center's (NCRIC) new website recently apprehended a fugitive who turned himself in after "Googling" himself and discovering he was wanted. The website can be found at:

[www.northerncaliforniamostwanted.org](http://www.northerncaliforniamostwanted.org)

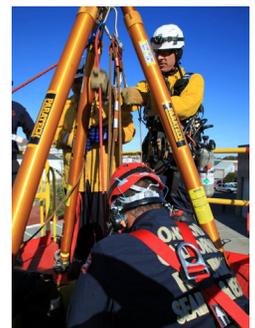
## Most Wanted Fugitives

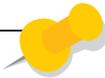


Nathan Simpson  
Kidnaping and False  
Imprisonment  
Incident Number: 20130021

## Training & Exercise Program

Regional training at no cost to students continues to be available through the Regional Training and Exercise Program (RTEP) at the Alameda County Sheriff's Office in Dublin, CA. To learn more or to register for available courses visit: [www.bauasitep.org](http://www.bauasitep.org)





## Compliance Corner: Tips for the Cost Benefit Analysis

Sole Source purchases exceeding \$100,000 require state approval. One component of the process is the Cost-Benefit Analysis.

Here are some tips:

- Be brief with words and specific with numbers.
- Describe how the purchase of this one widget eliminates the need to purchase multiple widgets to accomplish the same task.
- Describe how the purchase of this one widget could eliminate the need to purchase multiple widgets to accomplish the same task.
- Don't spend time describing the safety benefits for the staff.
- Don't spend time describing why this widget is better than every other widget unless you can describe why it would cost less \$\$\$.
- Don't indicate that "there is nothing else like it".

Have a grant compliance question you would like answered? Contact Mary Landers at:

[Mary.Landers@sfgov.org](mailto:Mary.Landers@sfgov.org)

### In Memoriam

Robert "Kelly" Seitz dedicated more than 35 years to the Fire Service of Santa Clara County and following his retirement lent his expertise to the Bay Area UASI regional Training and Exercise Program; and

William "Bill" McCammon, a former Alameda County Fire Chief and a leader in developing a regional interoperable communications program.

### Project Proposals received

All submitted FY15 Project proposals have been received. They are currently being prepared for prioritization at the hub selection meetings to be held in January 2015.

### Grant Specialists wrap up monitoring visits

The Grants Team would like to thank our local government sub-recipients for their help and hospitality during monitoring visits.

### Website Enhancement

The UASI Management Team released a Request For Qualifications (RFQ) to upgrade the website, including an online grant management system, to assist local government sub-recipients manage their grant funding.

### CBRNE Project Manager

The Bay Area UASI Management Team is currently reviewing candidates to fill the CBRNE Project Manager position. Thank you to all who applied.

### THIRA Workshop

The Management Team recently hosted a Threat Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) workshop in Dublin, CA. The THIRA is required by FEMA to be completed on an annual basis.

For more information on Bay Area UASI visit

[www.bayareauasi.org](http://www.bayareauasi.org)

or call

1-415-353-5232

