

An aerial photograph of Salt Lake City, Utah, taken during the golden hour of sunset. The Utah State Capitol building, with its prominent green dome, is the central focus in the foreground. The city's skyline, including several high-rise buildings, stretches across the middle ground. In the background, the Wasatch-Cache National Park mountains are visible under a sky with soft, colorful clouds. A semi-transparent blue banner is overlaid on the top right of the image, containing the report's title.

Unified Fire Authority | Salt Lake County
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Year End Report 2023

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Salt Lake County Entities





Salt Lake County Emergency Management Emergency Coordination Center

The Role of Emergency Management

An emergency management team plays a critical role in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from various emergencies and disasters. Their primary responsibilities include:

Planning and Preparedness: Emergency management teams develop and implement plans for dealing with a wide range of potential emergencies, such as natural disasters (e.g., hurricanes, floods, wildfires), public health crises (e.g., pandemics), industrial accidents, and terrorist attacks. These plans outline response protocols, resource allocation, and communication strategies to ensure an effective response in the event of an emergency.

Training and Exercises: They organize training sessions and drills for emergency personnel and first responders to ensure that they are well-prepared to execute their roles during a crisis. These exercises help identify weaknesses in the response plans and allow for adjustments and improvements.

Communication and Coordination: Emergency management teams establish communication networks and coordination protocols between various agencies and organizations involved in emergency response, including law enforcement, fire departments, medical services, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations. Effective communication is crucial for a timely and efficient response.

Resource Management: They oversee the allocation of resources such as personnel, equipment, and supplies to ensure that they are readily available during emergencies. This may involve stockpiling essential items, maintaining emergency shelters, and coordinating the deployment of resources to affected areas.

Response and Recovery: During an emergency, the emergency management team leads the response efforts, ensuring that plans are executed effectively. They coordinate evacuations, provide support to affected communities, and manage emergency shelters. After the immediate response, they transition to recovery efforts, which involve rebuilding infrastructure, restoring essential services, and assisting affected individuals and businesses.

Public Education and Outreach: They engage in community outreach and education to raise awareness about potential hazards and the importance of emergency preparedness. This includes disseminating information on how to create emergency kits, evacuation routes, and safety procedures.

Risk Assessment: Emergency management teams conduct risk assessments to identify potential threats and vulnerabilities within their jurisdiction. This information is used to prioritize preparedness efforts and allocate resources accordingly.

Mitigation: They work to reduce the impact of future disasters by implementing mitigation measures, such as building codes and land-use planning, to minimize the risks associated with natural or human-made hazards.

Emergency management teams are a vital component of ensuring public safety and community resilience in the face of various emergencies and disasters, and their work is critical for saving lives and minimizing the economic and social impact of such events.

Salt Lake County Emergency Management

2024 Director Message



Tara Behunin
Director of Emergency Management

The Salt Lake County Division of Emergency Management (SLCo EM) is a division that is unique to the Unified Fire Authority (UFA) and falls under an interlocal agreement created between the Salt Lake County Government and the Unified Fire Authority. The Salt Lake County Division of Emergency Management works to solidify and strengthen all the relationships within the Salt Lake Valley—with local, state and federal coordination being a key priority. Working with all entities and jurisdictions within the valley allows us to create a more robust and stronger response to incidents within the county and assist and coordinate response and recovery efforts within affected areas.

This year, the SLCo EM Division demonstrated resiliency and flexibility, adapting to the various changes and needs within the Division as well as the needs of our EM partners. 2023 provided opportunities to strengthen and create collaborative partnerships, which truly is the background of emergency management at any level. Key standouts for the year include welcoming the NBA All-Star weekend to the valley, supporting our partners in Salt Lake City and the University of Utah, and successfully supporting our Salt Lake County Flood Control experts in preparedness and recovery efforts due to the unprecedented snowfall received. With a busy spring, we were grateful for a steady summer- avoiding a hectic fire season.

Mid-Mid-year, our longtime “Commander in Chief” Division Chief Clint Mecham retired, after serving as the Salt Lake County Emergency Manager for eleven years. Our GIS Specialist, Sheldon Baumgartner resigned from UFA, taking a position for Rio Tinto. Additionally, then Captain and EM Logistics Officer Nate Kay was promoted to Battalion Chief, returning to UFA operations. Captain Keith Bevan accepted the position as the Training Manager for Utah Task Force 1.. In July, we welcomed Savannah Mailloux, our new GIS Specialist, who brings a wealth of expertise and innovation within the EM field. In October, I accepted the Salt Lake County Emergency Management Director position. Soon after, Division Chief Chet Ellis accepted the position of Deputy Director. We closed the year by thanking Jim Woodward for his years of service in EM and congratulating him on a full retirement. For those of us who remain, we take the excellent work and contributions from these individuals and carry on.

Despite 2023 being a year full of changes and demands, the EM team remained strong and focused, ensuring we continued to deliver a high level of emergency management expertise and support. Through preparedness, response, and recovery efforts, technology and training developments, and deployments, the EM team had a very successful year. Thanks for your support of our team and our mission.

Vision and Mission of Salt Lake County Emergency Management

The vision of Salt Lake County Emergency Management gives us an end-goal which we are continually striving to attain. The vision statement of Salt Lake County EM is: A whole community approach to create a safer, less vulnerable and more resilient Salt Lake County.

The mission of Salt Lake County Emergency Management is what drives us. It is the guideline to the end-goal of the vision statement, allowing benchmarks to be continually monitored and allows us to fashion our strategic plan for the Division of Emergency Management.

The mission statement of Salt Lake County Emergency Management is: The Salt Lake County Division of Emergency Management serves our citizens by directing and coordinating resources for disasters and emergencies through prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery.

5 Pillars of Emergency Management

Salt Lake County Emergency Management's five main areas of responsibility are: Prevention, Preparedness, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery. We focus our training and responses on these foundations in addition to other trainings and responsibilities.

- 1 PREVENTION:** Actions taken to avoid an incident or prevent it from occurring.
- 2 PREPAREDNESS:** increase a community's ability to respond when a disaster occurs, includes planning, training, and educational activities for events that cannot be mitigated.
- 3 MITIGATION:** Respond quickly to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs in the aftermath of a catastrophic incident.
- 4 RESPONSE:** Protect our citizens, residents, visitors and assets against the greatest threats and hazards in a manner that allows our interests, aspirations and way of life to thrive.
- 5 RECOVERY:** Recover through a focus on the timely restoration, strengthening, and revitalization of infrastructure, housing and sustainable economy, as well as the health, social, cultural, historic and environmental fabric of communities affected by a catastrophic incident.

Salt Lake County

808 Square Miles

1,029,655 Population and Growing

20% Reside in Salt Lake City

24 Political Divisions **11** Major Industries

\$68k Average Salary in County

304% Growth Rate in Draper & Herriman by 2025

18 Cities **5** Metro Townships **2** Towns

39% of Utah's Economy is Supported by the County

Major Employers Include **University of Utah, State of Utah, Rio Tinto, & Intermountain Healthcare**

Top 10 languages Spoken 1. English 2. Spanish 3. Chinese 4. Vietnamese 5. Tongan 6. Samoan 7. German 8. Serbo-Croatian 9. French 10. Portugues 11. Russian 12. Korea 13. Japanese 14. Nepali 15. Tagalog

SLCo Emergency Management

11
TOTAL STAFF, SOON TO BE 14 AGAIN

12k
TWITTER FOLLOWERS

1,006
INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

2.8k
FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

24
MUNICIPALITIES WE SERVE

181
SALT LAKE COUNTY NATIONAL WEATHER ALERTS

250
COTTONWOOD CANYONS ROAD NOTIFICATIONS WITH MULTIPLE MULTI-DAY CLOSURES OF BOTH CANYONS

EM staff has continued to support V2/Saltair music events with events planning meetings and collaboration with partners and stakeholders. The final piece has been to complete and distribute event action plans to support event activities if something should happen that would exhaust resources.

Get Lucky | **Get Freaky** | **Das Energi**

2023 Emergency Management Accomplishments/Activations

- Toured KSL Radio Facility and IPAWS/Emergency Broadcast System — **January 11**
- Worked with Sandy City, Kearns Improvement District, Taylorsville Improvement District and Granger Improvement District to develop prescribed IPAWS messages -for their communities
- Worked with Salt Lake City Emergency Management on developing prescribed IPAWS messages for Wildland Urban Interface zones in Salt Lake City
- Completed Salt Lake County Emergency Management's first Branding Guide
- Distribution of sandbags for flooding
- Worked with mayors from Copperton and Emigration Canyon Metro Townships on flooding issues during the spring runoff
- Worked with the Town of Brighton with spring runoff issue that involved the Twin Lakes Dam and several areas that were affected by the spring run off
- SLCo in coordination with the State DEM, launched statewide WebEOC— **February 6**
- Plans Section Officer Keith Bevan receives 25-year certificate — **March 15**
- Salt Lake County Emergency Management staff successfully supported the spring runoff event after a record-breaking snow year — **February - July**
- Salt Lake County volunteer sandbagging event — **March 17-18**
- Operations Section Officer led the volunteer management coordination during the spring runoffs
- Great Utah ShakeOut — **April 20**
- Assisted Carbon County with their functional exercise — **April 24**
- Operations Section officer led statewide EMAC training — **May**
- Moroccan Delegation Visit to the SLCo ECC — **May 8**
- Hosted Media Event at Wheeler Farm to show the spring run-off Base of Operations — **May 22**
- Salt Lake County Emergency Manager/Division Director participated on media panel for the 1983 Floods 40th Anniversary Media Event — **May 30**
- Salvation Army's National Donut Day at the ECC — **June 2**
- Hired Salt Lake County Emergency Management GIS Specialist Savannah Mailloux — **July**
- Juvare / WebEOC Valley-wide training — **ongoing**
- Emergency Management Division Chief/Director Clint Mecham retired June 30, 2023 after dedicating 27 years to Salt Lake County Fire/Unified Fire Authority and Salt Lake County
- Operations Section Officer Chet Ellis receives 20-years of service certificate
- Developed an Emergency Coordination Center Activation and Response Plan for the MSD on 24-hour Duty Officer position.
- Held a discussion-based exercise with the MSD leadership on their new Emergency Coordination Center activation
- Held an exercise for the MSD to evaluate their Continuity of Operations Plan. (This exercise led to a rewrite of their existing plan)
- Developed a Liaison Handbook for the municipal planner position as liaison to the Town of Brighton, Emigration Canyon, Magna, White City, and Copperton Metro Townships
- Worked with White City and Copperton Improvement District on water issue concerning Copperton Metro Township
- EM staff continue to participate and engage the community in advanced sports and special event planning. This effort coincides with staffs continued participation in Texas A&M / Southern Mississippi University Sport and Special Event Management Series
- Salt Lake County Emergency Management Associate Director, Tara Behunin named Salt Lake County Emergency Manager/Director, **October 1**
- Collection of sandbags for disposal post flooding
- First drone purchased for the divisions drone program
- Enhanced the readiness of the ECC bunk room with beds and bedding for activations
- Operations Section Officer, Chet Ellis receives the Distinguished Service Award for his work on the State EMAC Plan, **November 8**
- Operations Section Officer Chet Ellis named EM Deputy Director/Division Chief, **November**
- Municipal Emergency Management Planner, James Woodward retires, **December 4**
- Plans Officer Keith Bevan accepts position with USAR/UTTF1 .

Conferences

- ◆ Operations Section Officer presented at the Utah Environmental Health Association Conference. The topic was about the Earthquake on March 18, 2020, and how the SLCo EM team handled COVID, the earthquake, and hazmat at the same time – **May 10**
- ◆ National Information Officer Association Annual Conference – **August 26-30**
- ◆ Public Safety Summit – **July 9-10**
- ◆ Utah Public Information Officer Association Annual Conference – **September 25-28**
- ◆ IMT Conference, Grand Junction CO, **September 19-20**
- ◆ Local Emergency Planning Committee Conference
- ◆ Utah Emergency Management Association Annual Conference

Activations

- ◆ Extended Power Outages due to severe winter storms and cold temperatures
- ◆ NBA All Star Game Weekend – **February 16-19**
- ◆ Salt Lake County Winter Storm – **February 18-22**
- ◆ Enhanced Watch for possible flooding from spring run-off – **March–July**
- ◆ Draper Severe Weather Thunderstorm – **August 3-4**

Deployments

In support of FEMA Search and Rescue Response Operations members of UT-TF1 deployed to:

- ◆ Vermont Flooding – **July**
- ◆ Maui Wildfires – **August**
- ◆ Hurricane Idalia – **August**
- ◆ Hurricane Lee – **August**

Emergency Coordination Center Tours

- ◆ Sandy City Communications Team – **February 9**
- ◆ Salt Lake County District Attorney Communications Team – **February 27**
- ◆ Utah National Guard Command Staff and Moroccan Delegation Visit – **May 8**
- ◆ Scout Troop 5 – ECC Tour – **May 11**
- ◆ Draper HAM Radio Group – **October**

Booths/Events

- ◆ Holladay Night Out – **August 9**

Classes / Trainings/ Exercises / Workshops:

- SLCo Government COOP Tabletop Exercise – **February 2**
- Fire in Paradise Division Training – **February 8**
- FEMA L 102 – Science of Disaster – **February 14-16**
- FEMA Basic Public Information Officer G-290 – **February 28 - March 1**
- Midvale City – EOC 101 - **February 28**
- Holladay City – EOC 101 - **March 9**
- FEMA Joint Information System/Joint Information Center – G-291 – **March 15**
- Managing Public Information for All Hazards Incidents – Center for Domestic Preparedness – **March 19-24**
- Public Safety Service Rocky Mountain Power Training – **March 24**
- ECC ESF Training – **April 6**
- Cyber Tabletop Exercise (TTX) - Salt Lake County, Davis County and State of Utah – **April 18**
- ICS 300 – **April 19**
- FEMA L 105 – Basic Public Information Officer – **May 16-18**
- ICS 400 – **May 23**
- G-2300 Intermediate Emergency Operations Center Functions – **July 11-13**
- Volunteer Agency Coordination in Disasters, E0490 – **June 26-29**
- ICS 300, SLC – **July 10-13**
- ICS 400, SLC – **August 29 & 31**
- CERT Courses, Millcreek City – **October/November**
- Liaison Officer class, State DEM – **Oct. 30 - Nov. 1**
- G 191 -ICS/EOC Interface – **November 7**

Plans Section Officer, Keith Bevan receives 25 years of service certificate



Operations Section Officer, Chet Ellis receives 20 years of service certificate



Members of the ECC staff with Salt Lake City EM staff tour KSL Studio's Emergency Broadcast System

RETIRING

AFTER 27 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE



**DIVISION CHIEF
CLINT
MECHAM**

**DATE OF HIRE
JANUARY 1, 1996**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION AT SLCO/UFA. CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES ON YOUR RETIREMENT!



RETIRED

AFTER 4 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE



**EMERGENCY PLANNER
JAMES WOODWARD**

**DATE OF HIRE
DECEMBER 1, 2019**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION AT SLCO/UFA. CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES ON YOUR RETIREMENT!





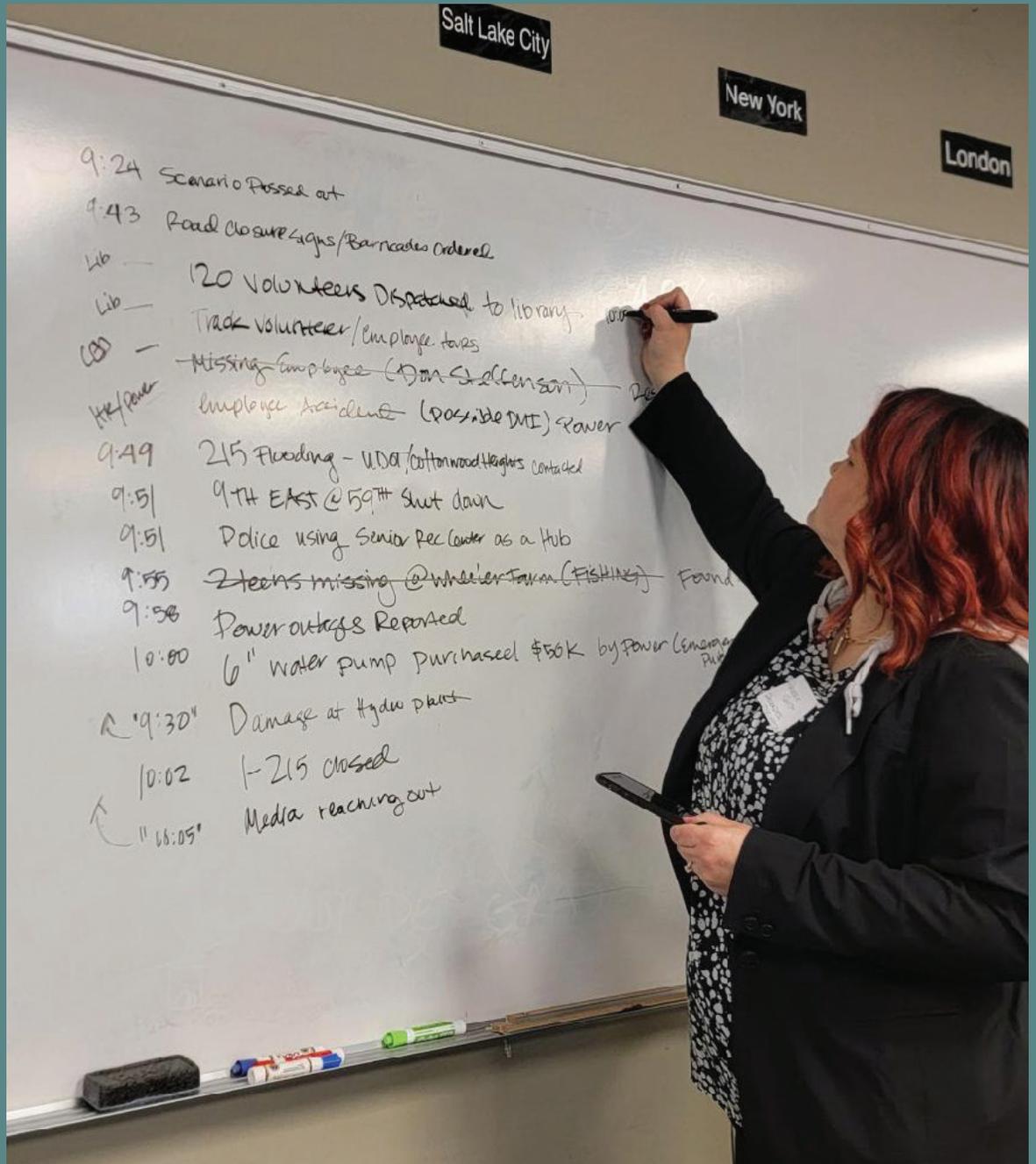
Salt Lake County Mayor, Jenny Wilson, and Salt Lake County Public Works employees host a press conference at Wheeler Farm to demonstrate the base of operations for the 2023 spring runoff

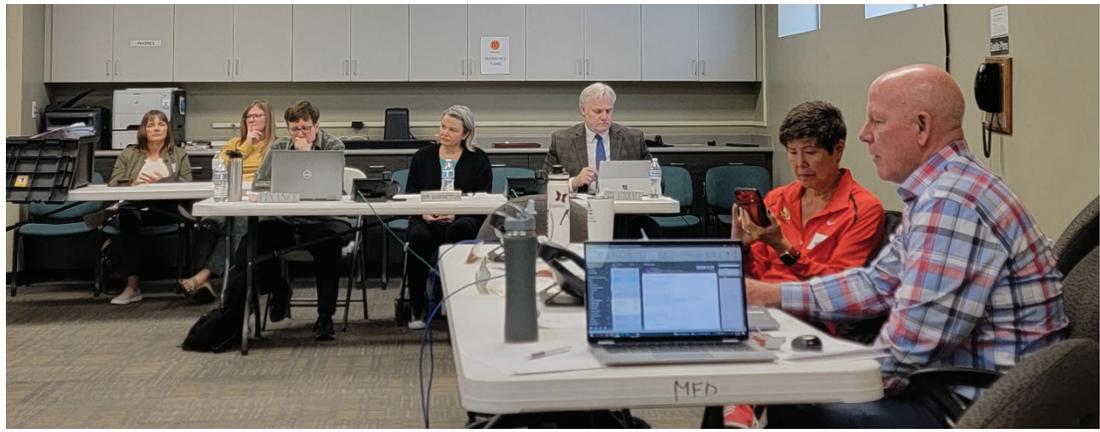
Moroccan military visit to the ECC



Damage to roads in Draper from the August 3 & 4 severe thunderstorm

SLCo EM staff supported Murray City in a functional exercise for Murray City employees.





SLCo EM staff support Murray City in a functional exercise for Murray City employees.

Record-Breaking Snowfall – Winter, 2023

In the winter of 2023, Salt Lake County experienced an unprecedented and record-breaking snowfall that left residents and meteorologists astounded. Throughout the season, the county received a staggering 200 inches of snow, shattering all previous records and defying expectations. This extraordinary weather phenomenon had a profound impact on daily life, with roads, schools, and businesses often forced to close due to the heavy snowfall. While winter in Salt Lake County is typically characterized by snow, 2023's accumulation surpassed all historical data, sparking both excitement and challenges for its residents.

The tremendous snowfall not only delighted winter sports enthusiasts but also posed significant challenges for local infrastructure. The county's snow removal crews worked tirelessly to keep roads clear and safe, but the relentless snowfall frequently overwhelmed their efforts. Schools had to cancel classes on multiple occasions, and businesses saw a drop in foot traffic due to the hazardous road conditions. On the brighter side, the bountiful snowfall was a boon for the local ski industry, attracting visitors from far and wide to take advantage of the exceptional powder conditions at nearby resorts.

Meteorologists attributed this record-breaking snow year to a combination of unique weather patterns and climate variability. While the snowfall brought its share of challenges, it also served as a powerful reminder of the unpredictability and adaptability that come with living in a region known for its diverse and ever-changing climate. As residents of Salt Lake County looked forward to the arrival of spring, they couldn't help but reflect on the remarkable winter that will go down in history as one of the snowiest on record.





Salt Lake County experienced a record breaking winter with Little Cottonwood Canyon receiving over 900 inches of snow.





*County employees and volunteers help fill and place sandbags
In Salt Lake City during the 2023 spring runoff*



Spring Runoff

Salt Lake County's record-breaking snowfall in the winter of 2023 had lasting effects that extended well into the spring months. With snowfall exceeding 200 inches, the county was faced with the challenge of handling the massive spring runoff that resulted from the melting snowpack. As temperatures began to rise, the snowmelt created a substantial amount of water flowing into local rivers and reservoirs, necessitating strategic planning and coordination by local authorities.

The record-breaking snowfall presented a unique set of circumstances for Salt Lake County's public works and emergency management team. They had to closely monitor the rising water levels and ensure that residents were informed and prepared for potential flooding in low-lying areas. Many residents living near the county's numerous rivers and creeks were asked to take precautions and, in some cases, evacuate their homes temporarily to avoid flood damage. Local officials also initiated flood control measures, including reinforcing levees and enhancing drainage systems to handle the increased water flow.

Additionally, the remarkable snowfall provided an opportunity for the county to assess its infrastructure and water management systems. Salt Lake County utilized this experience to refine its approach to handling spring runoff in the future, emphasizing the importance of robust flood mitigation plans and emergency response strategies. The record-breaking snowfall, while challenging, served as a valuable learning experience for the community, ultimately reinforcing the need for proactive measures to deal with the climatic extremes that can impact the region.



Volunteers help fill sandbags in preparation for the 2023 spring runoff



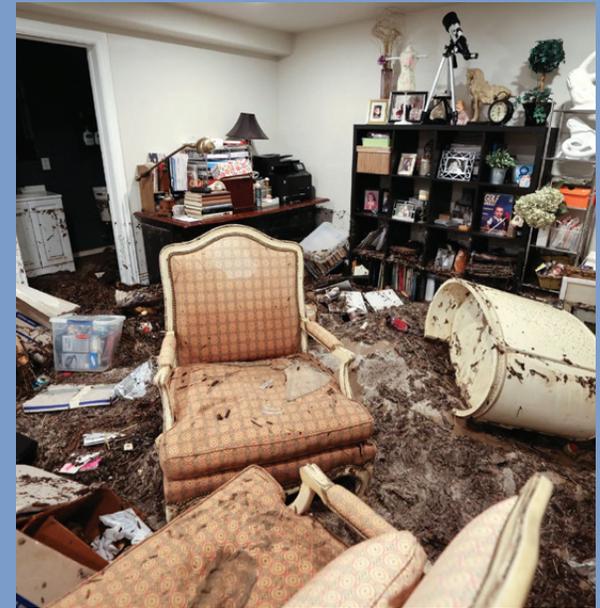
Draper City Severe Thunderstorm, August 3-4

In the wake of the severe thunderstorm that struck on August 3, Salt Lake County found itself facing a daunting task of restoring normalcy to the affected areas, particularly Draper City. The storm had wreaked havoc on the city, leaving behind a trail of destruction with downed trees, debris-strewn roads, and impassable streets.

Emergency management officials sprang into action immediately after the storm subsided, coordinating efforts to assess the extent of the damage and prioritize areas in need of urgent assistance. With roads blocked and residents stranded, it became apparent that swift action was necessary to facilitate recovery.

Salt Lake County's Public Works Department played a crucial role in this endeavor, mobilizing their resources to clear debris and open roads for access. Teams of workers equipped with heavy machinery and specialized equipment descended upon Draper City, working tirelessly to remove fallen trees, power lines, and other obstacles obstructing the streets.

Collaboration between emergency management and public works proved instrumental in expediting the cleanup efforts. Clear communication channels ensured that resources were allocated efficiently, with priorities set based on the severity of the damage and the needs of the affected residents.



Damage to roads and homes caused from the August 3rd & 4th thunderstorms in Draper City.

As roads gradually began to reopen, residents of Draper City breathed a sigh of relief, knowing that help had arrived and that progress was being made towards restoring normalcy to their community. The combined efforts of emergency management and public works had made a significant difference, demonstrating the effectiveness of coordinated disaster response efforts.

In the weeks and months following the storm, Salt Lake County continued to support Draper City as it embarked on the long road to recovery. From debris removal to infrastructure repairs, to ongoing assistance was provided to ensure that the city could bounce back stronger than ever before. Salt Lake County Emergency Management worked with Draper City and the State of Utah to provide assistance in the form of Small Business Loans to the residents of Draper. The SBA loans provided short term financial assistance to the residents of Draper City to repair and replace damages that occurred during the thunderstorms.



Large Scale Event Training

EM is making great strides in protecting against, responding to, and recovering from emergencies – from natural or human causes – during sports or other large-scale events requires specialized knowledge and training. These courses focus specifically on incident management, crowd and evacuation management, crisis information management and developing capability to operate in multi-agency collaborations. Training is targeted to personnel; local and state law enforcement; local and state emergency management; local fire and emergency medical services; and large venue management/operations. Our staff work together to collaborate on basic concepts for planning, risk assessment, training, exercises for plans, and recovery/business continuity. These courses have a limited offering with priority to Division 1A sporting events and large venue special events. EM staff has traveled over the last few years to many locations across the country to test their new skills and to collaborated with venues on best practices and lesson learned.

The last three courses were completed with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, here in Salt Lake City.

- *Sports and Special Events Incident Management*
- *Sport and Special Event Evacuation and Protective Actions*
- *Enhanced Sports and Special Events Incident Management*
- *Crowd Management for Sport and Special Events*
- *Sport and Special Event Public Information and Emergency Notification*

Vermont Flooding

In the summer of 2023, Vermont was marred by relentless flooding, leaving devastation in its wake. Hearing the urgent call for assistance, Utah Task Force 1 and Salt Lake County Emergency Management's Plans Section Officer extended a helping hand across state lines.

Upon arrival, the magnitude of the disaster became apparent. Entire communities were submerged, roads were washed away, and residents were left stranded in perilous conditions. Undeterred by the daunting task ahead, Utah Task Force 1 wasted no time in springing into action.

In addition to search and rescue efforts, the collaborative team provided crucial logistical support, ensuring the seamless distribution of essential supplies to affected communities. They set up temporary shelters, distributed food, and water, and tended to the medical needs of the injured.





Donut Day: June 2

Donut Day began as a fundraiser in Chicago by the Salvation Army in 1938 to help those in need during the great depression and to recognize the work of the “lassies” or the donut dollies who provided donuts to support the troops on the frontlines in WWI.

The service of providing donuts to servicemen continued into World War II. Eighty years later the Salvation Army continues to provide donuts to “hometown heroes” on National Donut Day which usually takes place the first Friday in June.

Usually on Donut Day the Salvation Army will provide donuts to veterans, local fire fighters, police officers and Gold Cross Ambulance employees. In 2020 the Salvation Army expanded their appreciation to those behind the scenes that don’t get enough credit and support such as: Veteran’s hospital staff, Sheriff’s Office staff, Emergency Management staff, Police, Fire and Emergency Services employees.

The Salvation Army handed out a plethora of donuts to the staff at Salt Lake County Emergency Management and Unified Fire Authority to show their appreciation.





IN REMEMBRANCE

Steve Sautter

From 2009 to 2018, Steve worked as the Joint Information Center Manager for Unified Fire Authority/Salt Lake County Emergency Management, but his public information experience goes way, way back to 1986 when he was working at Portland General Electric, which operated a nuclear plant. One day, he received a call from a local reporter, and was asked, what do you know about Chernobyl?

From that moment, he was hooked and did public affairs gigs for Benton County, Washington, Oregon Department of Energy, and Rutgers University. He served in the U.S. Navy and deployed to Vietnam during the Vietnam War. Not bad for a guy who wanted to be a dentist.

Steve gave so much to Salt Lake County Emergency Management and the Utah Public Information Officers. He traveled the state and jumped on every opportunity to teach the Basic PIO class and share his stories and lessons.

Most people who took that class will fondly, or frighteningly, remember Mike Malice, Steve's reporter alter ego. Mike Malice would snap his fingers, put words in your mouth, interrupt and do everything a toxic reporter could do to get you out of your comfort zone. A lot of times you would end up laughing at the preposterous actions, but what Steve wanted was to prepare you for ANYTHING.

At least once, when spotted out in public, a former student would point at him and say "I hate you." But what they really hated was Mike Malice. Everyone loved Steve.

Steve-isms:

—w— "There are some who have told me they are offended by Mike Malice. I tell them to get over it."

—w— Humming/singing the Imperial March from Star Wars as PIO class was about to start.

—w— "We hated each other" about the three women he deployed with and lived with in a Mississippi JIC while supporting Hurricane Katrina response and public information.

—w— Always claiming that he would get back on Twitter after letting his account go dormant, only to tweet that he was finally starting it up again, only to let it go dormant for longer.

—w— Always making fun of himself in class for "destroying a bathroom at the Detroit Airport" after he got campylobacter in Morocco.

He lived happily with his wife Judy; they enjoyed going on cruises. Steve was so proud of his kids and grandkids.

He passed away June 27, 2023, while in a rehab center following a fall. He was surrounded by his family. He is buried in the Vernon, Tooele County, cemetery.

You will be missed Steve.

Operations Section Officer, Chet Ellis Receives Recognition from FEMA for his Contribution to the Inaugural Mid-Year Academy

Dear Chet Ellis:

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Emergency Management Institute (EMI), I would like to personally thank you for your work on the Mid-Year Incident Management Academy and the first of its kind L0956 Liaison Officer (LOFR) – Hybrid delivery.

The delivery of six National Incident Management (NIMS) courses in the Incident Command System (ICS) Position Specific (PS) courses to thirteen classrooms, nationwide, is impressive. This milestone achievement was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the FEMA EMI, South Carolina Fire, South Carolina Emergency Management, the Palmetto Incident Support Team, and the Incident Management Teams Association and you.

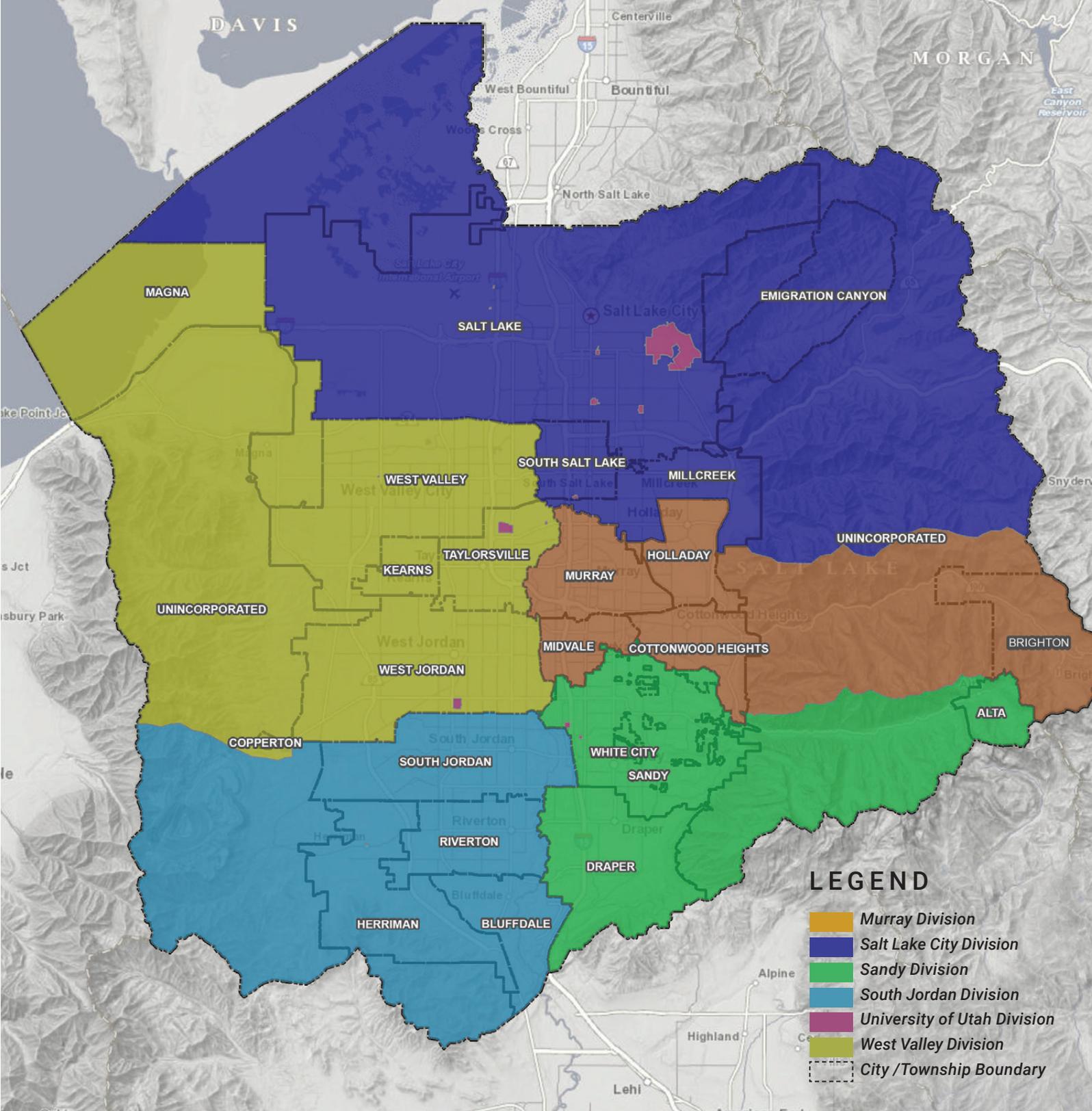
Your dedication to this event is commendable. Collaboration with your fellow instructors and agency partners, time given to the groundwork for the delivery, ensuring students were screened and prepared for the event; and then to achieve such success in the delivery is outstanding.

Your efforts helping students and instructors from 8 locations, including Renton, Washington, Taylorsville, Utah, Valparaiso, Indiana, Altoona, Wisconsin, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, North Chesterfield, Virginia, Raleigh, North Carolina, and the central hub in Columbia, South Carolina, were all integral parts of this endeavor. You were part of a team that delivered critical training to students that will now move forward to become key members of incident management teams across the nation.

This unprecedented event saw 152 students receive certificates from the six courses in just one week, with 101 of these certificates coming from the L0956 LOFR – Hybrid course alone. Your collaboration to an impressive team of 24 instructors, alongside a small group of planning staff from the partner agencies, worked in harmony to make this event a reality.

This groundbreaking model presents a replicable blueprint that can be adopted nationwide in the future. The "Hub & Satellite" format offers a cost-saving solution for delivering training, especially to communities in need of developing crucial incident management capabilities. This model can be utilized for NIMS ICS PS or any similar curriculum, paving the way for enhanced nationwide preparedness.

FEMA EMI looks forward to working with you in the future.



Salt Lake County
Emergency Management

DIVISION MAP

LEGEND

- Murray Division
- Salt Lake City Division
- Sandy Division
- South Jordan Division
- University of Utah Division
- West Valley Division
- City /Township Boundary



**Salt Lake County
Emergency Management**

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