

HAPPY NEW YEAR Co. A DECEMBER 2011 CHANGES

2012 is here and with it comes a extra day in February, the Summer Olympics in London, and new training opportunities including courses thru FEMA's Independent Study Program available at: <http://training.fema.gov/IS/>

For hands on training 1st Bn. in conjunction with the Michigan State Police is hosting a CERT basic training class at the Howell Michigan National Guard Armory in Howell, MI on 28-29 January 2012. The class is free of charge and starts at 0800 Saturday morning, registration is limited.

If you are looking for a CERT team to join, Oakland County Homeland Security Division has an active CERT Program. For more information contact Mike Loper at 248-858-5324 or loper@oakgov.com

The first Unit Training Assembly (UTA) of 2012 is scheduled for Saturday 21 January at the Walter Bruce VFW POST 1146 in Saint Clair Shores. Other anticipated UTA dates are listed at: <http://www.2nd-mivdf.org/calendar.html>

As the year progresses more training and recruiting events will be announced, the more volunteers we have representing the VDF at these events the more opportunities we have to grow.

The December UTA was full of surprises. From a gift exchange and MIVDF history lesson to an announcement by MAJ Morton that we will have dropped one of our seven missions and are no longer under the 46th MP Command.

If you have logged onto mivdf.org recently you may notice some changes. Support of MI's Selective Service System (SSS) is no longer one of the Missions the MIVDF will be training for. Rather, according to the website, we have one Mission to "...provides reliable personnel support to local and State agencies during declared emergencies."

To this end the MIVDF now has five Essential Tasks:

Support MI's Receipt Store and Stage (RSS) of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS).and CERT teams.

Support MI with Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

Support the MING with county Liaison Officers (LNO).

Support the MING with Joint Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration (JRSOI) staffing.

Support the MING with Cyber Network Defense staffing.

IS-75 MILITARY RESOURCES IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

"The purpose of the IS-75 course is to provide an...overview of U.S. military resources potentially available to assist civilian authorities, and procedures for obtaining and integrating military resources into disaster response and recovery operations" (IS-75 Overview).

Although this is not a MIVDF required course, it is helpful in understanding what type assets are available in a disaster and how they can be implemented. The course takes about two hours and includes a quick nod to the roll State Defense Forces play in recovery efforts.

The course is available at: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS75.asp>