



You are receiving this information as a member of the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA). It is being sent to you as a benefit of membership.

January 6, 2023



THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON: Welcoming a New Class of Lawmakers

I think we are all curious what is going on in the House at this point. We are one full work week into the 118th Congress and there is still no Speaker, meaning business has not started on the Hill. Rep. Kevin McCarthy has failed to gain necessary votes 11 times as of Thursday night – something that has actually happened before – fourteen times to be exact! Though this seems unusual for the modern era, this is not as unprecedented as we might think at the moment. If the 118th Congress is going for the speaker ballot record, they will need to reach 134 ballots to beat the Speaker election of 1856 which held 133!

Despite this indecision on who will preside over the House, NEMA staff is still diligently working with the new class of Congress and new committee staff to ensure we hit the ground running on our legislative priorities once all ducks are in a line.

Over the holiday break, the Supreme Court was conducting business, however. In a 5-4 vote, the Court decided to freeze the lift of public health order Title 42. This situation at the Southwest border poses a big issue for the Administration as we enter into the new year, and DHS recently put out [new border enforcement orders](#) in an attempt to ease this issue.

Hearings the Week of January 6, 2023

No relevant hearings this week.

More News from the Nation's Capital...

FEMA Releases Annual Preparedness Report

Recently, FEMA released the 2022 National Preparedness Report, revealing the impacts that climate change and associated natural disasters continue to have on emergency management capabilities and communities across the country.

This year's report presents preparedness data through the lens of risks and capabilities and underscores the challenges that emergency managers face in addressing a continuously expanding risk environment, the ingenuity they have shown to rise to those challenges and opportunities that remain to better prepare the nation. Emergency managers and whole-community partners across the nation can look to this year's report to help support decisions about program priorities, resource allocations and community actions.

The national preparedness report can be found on the [FEMA website](#).

DHS Secretary Mayorkas Addresses the Southern Border

On Thursday, following the announcement made by President Biden on the [plans](#) to increase legal migrant numbers ahead of the lifting of Title 42, DHS Secretary Mayorkas spoke about the Department's plans for the lift. While emphasizing the fact that the border is not open to anyone, Mayorkas introduces some vetting efforts and some new border enforcement measures. The full readout of this can be found on the [DHS website](#).

DHS Year of Responses

DHS released a press release highlighting the challenges the Department faced in 2022 and what its response were to them. DHS responded to this dynamic threat landscape with leadership, new programs and capabilities, cross-component collaboration, and unflinching dedication to mission. In 2022, challenges of unprecedented breadth confronted the United States: unrelenting ransomware and other cyberattacks, a rise in targeted violence, Russia's unprovoked assault against Ukraine, China's violations of international norms, increased levels of migration in our hemisphere, natural disasters of increasing gravity and frequency, and much more.

A more in-depth illustration of DHS's year of responses and challenges can be found [here](#).

Other News from DC and Around the Country:

HSToday: [Power in Numbers: How a Whole-of-State Approach Can Improve Cybersecurity](#)

The Hill (opinion): [Flood Insurance: NFIP is aligning rates better with risk, why not their flood maps?](#)

WRAL News: [Climate change is making some homes too costly to insure](#)

HSToday: [7 Terrorist Trends to Watch for in 2023](#)

nemaweb.org



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn



Youtube

Copyright NEMA 2022. All rights reserved.