



May 27, 2022



THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON:

Finding Purpose in a Time of Darkness

The events in Uvalde, Texas permeated Congress, the news, and the nation this week. These times create a renewed sense of purpose for those throughout the emergency management community as we are reminded of our mission and commitment to help others. While regularly scheduled events continued throughout, D.C., a darkness could be felt in every meeting, gathering, and event, almost as though someone was missing. Indeed the 21 victims in Texas are missing from dinner tables locally, but they also leave a vacancy in all of us who remain focused on helping others through times of tragedy. Though we move on with our daily activities, the loved and lost left their mark on those close to them as well as the nation.

On Monday, FEMA released a list of first-round awardees for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs totaling over \$91 million. This expedited release, compared to last year, is in an effort to speed up resiliency building. A full list of the awardees can be found in the [FEMA press release](#).

On Tuesday, FEMA Administrator Criswell testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security in a hearing on FEMA's FY 23 budget request. Other than highlighting FEMA priorities in the budget request that align with the agencies strategic plan, Administrator Criswell also fielded questions from the committee members on topics such as Risk Rating 2.0, equity across FEMA grants and specifically with BRIC awards, the agency's plans for wildfires moving forward, and the Nonprofit Security Grant Program among other topics.

The full hearing can be found on the subcommittee [website](#), as well as the Administrator's [written testimony](#).

Hearings the Week of May 30, 2022

District work period – no hearings.

More News from the Nation's Capital...

DHS Releases Statement on Title 42 Court Ruling

Late last week, DHS Secretary Mayorkas released a statement on the Department's position as it relates to Title 42 authority. In it, Secretary Mayorkas confirms that DHS will continue to comply with the court's order to continue enforcing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Title 42 Order as long as it remains in place. Meanwhile, DHS will continue to execute its comprehensive, whole-of-government plan to manage potential increases in the number of migrants encountered at our border.

The Secretary also made brief comments about the Department's plans as it pertains to the Southwest Border. The full release can be found [here](#).

CISA Releases Analysis of FY21 Risk and Vulnerability Assessments

CISA has recently provided copies of the FY21 Risk and Vulnerability Assessments (RVA) as resources for federal agencies, private sectors, and SLTTs. The report compiles data from 112 RVAs that outline paths that actors could take to compromise vulnerable organizations. CISA encourages all network defenders to view the full [report](#), including the infographics and analyses, in order to maintain full protection and awareness.

FEMA Announces Extreme Heat Forum

This week marks Extreme Heat Awareness Week. Next month, the Resilient Nation Partnership Network's topic during the monthly Ideation Hour is Extreme Heat Resilience. Partnering with the University of Arizona, Arizona State University and the City of Phoenix the discussion will focus on the impacts of extreme heat across the country. We encourage you to bring your resilience ideas, projects, resources and collaboration opportunities to the conversation. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Health and Human Services and Swiss Re also have facilitators for the sessions.

This event will be on Zoom at 1 p.m. on June 29. [Registration](#) is now open.

The following topics will be discussed in four breakout rooms:

- Extreme heat and housing.
- Extreme heat as a threat multiplier.
- Extreme heat as a public health hazard.
- Extreme heat and local planning and capital improvement.

Other News from DC and Around the Country:

GNET: [Rise of the Newest Alt-Tech Platform: Substack](#)

HSToday: [Cyber Threats to Health, Education Sectors Increase with Ransomware, Limited Security Resources](#)

Federal News Network: [DHS, DoD Publish 5G Security Guidance to Help Agencies Think Through Key ATO Process](#)

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