



July 8, 2022



## THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON: Fireworks in D.C. - Literally and Figuratively

As with the summer temperatures, the politics in D.C. were kicked up another notch this week with polarizing discourse ensuing after another week of contentious events – each side seeking to add fuel to mid-term campaigns. While Congressional leadership is engaged in budget negotiations, we could be gearing up to see a stagnant summer for policy as we keep pressing towards the August recess – with that recess likely bleeding past the election. We are expecting to see Senate Appropriations Committee drafts before the recess, but it is currently unsure where homeland security will fall on the priority list. NEMA staff, despite this outlook, continues to monitor pressing policy matters and engage in conversations with Congressional staff.

### Hearings the Week of July 11, 2022

#### [Protecting the Homeland from Unmanned Aircraft Systems](#)

Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
Thursday, July 24, 2022 at 10:15am ET

*More News from the Nation's Capital...*

#### **CISA, FBI & Treasury Release Advisory on North Korean State-Sponsored Cyber Actors**

Wednesday, CISA, the FBI, and the U.S. Department of the Treasury released a joint Cybersecurity Advisory (CSA) that provides information on Maui ransomware, which has been used by North Korean state-sponsored cyber actors since at least May 2021 to target Healthcare and Public Health (HPH) Sector organizations.

The HPH Sector, as well as other critical infrastructure organizations, are urged to review this joint CSA and apply the recommended mitigations to reduce the likelihood of compromise from ransomware operations. The FBI, CISA, and Treasury assess that North Korean state-sponsored actors are likely to continue targeting HPH Sector organizations, because of the assumption that these organizations are willing to pay ransoms to avoid disruption of the critical life and health services they provide. For more information on state-sponsored North Korean malicious cyber activity, see the CSA [here](#).

#### **Industry Call for Speakers for JCDC Election Security Webinars**

CISA, through the Joint Cyber Defense Collaborative (JCDC) and in coordination with the CISA Election Security Initiative (ESI), will be delivering four virtual webinars focused on cyber threats to US election infrastructure. The audience for these webinars are State and Local election officials and the intent is to provide these officials with relevant, timely, and actionable information related to cyber threats; please note that these webinars will not focus on mis-, dis-, or mal-information. The tentative dates for the webinars are:

- Thursday, July 28, from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET
- Thursday, August 25, from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET
- Thursday, September 22, from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET
- Thursday, October 13, from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET

Anyone with cyber threat intelligence or information that is relevant to cyber threats to US election infrastructure can request to participate as a speaker one of these webinars at: [CISA.resource.catalog@cisa.dhs.gov](mailto:CISA.resource.catalog@cisa.dhs.gov). Please use the subject line "Election Security Webinar [DATE] - Request to Participate."

#### **USFA Provides Resources for Critical Infrastructure Bomb Threat Awareness**

Recently, the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) rolled out resources for bomb threat awareness and best practices as a response to an uptick in the use of strategic mass bomb threat campaigns against critical infrastructure, according to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP).

OBP says these campaigns are targeting election polling locations, higher education institutions (including Historically Black Colleges and Universities), medical facilities, and faith-based organizations (including Jewish community centers).

These USFA bomb threat awareness resources can be found [here](#).

#### **EPA Hosting Webinar on Pre-incident Planning for Various Waste Management**

The Environmental Protection Agency is hosting a webinar titled Pre-incident Planning for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Waste Management on Wednesday, July 13, 2022 from 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET. EPA has developed a step-by-step online tool to help emergency planners and responders develop pre-incident waste management plans. This tool provides a framework to help managers, planners, and responders initiate plan development, providing variable degrees of assistance from simple outlines of plan contents, to providing scenario-specific waste quantity value estimates to use in developing a plan. It also includes detailed information on waste management facilities and information on transportation options.

This webinar will provide an overview of the tool and provide examples of how emergency response personnel could use the tool to start pre-incident planning today. If interested and for more information, register [here](#).

#### **FEMA Publishes Building Codes and Floodplain Management Regulations Video**

This week, FEMA published a video for floodplain administrators, emergency managers, elected officials and other stakeholders in the recovery process with details about the Act's Section 1206 for successful reimbursement of new eligible recovery activities through FEMA's Public Assistance program. These streamlined efforts for required post-disaster activities increase the overall speed of recovery and enhance compliance with local building codes and floodplain management ordinances.

The video narrates and follows Maria, a local floodplain administrator and her story following a devastating disaster in her community. Viewers learn key eligibility requirements for communities, type of work and costs eligible for reimbursement under the policy and how to seek funds for these new activities. To watch the Disaster Recovery Reform Act Section 1206 video, visit [FEMA's YouTube](#).

#### *Other News from DC and Around the Country:*

Boston Globe (opinion): [Countering America's Top Homeland Security Threat](#)  
FNN: [FEMA's Enterprise Cloud Services Potentially Could Lower Costs By 30%-to-40%](#)  
Public Knowledge: [FCC Order Will Help Keep Americans Connected When Disaster Strikes, But More Must Be Done](#)

[nemaweb.org](https://nemaweb.org)

