



State Emergency Response Commission

Training Task Force

Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront

1550 North Atlantic Avenue

Cocoa beach, FL 32931.

July 17, 2025 – 9:30 AM

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Introductions
- III. Approval of Minutes for April 2025 meeting. Motion to approve minutes made by John Kohnke 2nd Pat Feagle.
- IV. TTF Conference Call Updates
- V. Current Business
 1. Project Boxes –
 2. Hazmat Team Assessments Discussion – Chief Lamm discussed updates to hazmat team assessments, the first step is updating the Team Typing document to the new NFPA standards and a few other important updates, then they will go out to complete assessments using a third-party contractor. Chief Kohnke addressed the importance of not only the assessments but state capabilities and how this can be used as a road map. Chief Lamm stated that he talked with FDEM Director Guthrie and he has committed to helping get the necessary funding and complete the hazmat team assessments.
 3. Offshore Hazmat Program Update- Mr. Robert Dietrich reported that Nova University had previously lost their funding but has applied with other programs. Mr. Dietrich went on to state that FDEM's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration HMEP grant has been increased from previous years, and we can utilize those funds if the Nova University funding falls through. Training has been held at Resolve Marine training center in Ft. Lauderdale, FL and all pilot programs are complete. The goal is to have two classes per year with the next class happening this fall or early spring. Additionally, other organizations or states can utilize this program and pay for training through Nova University.

VI. Update from Agencies and Organizations

1. Florida Fire Chief's Association — Chief Mike Murphy informed the group that they held an executive conference, and it was successful. The Safety and Health conference is coming up in October for all who would like to attend. Chief Murphy will share the details soon.
2. Florida Association of Hazardous Materials Responders — Chief Heather Lorimor briefed the group that the next Florida State Fire Service Day at the state capital will be in Tallahassee February 18, 2026. She went on to state that Capt. Mike Bloski has created an electronic self-assessment for Hazmat teams across the state for gap analysis. Her team will be continuing to work on deployment issues, identify gaps and work to identify who their EMAC partners are for Hazmat. In addition, as Chief Lamm mentioned, Hazmat documents will be updated on these processes and capabilities and the Hazmat Team Assessment will be of huge benefit to all involved. Chief Lorimor went on to discuss additional questions posed. What teams across the state respond to counties that don't have hazmat teams? They are working to close gaps and obtain answers to the questions posing.
3. Florida Department of Environmental Protection — Mr. Sam Graves informed the group that FDEP has several upcoming training courses; working with EPA lab partners on forensic sampling training (13 responder and 12 district personnel); internal SCAT training shoreline cleanup training as well; later this year spill response training; all staff internal training this past spring in Gainesville was very successful.
4. United States Coast Guard – Mr. Rich Lavigne thanked everyone for the work they do. He stated that the USCG is going through a few changes such as renaming the sectors from numbers to names; and some personnel changes in Washington, but they stand committed to help Florida. Mr. Lavigne also stated they have new Instruction to the Area Contingency Plan for response to hazmat and oil responses. Mr. Lavigne also stated that if a Florida hazmat team is mission tasked by a Capt of the Port, your cost is reimbursable. He confirmed that everyone should be in contact with their coast guard sectors and please reach out if you are not in contact with your local USCG liaison. Finally, Mr. Lavigne stated that Florida leads the region in their Training Task Force, Local Emergency Planning Committee, and State Emergency Response Commission. The Offshore Hazmat Program is one example of a unified commitment to identify a need and bring together partners to fill that potential maritime gap with a fantastic training course that will benefit all.
5. Florida State Fire College- John Kohnke advised that the Fire Marshalls Office had submitted a legislative budget request for recurring funding for USAR teams and this was approved. Mr. Kohnke stated this is a huge win for the teams, and he will have additional details at the next meeting. Mr. Kohnke also stated that ESF 4/9 currently have 60 people deployed out in Texas (working floods). Chief Lamm brought forth a couple additional items, one being the Lithium-Ion Symposium which is being held on April

15 & 16th 2026; also, House Bill 551 (sprinkler permitting and timeframes) and 929 (rulemaking) in which all rules will have to be updated every five years. Chief Kohnke did confirm that they do now have a CFO; rules that have not been updated in years will now have to be done and that's a huge task for the State Fire College. Florida State Fire Service Day is being held at the State Capitol Feb 18, 2026.

6. Hazmat Symposium Updates — Chief Lamm informed the group that a call for white papers went out 7/1. Anyone interested can visit the website to sign up.
7. Fill Open Vacancy for TTF Chair – Chief Lamm gave brief overview of his time with the TTF group and thanked everyone for their support. A nomination for Chief Pat Feagle to be new chair was made by Chief Lamm 2nd by Ashley Shive; nomination for Marc Grabert to be new vice Chair made by Chief Feagle and 2nd Chief Richard Knoff.
8. Other Agencies and Organizations
 - a. “Hidden in Plain Sight” – Chief Rob Hanson (Sumter CO Fire & EMS) - Presented on a Fire at Speedling Nursery that happened back on March 20, 2025. He explained how the fire started most likely by a power line, and the steps taken to extinguish the fire. Chief Hanson stated what they all considered to be a normal fire turned into a Hazmat fire due to all the Styrofoam off gassing. The after-action report is still being processed but Chief Hansen shared his view and lessons learned from the incident. Multiple questions were posed after the presentation regarding specific steps taken for the safety of responders and protocols regarding decontamination of equipment. Great questions were posed, and this event can be used as a teachable moment moving forward in response to the type of response with the lessons that were learned.
 - b. Gopher Resource – Mr. Joseph Trouba spoke to recycling being a continuous process, prioritizing minimization of transport, inertization and safe temporary storage. In addition, Mr. Trouba spoke to working with the TTF on recycling LI and how much work needs to be done, however legislative action by states or even the federal government is needed to properly fund LI recycling.
 - c. Mr. John Heneghan from PHSMA briefed there have been lots of administrative changes, looking at reauthorization (legislative changes) and even at the grants that PHMSA pushes out throughout the nation.

VII. Upcoming Events

1. Schedule Next Conference Call – TBD
2. Next Meeting –meeting possibly being moved from October to 7 November 2025. More updates to come on location and dates.

VIII. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn made by Marc Grabert 2nd Richard Knoff.