

Lessons Learned from Hurricane Irma

Lessons Learned from the Statewide Response to Hurricane Irma

1. The calls worked well, but we need to consider how we can increase the value of the calls and increase attendance.
2. We need to consider the development of a list of emergency coordinating officers (ECOs) in each office.
3. We need to review our statewide policies and procedures and possibly make updates and improvements.
4. We need to consider the possibility of developing more robust resources for incident tracking and documenting office closures.
5. We need to do a better job coordinating and centralizing the flow of information within the JAC.
6. We need to consider the possibility of developing the capability of delivering more direct assistance and resources to the entities we serve.
7. We need to build upon our relationship with the State Emergency Response Team and develop a more specific relationship especially with regard to emergency communications. We need to codify the two-step “comms-out” approach developed during Hurricane Irma. Step one is to use Ita Neymotin and Jackie Pooser as alternative moderators for our daily conference calls. Step two is to have access to the State Emergency Operations Center.
8. We need to build upon our relationship with the Florida Supreme Court and Florida State Courts and consider the development of collaborative preparedness, response, and recovery initiatives.
9. We need to do a better job identifying specific guidance (increasing p-card limits, guidance regarding allowable expenditures, insurance/risk management issues, tracking expenditures, seeking reimbursement, etc.) we should be providing in advance of an event and during the response and recovery to an event.
10. We need to consider possible training and assistance to the entities we serve related to emergency management planning and COOP development.
11. We need to address recovery issues associated reimbursement and increasing our connectivity in existing state and local networks, including being added to the “EOC-ChiefFinance” email distribution list.