



Tampa Bay LEPC *HazMatters* April - June 2017

Tampa Bay LEPC staff was involved in a number of activities during the quarter. Staff attended the SERC quarterly meetings held at Hilton Cocoa Beach on May 8-9, 2017. The quarterly Tampa Bay LEPC meeting was held on May 24th.

In conjunction with the May 24th Tampa Bay LEPC meeting, Chief Scott Ehlers, now of Clearwater Fire Rescue, was re-elected to succeed recently-retired Chief Jeff Patterson as Chair of the Tampa Bay LEPC. It is noteworthy that Chief Ehlers had previously served as the Chair of the Tampa Bay LEPC from 2007-2013 while, then, representing Tampa Fire Rescue.

The Tampa Bay LEPC's HMEP Training Subcommittee also met on May 24th to further refine and strategize expenditures associated with the FY 2016-17 HMEP Training contract. Training needs and desires were identified for each of the LEPC's six Counties, which were all present. It is envisioned that the following will be pursued for funding and conduct under Tampa Bay LEPC's FY 2016-17 HMEP Training contract: three 8-Hr. *Advanced Hazmat IQ* courses & a 40-Hr. *Hazmat Medic* (both cost share with Pinellas County); 8-Hr. *Chlorine Handling and Emergency Response* and 8-Hr. Ammonia Awareness courses (Manatee County); attendance of multiple students through the 160-Hr. *Hazmat Technician Certification* courses (Citrus, Hernando, Manatee and Pasco Counties); and potentially hosting a single or multiple-day course offering of the 8-Hr. *Street Smart for Hazmat* Course (Districtwide) and a 16-Hr. *Assistant Safety Officer* course. The additional hosting of three, shift-friendly, 3-Hr. *Responding to Gasoline Tanker Emergencies* courses remains under the consideration of Pinellas County in September. Additional training courses may still be identified as funding and opportunity allows as well as demand warrants. It is hereby noted that the HMEP Training Subcommittee members are currently evaluating the possibility of developing a consolidated, hybrid, 160-Hr. Hazmat Technicians Certifications course curriculum that, if pursued and approved, would provide local, quality certification/instruction at a reduced cost.

The following HMEP Training events have already been conducted for the Tampa Bay LEPC in FY 2016-17: attendance of 27 students at the *2017 Hazmat Symposium* in Daytona Beach (January 17-20); and conduct of three, shift-friendly, 3-Hr. *Responding to Gasoline Tanker Emergencies* courses each in Manatee County (May 1-3), the City of Tampa (May 11, 12 & 16) and Hernando County (June 13-15).

Tampa Bay LEPC staff has collected the Hazmat Team self-assessment survey results for the eight local teams with full or partial hazmat capabilities. Those teams are Citrus County Fire Rescue, Hernando County Fire Rescue, Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Southern Manatee Fire Rescue, Pasco County Fire Rescue, the Pinellas County Hazmat Team, Tampa Fire Rescue and the 48th Civil Support Team. Corresponding site visits will be scheduled for Citrus County Fire Rescue, Hernando County Fire Rescue, Tampa Fire Rescue and the 48th Civil Support Team prior to September 30, 2017. Prior to September 30, 2018, the remainder of the required site visits will be conducted. Those visits consist of: Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, Southern Manatee Fire Rescue, Pasco County Fire Rescue and the Pinellas County Hazmat Team. This anticipated

schedule clearly meets and exceeds the Florida State Fire College's request for assistance of the LEPCs to complete this task within their respective Districts over a three-year period.

In terms of miscellany, LEPC staff additionally: facilitated the (nearly) monthly meeting of the Pinellas Police Standards Council (April 12th & June 14th); attended the (nearly) monthly meetings of the Ammonia Handlers/Operators group (April 18th & May 23rd); hosted the LEPC's HMEP Planning Subcommittee (aka Facility Disaster Planning Subcommittee) quarterly meeting (April 19th); participated in SERC's Training Task Force teleconferences (April 19th & June 21st); participated in the Hazards Analysis Working Group teleconference (April 25th); attended the Florida Pipeline Emergency Responders Initiative Workshop in Orlando (April 26th); attended multiple planning meetings as well as the May 6th 2017 Port Safety Funfest event held at DeSoto Park in Tampa; participated in the 2017 Hernando County FDOH's Point of Dispensing (POD) exercise *Final Planning Meeting* (May 10th) and exercise (June 15th); provided 10 boxes of *2012 Emergency Response Guidebooks* to staff of Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Emergency Response (May 23rd); attended the Tropicana Manufacturing facility Risk Management Plan (RMP) Audit/Inspection conducted by FDEM staff in Bradenton (May 25th); and submitted the *Tampa Bay LEPC Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan* update to FDEM (prior to June 30th). It is hereby further noted that above-referenced scheduling conflicts precluded LEPC staff's attendance at the May 9th Tampa Bay Spill Committee and the June 15th Ammonia Handlers/Operators group meetings, although other LEPC members were present at each of these events.