**PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER AWARENESS COURSE (G-289)**

**Description**

Public Information Officers (PIOs) in public safety and emergency management organizations are responsible for ensuring that the affected public receives accurate and timely information during an emergency. Armed with good information, people are better able to make good decisions and, by doing so, contribute to the overall response goal of saving lives and protecting property. The purpose of this course is to orient the participants to the public information function and the role of the PIO in the public safety/ emergency management environment.

**Topics & Issues to be Covered**

- Emergency Public Information and Role of the PIO
- Tools of the Trade - Communicating Effectively in Writing
- Working with the News Media
- Creating Public Awareness Campaigns

**Prerequisites**

None

**Suggested**

To promote understanding of HSPD-5/NIMS requirements and the role of the PIO and the Joint Information System in the Incident Command System, we strongly encourage participants to complete both the IS-700, an Introduction to the National Incident Management System, and the IS-100, Introduction to the Incident Command System.

**Who Should Attend**

The primary audience for this training is individuals who have public information responsibilities as their main job or as an auxiliary function at the State, tribal or local level of government. A secondary audience includes individuals who would benefit from a general understanding of the emergency public information function. This audience would include elected and other officials with responsibilities that would necessitate their working with PIOs or the news media during an emergency incident.