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## Emergency Manager's Weekly Report- United States Section 1-8-10

(The articles, reports and additional information contained in this edition were collected from 12-18-09 to 1-8-10)

**"We have learned that we cannot live alone, at peace; that our own well-being is dependent on the well-being of other nations, far away. We have learned that we must live as men, and not as ostriches, nor as dogs in the manger. We have learned to be citizens of the world, members of the human community."**

Franklin D. Roosevelt



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## Contributions

The following individuals or groups contribute to the Emergency Manager's Weekly Report.

### Editor

- Steve Detwiler

### Regular Contributors

- International Association of Emergency Managers
- National Emergency Management Association
- Florida Emergency Preparedness Association
- Emergency Management Institute, Higher Education Program
- Montgomery County, PA Department of Public Safety
- Natural Hazards Center
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Interagency Coordinating Council on Emergency Preparedness and Individuals with Disabilities
- National Organization on Disabilities, Emergency Preparedness Initiative
- EAD & Associates, LLC
- Emergency Information Infrastructure Project
- ProtectingAmerica.org
- U.S. Access Board
- Florida Division of Emergency Management
- National Congress for Secure Communities
- Fire Chief's Command Post
- American City and County
- APCO International
- The Institute of the North
- National Hydrologic Warning Council
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- Michael Gregory
- Russell Manning

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## **U.S. News Reports**

### East Coast Blizzard of 2009

Blizzard-like storm slams East, region snowed in  
[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20091219/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/us\\_storm\\_rdp](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20091219/ap_on_re_us/us_storm_rdp)

Passengers Stuck On Plane At BWI For 8 Hours (Maryland)  
<http://www.wbaltv.com/news/22014551/detail.html>

Record snow continues to fall as deadly East Coast storm lingers  
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/weather/12/19/winter.weather/index.html>

East Coast Blizzard Seen From Space  
<http://www.wired.com/wiredscience/2009/12/east-coast-blizzard-from-space?npu=1&mbid=yhp>

Neighbors Clear Path For Ambulance Rescue (Massachusetts)  
<http://www.thebostonchannel.com/news/22020946/detail.html>

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## Emergency Management

Long-Term Recovery Needs Coordination, Deserves More Attention  
<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Long-Term-Recovery-Needs-Coordination.html>

Rancho Cucamonga ready for any emergency with its expanded operations center (California)  
[http://www.dailybulletin.com/ci\\_14020837?source=most\\_viewed](http://www.dailybulletin.com/ci_14020837?source=most_viewed)

California's quake alerts get major upgrade  
<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-quake17-2009dec17,0,1478452.story>

FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate Swears In Tony Russell As New Region VI Administrator  
<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=50085>

Former Union Countian promoted by NYC mayor  
[http://www.ucadvocate.com/articles/stories/public/200912/16/04NW\\_local\\_news.html](http://www.ucadvocate.com/articles/stories/public/200912/16/04NW_local_news.html)

Judge rejects reason for demoting Atlantic City emergency official (New Jersey)  
[http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/atlantic\\_city/article\\_c58ab730-e99f-53e5-928a-0e173ff36007.html](http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/atlantic_city/article_c58ab730-e99f-53e5-928a-0e173ff36007.html)

Research: Informal social networks better at encouraging Hispanics to prepare for disasters  
<http://bigmedicine.ca/wordpress/2009/12/research-informal-social-networks-better-at-encouraging-hispanics-to-prepare-for-disasters/>

RECESSION CHALLENGING ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS  
<http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/11509/149/>

Federal Transportation ID Program Lacks Disaster Recovery Plan, Report Says  
<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/Federal-Transportation-ID-Program-Lacks-Disaster-Recovery-Plan.html>

Big blow looms over Emergency Operations Center (Monroe County, FL)  
<http://www.keysnet.com/news/story/170736.html>

Sheriff's office evacuates jail during emergency preparedness drill (Tennessee)  
[http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2009/dec/13/put-to-the-02/?partner=yahoo\\_feeds](http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2009/dec/13/put-to-the-02/?partner=yahoo_feeds)

10 Ways to Prepare for Disaster  
<http://www.newsweek.com/id/228429>

Y2K taught officials about preparedness (Oklahoma)  
<http://newsok.com/y2k-taught-officials-about-preparedness/article/3428561>

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Officials plan nationwide emergency alert test in Alaska  
<http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=11745960>

Tough Time Finding Work in Emergency Management?  
<http://davislogic.blogspot.com/2009/12/tough-time-finding-work-in-emergency.html>

Wisconsin Emergency Management Administrator Ed Wall Hopes to Bridge the Gap  
<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Wisconsin-EM-Administrator-Ed-Wall.html>

Federal Dollars Continue To Flow Into New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Facilities (Louisiana)  
<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=50140>

Survivalism Lite  
<http://www.newsweek.com/id/228428>

Jim Rush: Why emergency managers need to answer the call to be terror-ready  
<http://bigmedicine.ca/wordpress/2009/12/jim-rush-why-emergency-managers-need-to-answer-the-call-to-be-terror-ready/>

Year In Review - FEMA And State Of Iowa Working Together For The Future  
<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=50119>

Labor Department Grant to Create Arkansas Jobs  
<http://arkansasmatters.com/content/news/fulltext?cid=282282>

Fla. emergency management director resigns  
<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/florida/AP/story/1408995.html>

A Decade of Disasters, 2000-2009  
<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/A-Decade-of-Disasters-2000-2009.html>

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## Homeland Security, Defense and National Security

Nuclear-detection technology tested at Denver airport

<http://www.homeland1.com/disaster-preparedness/articles/682792-Nuclear-detection-technology-tested-at-Denver-airport/>

Twitter hackers appear to be Shiite group

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/12/18/twitter.hacked/index.html>

Cartel 'spies' infiltrate U.S. customs agency

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34475335/ns/world\\_news-the\\_new\\_york\\_times/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34475335/ns/world_news-the_new_york_times/)

U.C. man takes part in emergency exercise

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20091217/NEIGHBORHOODS09/912170338/Wasnich+of+Union+City+participates+in+emergency+response+exercise>

Fort Hood shooting suspect out of intensive care

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/12/16/texas.fort.hood.hasan/index.html>

Documents show DHS improperly spied on Nation of Islam in 2007

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/16/AR2009121604096.html?hpid=moreheadlines>

Insurgents Hack U.S. Drones

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB126102247889095011.html?mod=yhoofront>

Pendleton Marines take on training role

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2009/dec/16/marines-take-training-role-afghanistan/>

House takes steps to boost cybersecurity

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/15/AR2009121505075.html?hpid=sec-politics>

In Afghan war, officer flourishes outside the box

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34494015/ns/world\\_news-south\\_and\\_central\\_asia/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34494015/ns/world_news-south_and_central_asia/)

Violence next in mountaintop mining battle?

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34492139/ns/us\\_news-environment/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34492139/ns/us_news-environment/)

FBI walks tightrope in outreach to Muslims

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34497313/ns/us\\_news-washington\\_post/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34497313/ns/us_news-washington_post/)

Standardize DHS Conference Planning, IG Says

<http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/11518/128/>

Inside the Breach of TSA's Screening Manual

<http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/11423/150/>

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Obama plan could limit records hidden from public  
[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us\\_classified\\_documents](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us_classified_documents)

Real ID Act Postponed by Department of Homeland Security  
<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/Real-ID-Act-Postponed-by-Department-of-Homeland-Security---.html>

Why Hollywood security is better than Pentagon's  
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/OPINION/12/21/singer.drone.warfare.hack.security/index.html>

White House picks new cyber czar  
[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34517252/ns/politics-more\\_politics/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34517252/ns/politics-more_politics/)

AGENCIES FAIL TO CONTRIBUTE TO BIOSURVEILLANCE  
<http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/11533/128/>

Coast Guard vessel hits boat, killing boy (California)  
<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2009/dec/20/Child-dies-crash-SD-Bay-Xmas-parade/>

Cyber Challenge tests nation's top hackers  
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/12/21/cyber.challenge.hackers/index.html>

Neo-Nazis protest at Riverside synagogue (California)  
<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-nazis20-2009dec20.0,7245622.story>

The Con Man Who Scared the Nation  
<http://blog.newsweek.com/blogs/declassified/archive/2009/12/18/the-con-man-who-scared-the-nation.aspx>

White House silence keeps saga of Salahi breach alive  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/20/AR2009122002668.html?hpid=topnews>

The Party Crashers: A look at Tareq and Michael Salahi before they were famous  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/21/AR2009122103611.html?hpid=topnews>

Secret Service says a third uninvited guest entered state dinner  
<http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2010/01/04/secret-service-says-a-third-uninvited-guest-entered-nov-24-state-dinner/>

Cop group's card played role in Times Square scare (New York)  
[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100102/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/us\\_times\\_square\\_suspicious\\_van](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100102/ap_on_re_us/us_times_square_suspicious_van)

TSA withdraws subpoenas of travel bloggers  
<http://www.cnn.com/2010/TRAVEL/01/01/tsa.travel.bloggers/index.html>

Official: Apparent contact between Abdul Mutallab and radical cleric  
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/POLITICS/12/31/abdulmutallab.terror.radical.cleric/index.html>

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Report to Obama shows intelligence lapses persist

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100101/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/us\\_ airliner\\_attack\\_obama](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100101/ap_on_re_us/us_ airliner_attack_obama)

After 2-plus decades, Navy destroyer breaks record

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20091231/ap\\_on\\_bi\\_ge/us\\_warship\\_record](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20091231/ap_on_bi_ge/us_warship_record)

White House taps new Coast Guard commandant

[http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/1209/122309kp1.htm?oref=snews\\_60](http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/1209/122309kp1.htm?oref=snews_60)

4 admit to scamming U.S. visa system for seasonal workers

[http://www.usatoday.com/money/economy/employment/2009-12-30-work-visas-fraud\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/money/economy/employment/2009-12-30-work-visas-fraud_N.htm)

Guide to breaking cell phone security revealed

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34631609/ns/technology\\_and\\_science-security/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34631609/ns/technology_and_science-security/)

Media on terrorist alert, again

<http://news.yahoo.com/s/politico/31073>

US will 'find and fix' vital security gaps: Napolitano

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jLtcYZrGnkp1M23yLsuUZRnB5d\\_gw](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jLtcYZrGnkp1M23yLsuUZRnB5d_gw)

Attacks kill 8 purported CIA employees, 5 Canadians in Afghanistan

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/asiapcf/12/30/afghanistan.us.casualties/index.html>

ADMINISTRATION TO TACKLE NUCLEAR TERRORISM

<http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/11541/149/>

Computer-Assisted Rehab Helps Soldiers

<http://news.discovery.com/tech/computer-assisted-rehab-soldiers.html>

New airport screeners could save time, energy

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34526675/ns/technology\\_and\\_science-innovation/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34526675/ns/technology_and_science-innovation/)

Why Flight 253 Could Delay Guantanamo's Closure

<http://news.yahoo.com/s/time/08599195117600>

US official: Extremists seek new ways to attack US

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/topstories/2010-01-02-2860529763\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/topstories/2010-01-02-2860529763_x.htm)

Federal air marshals back in spotlight after attempted plane bombing

<http://us.cnn.com/2009/TRAVEL/12/30/federal.air.marshals/index.html>

Florida jail fires officer for being KKK member

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34641357/ns/us\\_news-crime\\_and\\_courts/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34641357/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/)

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In aftermath of Fort Hood, community haunted by clues that went unheeded  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/30/AR2009123002874.html?hpid=topnews>

Mailman to deliver aid in case of anthrax attack  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/30/AR2009123002461.html?hpid=sec-health>

No one connected the dots on terror plot  
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/OPINION/12/30/townsend.what.went.wrong.airplane.bomb/index.html>

The return of terror politics  
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/POLITICS/12/29/terror.politics/index.html>

Obama's nuclear-free vision mired in debate  
<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-na-obama-nuclear4-2010jan04,0,1799502.story>

O.C. Islamic Educational Center a target of anti-Muslim acts (California)  
<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-mosque3-2010jan03,0,1179578.story>

Disgraced Miss. judge reports to federal prison  
[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us\\_mississippi\\_bribery](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us_mississippi_bribery)

TSA identifies 'countries of interest'; more screenings for some fliers  
<http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/item.aspx?type=blog&ak=13404.blog>

Terrorist Threat At Last Year's Inauguration  
<http://www.wesh.com/politics/22125595/detail.html>

Grim Obama says terror attack 'dots' not connected  
[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us\\_obama\\_airline\\_security](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us_obama_airline_security)

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### Campus Safety and Security

Hearing for former West Orange High teacher postponed (Florida)

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/os-orange-teacher-hearing-20091218,0,6672060.story>

Purdue accelerates repairs for safety issues (Indiana)

<http://www.jconline.com/article/20091217/NEWS0501/912170324>

Calif. police fatally shoot woman on playground

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/15/AR2009121504768.html?hpid=sec-nation>

Text-a-Tip Programs Promote Campus, Public Safety

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/Text-a-Tip-Programs-Promote-Safety.html>

Should College Campuses Continue to Deploy Blue-Light Phones? (Opinion)

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/College-Campuses-Deploy-Blue-Light-Phones-Opinion.html>

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## Special Needs

Plaintiffs seek administrator for D.C. disabilities agency

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/12/16/AR2009121603773.html?hpid=sec-health>

A strong voice for Project Freedom

<http://www.nj.com/news/times/regional/index.ssf?/base/news-18/1260945913321850.xml&coll=5>

More accessible cabs hit cities

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-12-20-wheelchair-taxis\\_N.htm?loc=interstitialskip](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-12-20-wheelchair-taxis_N.htm?loc=interstitialskip)

Blind lead the non-blind in Dialog in the Dark venues worldwide

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2008-10-07-dialog-in-the-dark\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2008-10-07-dialog-in-the-dark_N.htm)

Emergency Management Program Working To Help Responders with Special Need Citizens (Arkansas)

<http://www.ashleycountyledger.com/articles/2010/01/03/news/doc4b30e34e193f7332004056.txt>

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## Hazard Research and News

Cal EMA, CGS, USC and City of San Francisco Launch New California Tsunami Inundation Maps

<http://calemanews.wordpress.com/2009/12/17/cal-ema-cgs-usc-and-city-of-san-francisco-launch-new-california-tsunami-inundation-maps/>

Valdez socked in (Alaska)

<http://www.alaskadispatch.com/dispatches/news/3334-valdez-socked-in>

Crews race to shore up crumbling Calif. Cliff

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20091218/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/us\\_crumbling\\_cliff](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20091218/ap_on_re_us/us_crumbling_cliff)

For residents of the Station fire burn area, mud flows bring creeping fear (California)

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-mud17-2009dec17,0,4010133.story>

Records show no mention of terrain in withholding aircraft during Station fire

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-station-fire21-2009dec21,0,4841676.story>

Rep. Schiff to seek inquiry into Station fire response

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-station-fire22-2009dec22,0,5628110.story>

Records show a disconnect between embattled fire crew and commanders in Station fire

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-station-fire31-2009dec31,0,5759182.story>

Research: Pre-eruption earthquakes offer clues to volcano forecasters

<http://bigmedicine.ca/wordpress/2009/12/research-pre-eruption-earthquakes-offer-clues-to-volcano-forecasters/>

Hurricanes wreaked weather havoc in USA in 2000s

[http://www.usatoday.com/weather/storms/2009-12-31-weather-disasters-decade\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/storms/2009-12-31-weather-disasters-decade_N.htm)

CDC: Same anthrax strain in drums, sick NH woman

[http://www.cfnews13.com/News/National/2009/12/31/cdc\\_same\\_anthrax\\_strain\\_in\\_drums\\_sick\\_nh\\_woman.html](http://www.cfnews13.com/News/National/2009/12/31/cdc_same_anthrax_strain_in_drums_sick_nh_woman.html)

Explosion rocks Wis. foundry, killing firefighter

[http://www.cfnews13.com/News/National/2009/12/30/explosion\\_rocks\\_wis\\_foundry\\_killing\\_firefighter.html](http://www.cfnews13.com/News/National/2009/12/30/explosion_rocks_wis_foundry_killing_firefighter.html)

Sun, moon trigger San Andreas tremors: study

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20091223/sc\\_nm/us\\_earthquake\\_tides](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20091223/sc_nm/us_earthquake_tides)

Los Angeles Braces for a Multitude of Potential Disasters (California)

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/disaster/Los-Angeles-Multitude-of-Potential-Disasters.html>

3 die in dust storm crashes on Ariz. Interstate

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34526755/ns/weather/>

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Survivor of 1906 SF quake dies at age 107 (California)  
[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us\\_obit\\_sf\\_quake\\_survivor](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us_obit_sf_quake_survivor)

Dams linked to more extreme weather  
<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20427394.200-dams-linked-to-more-extreme-weather.html>

Mystery solved: Scientists now know how smallpox kills  
<http://www.physorg.com/news180712105.html>

Tornado Chaser Talks Lightning- Video  
<http://news.discovery.com/videos/earth-tornado-chaser-talks-lightning.html>

Official: Ex-employee kills two in Baton Rouge shooting (Louisiana)  
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/12/23/louisiana.office.shooting/index.html>

Hostage standoff at post office is over (Virginia)  
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Mobile-home owners brace for tornado season in Central Florida  
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Monorail guide warned of hazard when trains backed up without a spotter (Florida)  
<http://thedailydisney.com/blog/2009/12/monorail-guide-warned-of-hazard-when-trains-backed-up-without-a-spotter/>

Courthouse gunman lost Social Security case, official says  
<http://www.cnn.com/2010/CRIME/01/04/las.vegas.shooting/index.html>

States battered with record lows face more frigid weather  
<http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/weather/01/05/cold.weather/index.html>

Small plane crashes near suburban Chicago airport (Illinois)  
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Forecasters to release storm warnings earlier  
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### Public Safety Communications, Interoperability, 3-1-1 and 9-1-1 News

Was it "Operation Chokehold," or "Operation Failhold"?  
<http://tech.yahoo.com/blogs/patterson/62771>

New 911 Dispatch System in Missouri Cuts Call Times  
<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/safety/New-911-Dispatch-System-in-Missouri.html>

Special report: 911 callers waited desperately for help during last year's snowstorm (Washington)  
[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2010551774\\_stormresponse20m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2010551774_stormresponse20m.html)

SoCal homeowners forced to buy flood insurance (California)  
[http://www.cbs47.tv/news/state/story/SoCal-homeowners-forced-to-buy-flood-insurance/IASBj\\_c2x0y17Scb9Rvesw.csp?rss=154](http://www.cbs47.tv/news/state/story/SoCal-homeowners-forced-to-buy-flood-insurance/IASBj_c2x0y17Scb9Rvesw.csp?rss=154)

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## Other

Blanco County board overhauls emergency service in wake of scandal (Texas)  
[http://www.statesman.com/news/texas/blanco-county-board-overhauls-emergency-service-in-wake-129308.html?cxtype=ynews\\_rss](http://www.statesman.com/news/texas/blanco-county-board-overhauls-emergency-service-in-wake-129308.html?cxtype=ynews_rss)

Hours after deadly downtown rampage, shooting suspect asks police for Snickers (Florida)  
[http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/os-downtown-orlando-shooting-evidence-20091217\\_0,7251285.story](http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/os-downtown-orlando-shooting-evidence-20091217_0,7251285.story)

Air ambulances leave some with sky-high bills  
[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34419018/ns/health-health\\_care/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34419018/ns/health-health_care/)

Quick decisions prompt heroes to action  
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Police: Criminals are packing more heat  
[http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-12-16-guns-criminals-high-caliber\\_N.htm?loc=interstitialskip](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-12-16-guns-criminals-high-caliber_N.htm?loc=interstitialskip)

Ga. emergency workers assumed man dead; now criticized  
<http://www.homeland1.com/eval/articles/682901-Ga-emergency-workers-assumed-man-dead-now-criticized/>

Calif. city's police to wear head-mounted cameras  
[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us\\_california\\_police\\_cameras](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/us_california_police_cameras)

Police check whether officer drew gun during snowball fight (District of Columbia)  
<http://www.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/12/20/snowball.fight.police.gun/index.html>

EMTs accused of refusing to help suspended (New York)  
[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34515707/ns/us\\_news-life/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34515707/ns/us_news-life/)

GPS-led travel goes amiss; 3 Ore. parties rescued  
[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100102/ap\\_on\\_hi\\_te/us\\_stranded\\_motorists](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100102/ap_on_hi_te/us_stranded_motorists)

Police: Gas piped in to blow up Calif. Building  
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'Invisible bracelet' for emergency health alerts?  
[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34523468/ns/health-health\\_care/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34523468/ns/health-health_care/)

Firehouse, 2009 Year in Review  
<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/news/2009-year-review>

ROBOTIC INSECTS COULD POLLINATE FLOWERS AND FIND DISASTER VICTIMS  
<http://www.popsci.com/technology/article/2009-12/flight-robobee>

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Salvation Army major shot dead in Arkansas on Christmas Eve

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2 deputies shot in same county where 4 officers were killed (Washington)

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/12/22/washington.deputies.shot/index.html>

Judge says accused shooter not competent to stand trial (Florida)

[http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/os-downtown-shooter-competency-20100104\\_0\\_4132268.story](http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/os-downtown-shooter-competency-20100104_0_4132268.story)

FDNY Restores Engine Company Staffing Levels

<http://www.firefighternation.com/forum/topics/fdny-restores-engine-company>

Emergency services are coming together (California)

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/jan/02/emergency-services-are-coming-together/>