



2016-8

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE ESSCC CERRA PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Emergency Services Sector is composed of the law enforcement, the Fire Service, Emergency Medical Services, emergency management, and private security first responders, emergency responders and public and private response and recovery personnel that are first on the scene for and that are essential to response and recovery after emergency events of all kinds;

WHEREAS, the Emergency Services Sector Coordinating Council (the "ESSCC") is the convening body recognized by the Department of Homeland Security as the voice for the Emergency Services Sector;

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association serves on the ESSCC's Executive Committee and serves as one of 14 major national associations representing the Emergency Services Sector, and Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald, Sheriff of Story County, serves as the ESSCC Chair;

WHEREAS, the DHS-recognized ESSCC Crisis Event Response Recovery and Aid ("CERRA") Program was originally initiated by the National Sheriffs' Association in 2009 as the result of a strategic partnership with the FBI InfraGard National Members Alliance and Pegasus Research Foundation, and the CERRA Program has been deployed in two States, Louisiana and Mississippi, and is in process of being deployed in six (6) additional States;

WHEREAS, in keeping with the view within the Emergency Services Sector that the DHS Office of Infrastructure Protection should have more operational roles and functions, the CERRA Program is now under strong joint leadership of the DHS Office of Infrastructure Protection and the ESSCC,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the CERRA Program is to aid local emergency managers, law enforcement and emergency response and recovery personnel in managing, responding to, and recovering from emergency events by providing tools that enable the right people to access emergency zones at the right time, a critical problem for the entire Emergency Services Sector;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association supports the joint efforts of the DHS Office of Infrastructure Protection and the Emergency Services Sector Coordinating Council in expanding the adoption and utilization of the CERRA Program to become a nationwide program.