Course Title: Introduction to Search and Rescue/SARTECH III

Who: Those employed in Public Safety who belong to organizations that have primary responsibility for conducting searches for lost and missing persons or provide resources and assistance during search and rescue missions, (Fire Service, Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, Emergency Medical) or managers of emergency response organizations who want to understand the state-of-the-art skills and knowledge needed by the SAR workers.

Seating is limited to 50. A course for "unpaid professionals" and associated volunteers will be held later in the year.

What: Introduction to Search and Rescue, a National Association of Search and Rescue course. Ref. http://www.nasar.org/nasar/education.php

When: January 22 and February 5, 2011, 0800-1700

Where: Edmond Community Center-Downtown 28 East Main Street Edmond, OK

Why: To improve the regions' capability to conduct, outdoor, rural or wilderness search and rescue operations for lost or missing persons.

How: This course is paid for through a Central Oklahoma Urban Area Security Initiative grant. There are no direct costs to the students.

Course Description:

The Introduction to Search and Rescue (ISAR)/SARTECH III course is designed to provide knowledge concerning the general responsibilities, skills, abilities, and the equipment needed by persons who would be participating in a search or rescue mission. The course is based around rural and wilderness environments but the material is recommended as a base of knowledge for all SAR environments.

ISAR/SARTECH III is the first course in a stepping stone approach to higher level NASAR courses of training for emergency personnel. It provides a common starting point in training for the new person to SAR and in many cases, an excellent refresher course for the more experience SAR worker. This common starting point provides continuity during SAR operations and future training of all team members.

The recommended number of hours for the course is (16) sixteen. ISAR is also designed to prepare the student for SARTECH III certification, according to the knowledge objectives defined in the NASAR Certification Criteria for SARTECH III.

The 75 question, multiple choice SARTECH III exam is taken at the end of the ISAR course.

The SARTECH III exam is the only exam that we offer on line as it is the only one that does not require skills testing. The on line SARTECH III exam is explained on the website here http://www.nasar.org/nasar/online_exams.php.

Prerequisites:

- There are no prerequisites to the ISAR/SARTECH III course.

Topics:

- SAR: What is it and how do you fit in?
- Components of SAR
- SAR Management System
- Land Navigation and Orienteering
- SAR Resources
- Search Philosophy and Probability Theory
- Search Tactics
- Clue Consciousness
- Search Operations
- Lost Person Behavior
- Helicopter Operations in SAR Communications

After Completion:

Upon successful completion of the ISAR/SARTECH III course the student shall have the knowledge to:

- Define the components of SAR operations
- List the major responsibilities for search and rescue
- Describe the components of ICS and their functions
- List and differentiate between at least three types of maps used in SAR
- Identify, define and demonstrate the use of topographical maps
- Define the plotting methods or grid systems and demonstrate the ability to use them to determine the coordinates for a given point
- Describe the parts of the compass and demonstrate the ability to use it
- Describe the navigational functions used in map and compass
- Define SAR resources
- Define the six crucials in SAR management
- Differentiate between the two basic categories of search tactics (Passive and Active)
- Describe the primary types of active search tactics
- Describe the techniques and methods used by searchers
- List at least five of the searching or tactical skills needed by field searchers

- Explain why SAR personnel search for clues not subjects
- List the information needed by the searcher when alerted
- Define the functions of the search crew positions
- Explain why knowledge of lost person behavior can be an advantage to the searcher
- List at least ten of the safety rules for personnel during helicopter operations
- List at least five common radio procedures and guidelines