

RC/PIO News & Notes 12-5-2025



FROM Eric Jens, GA DPH Risk Communicator
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News and Notes

This is the final regular edition of News and Notes for 2025. In the past 11 months we have had 33 people submit 48 contributions in the form of pictures, information and typically both for inclusion. We've never tracked this statistic heretofore, hence, it is a new record for contributions.

Vigilant Guard



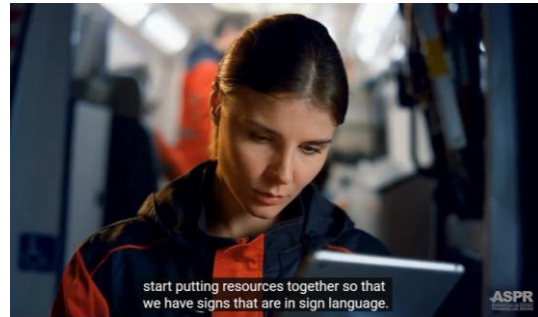
Multiple state and federal agencies took part in the Vigilant Guard full scale exercise this week. The exercise scenario involved the detonation of a 10-kiloton nuclear device in Atlanta, resulting in widespread destruction, mass fatalities, and catastrophic damage. State DPH responders were alerted Tuesday evening and gathered at the Alternate EOC Wednesday. Communications coordinated the response to the ATSSim deck injects from simulated media, Flitter, Friendbook, Viewtube, and other sources. Thanks to Christina Joseph, Bobby Ward, and Jennifer King for running efforts related to public information and warning.



DPH Risk Communicators meeting

Next week Wednesday is the quarterly DPH district risk communicators meeting to be held virtually starting at 10:00 AM. We plan to have a 2026 legislative preview from Graham Segrest, a Tactical Communications workgroup report from Aaron Bock and Valerie Attell, and a communications update with web-based accessibility expectations from Frederick Dobard.

ASPR Impact Videos



The Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) has begun creating impact statement videos to highlight the value of funding the Healthcare Preparedness Program. Among the testimonials from throughout the country in the four-part series is one from Georgia's Region C Healthcare Coalition. Brittany Holcomb talks about partnership value and specifically initiatives involving the Georgia School for the Deaf in Cave Spring.

[ASPR Impact Statement](#)

Next Week Preview

Next week we'll have the Year In Pictures edition.

About "News & Notes"

"News & Notes" is a weekly communication aimed at risk communicators and public information officers within Georgia's 18 public health districts. The goal of the communication is to increase preparedness through the exchange of information about significant events, training and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO or For Your Use Only. Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov