



Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security

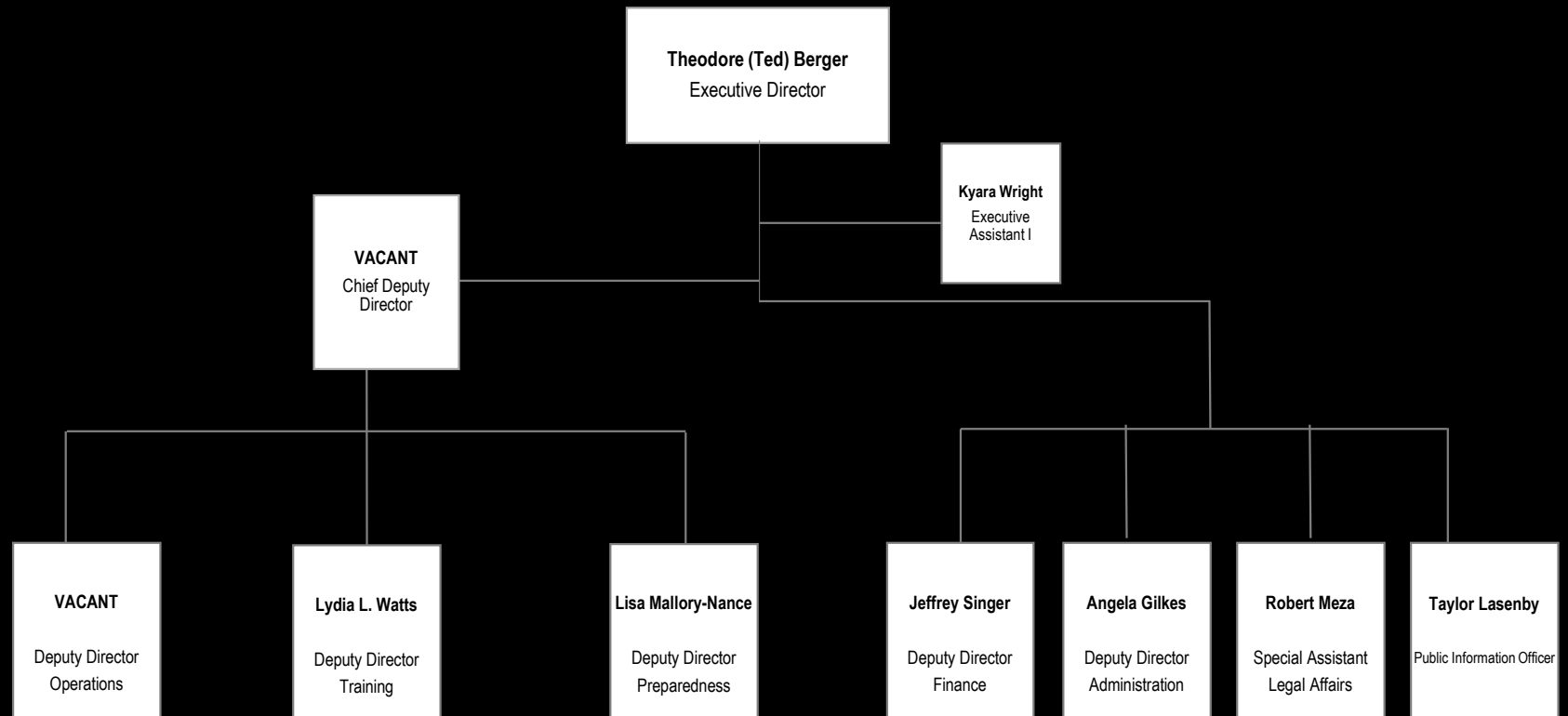
Organizational Overview

Theodore (Ted) Berger
Executive Director

My Professional Story

- **State of Illinois**
- **City of Chicago**
- **Cook County**
- **Volunteer/part-time fire service**
- **Scheduling/Advance Associate Staff Program for the White House**

Cook County EMRS Executive Team





Preparing for the low frequency, high risk events...

St. Johns-Mercy Hospital, Joplin, MO – May 2011



Chicago Sun-Times

35¢

Chicago/Seabrook
50¢ Elsewhere

COOLER Pages 2, 40

MONDAY, JULY 17, 1995

Late Sports Final

HEAT TOLL COULD HIT 300

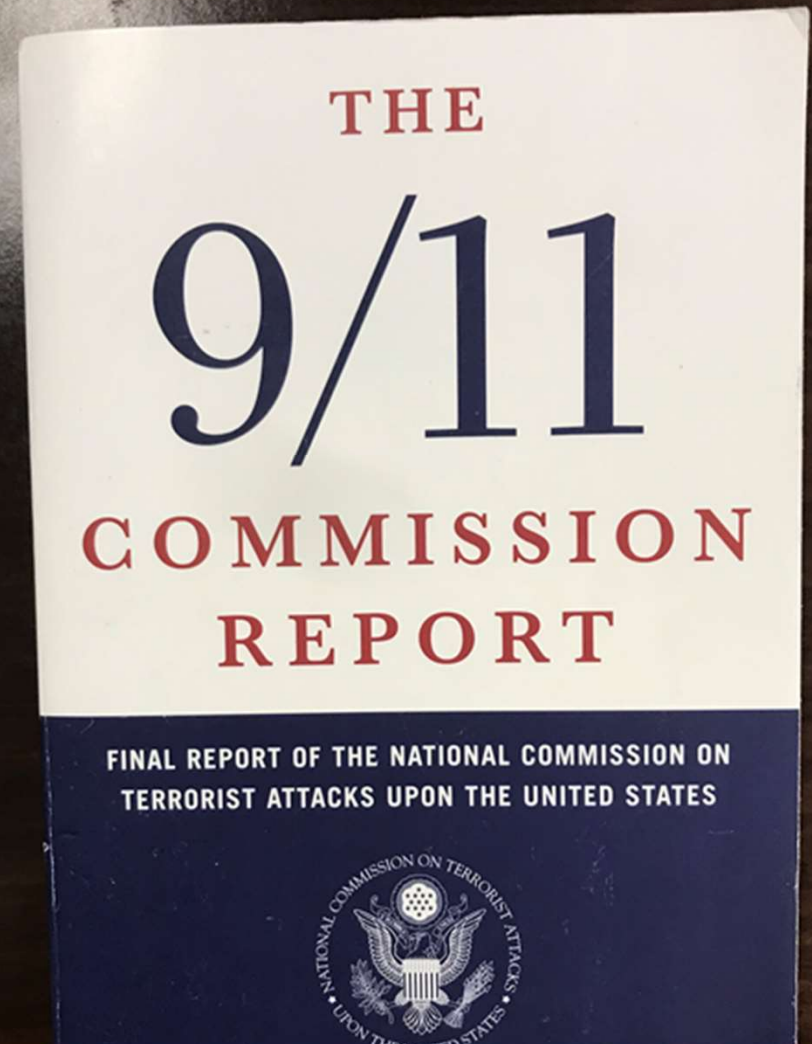


Events closer to home that
shape our perspective...



Understanding the impact of shock vs stress.

**Applying the lessons of
the past to inform the
present and prepare for
the future.**



Mission

The Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security enhances the safety and security of Cook County and its residents by working to build capacity to prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to and recover from all incidents, both human-caused and natural.



Vision

A prepared and resilient Cook County.



Key Responsibilities

- **Emergency management:** Serve as the mandated emergency management agency, assisting municipalities to enhance readiness for disasters and other threats.
- **Assets and expertise:** Provide emergency logistics support, technical expertise and resource coordination to municipal, governmental and non-profit partners.
- **Investments to buy down risk:** Leverage grant-funded investments to understand strengthen our region's ability to prepare, respond and recover.

The role of Cook County EMRS

Before a major incident:

- Help communities in planning, preparedness and risk-based investments
- Support regional mutual aid efforts/specialized response capabilities

During a major incident:

- Response coordination for significant and evolving incidents
- Disaster proclamations to access state and federal resources

After a major incident:

- Recovery activities
- Mitigation efforts to enhance resiliency

Deliverables

- **Responding to emergency incidents 24/7/365 approximately 25-50 times per year at the request of municipalities.**
- **Deploying EMRS equipment and assets over 400 times per year at the request of municipalities.**
- **Providing 100+ public safety/first-responder training programs each year.**
- **Building a culture of preparedness at over 60 community events across Chicago and suburban Cook County.**

Drivers of our work...


- The County's most vulnerable residents continue to experience disproportionate impacts from disasters and risk.
- Emergencies and disasters are continuously evolving as environmental conditions change.
- *EMRS must ensure that equity is integrated across all our work and remain adaptive to the changing risk environment.*

Areas of Opportunity:

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program

Phil Mason, *Planning and Preparedness Manager*



A small, vibrant yellow flower with two open blooms and several thin, upright stems, growing from a dark, textured surface of soil or sand. The flower's base is a cluster of green, finely divided leaves. The background is a dark, out-of-focus expanse of the same ground.

re·sil·ience
rə'zilyəns/
noun



Photo credits:

Joplin Tornado:

(2011, May 23). *Officials say St. John's Regional Medical Center took a direct hit when a tornado hit Joplin, Missouri, on Sunday night* (digital image). Retrieved from <http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/05/23/missouri.tornado.hospital/index.html>

Chicago Heat Wave:

(1995, July 17). Chicago Sun-Times Front Page. Retrieved from <https://chicago.suntimes.com/news/a-look-back-at-chicagos-deadly-1995-heat-wave/>

Chicago Blizzard:

Wambsgans, E. Jason (photographer). (2011, February 2). *Abandoned on LSD*. Retrieved from <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/weather/chi-110201-monster-snowstorm-2011-pictures-photogallery.html>

Chicago Area Flooding:

(2013, April 29). Chicago Tribune. Retrieved from <http://galleries.apps.chicagotribune.com/chi-130417-chicago-spring-flood-weather-pictures/>