

7<sup>th</sup> Annual

# PENNSYLVANIA

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND  
HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE

2024



**BREAKTHROUGH  
TO EXCELLENCE**  
BEYOND ALL LIMITS

October 20 – 22, 2024  
Blair County Convention Center  
Altoona, PA

**Call for Presentations**

**KEYSTONE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION**

[www.KEMAConference.com](http://www.KEMAConference.com)

## Call for Speakers & Presentations

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The Keystone Emergency Management Association (KEMA) invites you to share your expertise and contribute to the emergency management community by submitting a presentation proposal for the **7th Annual Pennsylvania Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security Conference**, #KEMACon2024 on October 20th-22nd in Altoona, Pennsylvania. With a theme of "Breakthrough to Excellence, Beyond All Limits," the conference will provide a platform to showcase cutting-edge concepts, technology, processes, and evidence-based practices in emergency management. Join over 300 emergency management professionals at #KEMACon2024 and share your knowledge by submitting a proposal today.

## The Theme of the Conference

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**Breakthrough to Excellence, Beyond All Limits**

## Speaker Call

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The Call for Speakers will be open from January 26, 2024, until April 26, 2024 at 5:00 PM Eastern Time. Please note that all applications must be submitted by the deadline and no exceptions will be made. If you are submitting multiple presentations, please fill out a separate application for each presentation. Breakout sessions are limited to a maximum of 90 minutes, including time for Q&A, so please structure your presentation accordingly.

With over 300 emergency management professionals expected to attend #KEMACon2024, this is an excellent opportunity to educate your peers and contribute to the field. Don't miss out on this chance to showcase your expertise and insights on emergency management practices and technology within the conference theme of "Breakthrough to Excellence, Beyond All Limits." Submit your proposal before the deadline to be considered for the conference program.

**Presentations longer than 90 minutes will not be considered.**

## Conference Focus

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To ensure your presentation is relevant to the diverse audience at the **7th Annual Pennsylvania Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security Conference**, we encourage you to utilize the theme, "**Breakthrough to Excellence, Beyond All Limits**" in developing your presentation. Your presentation should address the challenges faced by the emergency preparedness and homeland security community and offer solutions for overcoming these obstacles. In addition, please consider tailoring your presentation to appeal to a broad range of attendees, including but not limited to:

- Government emergency managers
- Disaster planners
- Homeland security professionals

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## Call for Speakers & Presentations

- Communications system specialists/9-1-1 Coordinators
- Crisis and risk managers
- Business continuity planners
- Health and human services providers
- Public safety chief officers/directors
- Educational institutions
- Healthcare disaster professionals
- Meteorologists
- Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

## Conference Dates and Location

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**October 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 at the Blair County Convention Center in Altoona, PA.**

As a token of appreciation for your participation in the [7th Annual Pennsylvania Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security Conference](#), up to two speakers per presentation will be granted a complimentary Conference registration. **Please note that presenters are responsible for covering all costs related to their accommodation, travel, and meals. KEMA does not offer an honorarium, and all presentations must be provided on a voluntary basis.** We appreciate your willingness to contribute to the emergency management community through your expertise and experience.

## Tips for Completing the Application

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- Read all instructions carefully.
- Complete all fields – incomplete applications will be disqualified.
- Double check for typos before you submit – they will decrease your score.

## Important Dates

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- Submissions are due by April 26, 2024.
- KEMA will notify speakers of selections by May 13, 2024.
- Presenters must be registered before August 17, 2024.

## Scoring Applications

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Applications are scored based on: A complete and accurate application – **INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED AND REMOVED FROM REVIEW**

- Quality of submitted presentation
- Speaker experience and qualifications related to the topic
- Compelling presentation “story” that will engage the audience
- Adherence to the theme, “Breakthrough to Excellence, Beyond All Limits”

The results of the 2024 KEMA Conference survey indicated the following topics are most requested and thus, presentations related to these topics may receive preference:

- Safe Schools
- Climate Change and Adaptation

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## Call for Speakers & Presentations

- Mass Communication Notification
- Social Media
- Resilience
- Cybersecurity
- Planning Considerations and Tips
- Emerging Technology
- Private Sector Integration and Partnerships
- Whole Community Diversity and Inclusion
- Volunteer Engagement & Recruitment
- Mass Care

## Presentation Mission Area and Educational Track

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Each presentation must be categorized by both the FEMA Mission Area and the Educational Track it best represents:

FEMA Mission Areas:

- **Prevention:** Prevent, avoid, or stop an imminent, threatened, or actual act of terrorism.
- **Protection:** Protect our citizens, residents, visitors, and assets against the greatest threats and hazards in a manner that allows our interests, aspirations, and way of life to thrive.
- **Mitigation:** Reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of future disasters.
- **Response:** Respond quickly to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs in the aftermath of a catastrophic incident.
- **Recovery:** Recover through a focus on the timely restoration, strengthening and revitalization of infrastructure, housing, and a sustainable economy, as well as the health, social, cultural, historic, and environmental fabric of communities affected by a catastrophic incident.

Educational Tracks:

- **Preparedness and Planning:** The Preparedness and Planning track is designed to equip attendees with the knowledge and skills necessary to plan, organize, and coordinate effective response efforts before a disaster or emergency occurs.
- **Response and Operations:** The Response and Operations track focuses on the practical aspects of managing and executing emergency responses.
- **Recovery:** The Recovery track delves into the post-disaster phase, emphasizing the processes and strategies for rebuilding and restoring affected communities.
- **Administration and Leadership:** The Administration and Leadership track is tailored for professionals in managerial and leadership roles within emergency management.
- **Training and Exercises:** The Training and Exercises track is dedicated to enhancing the knowledge and capabilities of emergency responders and managers through simulations, drills, and training programs.

# PA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE 2024

## Call for Speakers & Presentations

### Proposal Submission

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Online Application: <https://bit.ly/KEMA2024CallForSpeakers>

*Use the worksheet at the end of this document to assure you have everything you need to fill out the online application.*

### After Your Proposal is Selected

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The selection process for presenters and alternates will be completed by **May 22, 2024**, and all accepted presenters must register for the conference before **August 14, 2024**. Failure to register by this date will result in the presenter being excluded from the program, and an alternate presenter will be selected.

**Upon notification of their acceptance, presenters are advised to make travel and accommodation arrangements. Presenters are responsible for all associated costs, including accommodation, travel, and meals. KEMA does not provide an honorarium, and all presentations must be provided "pro bono."**

Selected presenters (**up to 2 per topic**) will receive a complimentary Conference registration. A "conference themed" PowerPoint (PPT) template will be provided to presenters for their presentations, which they **MUST** use. Exceptions apply to specific government and non-profit organizations, and eligibility should be discussed with the Conference Chair.

**Presentations must not be used for direct promotion of a speaker's products or services, as they are intended to be non-commercial in nature.** KEMA will provide a PC-compatible computer, projector, and screen. If presenters require any additional equipment, such as speakers or easel boards, they must provide it themselves.

### Contact

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All inquiries regarding speakers and presentations shall be directed to:

- Robert Gerlach, E-mail: [Conference@KEMAConference.com](mailto:Conference@KEMAConference.com)

# PA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE 2024

## Call for Speakers & Presentations

### About KEMA

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At the Keystone Emergency Management Association (KEMA), our mission is to promote and enhance the capabilities and expertise of emergency management professionals and volunteers across Pennsylvania. We believe that by working together and sharing information, we can better protect lives and property from both natural and man-made disasters. Our focus is on education, collaboration, and building partnerships with emergency response organizations to achieve this goal.

Our vision is to be a leading and results-driven organization of emergency management professionals, recognized for our commitment to excellence in preparing for and responding to emergencies. We strive to be a trusted resource for the Pennsylvania emergency management community, providing training, guidance, and support that helps to build a more resilient Commonwealth.

[www.KEMA-PA.org](http://www.KEMA-PA.org)

**PA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE 2024**  
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**Online Application Worksheet**

**Primary Contact:**

First & Last Name	
Company	
Title	
E-Mail/Phone	

**Presenter 1:**

First and Last Name	
Degrees (if applicable) Ph.D, M.A., etc	
Company	
Position	
E-Mail	
Phone	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Presenter Biography (limited to 1000 characters)	

**DO NOT MAIL THIS FORM AS A SUBMISSION. ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE VIA THE ONLINE LINK.**

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**Presenter 2:**

First and Last Name	
Degrees (if applicable) Ph.D, M.A., etc	
Company	
Position	
E-Mail	
Phone	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Presenter Biography (limited to 1000 characters)	

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**Presentation:**

Title of Presentation	
Presentation Description (limited to 1000 characters)	
Training Objectives (list at least three)	1.) 2.) 3.)
Mission Area the Presentation Addresses <a href="https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/mission-core-capabilities">https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/mission-core-capabilities</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prevention <input type="checkbox"/> Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation <input type="checkbox"/> Response <input type="checkbox"/> Recovery
Education Track the Presentation Addresses	<input type="checkbox"/> Preparedness <input type="checkbox"/> Response and Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Recovery <input type="checkbox"/> Administration and Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Training and Exercises

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