

September 15, 2022

# LA BEOC

LOUISIANA BUSINESS EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

## *Supporting business during a disaster*



September is national preparedness month. Now is a perfect time to review your preparedness plan. While it may sound hard, it is very easy, if you can plan a birthday party or a tailgate party, you can prepare for any disaster that may come your way. The best part is you don't have to reinvent the wheel, there are emergency management professionals with a lot of experience that have put together some tools for you to use.

First, you should have an emergency kit available. There is an excellent checklist published by the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) available [here](#).

Next, consider what the audience is for your emergency plan. Again, GOHSEP has several checklists for you, if you are starting with a blank slate. There are plans for family, finances, and others available at the following links:

- [Personal/Family plan](#)
- [Business plan](#)
- [Financial preparedness tips](#)
- [Individuals with disabilities](#)
- [A plan for kids](#)
- [Pets and animal plan](#)
- [Cybersecurity plan](#)

You wouldn't take a road trip without a map. These plans provide some great starting points to build your preparedness plan. Having a plan will help guide you through the chaos.

Stay Safe, Stay Vigilant  
Jim

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## [Get A Game Plan for Business](#)

Has your small business analyzed its vulnerabilities and the potential impacts of a disaster? Plan before a disaster strikes.



### ***Greetings from NIMSAT***

September is National Preparedness Month and I would like to take a moment to discuss simple preparedness activities you can take to protect your business during times of disruption – be it a hurricane, winter storm, or pandemic. According to GOHSEP, the National Incident Management System (NIMS) defines preparedness as...

*"a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action in an effort to ensure effective coordination during incident response."*

This preparedness cycle is one element of a broader National Preparedness System to prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

Preparedness is a shared responsibility and calls for the involvement of everyone — individuals, businesses, non-profit organizations, and government at all levels. As GOHSEP highlights, "by working together, everyone helps keep our families, neighbors, communities, and State safe from harm and resilient when confronted with impacts from a natural or man-made disaster".

There are four simple steps to be better prepared and more resilient when faced with an emergency or disaster:

- **Step 1: Assess your risk**
- **Step 2: Create a plan**
- **Step 3: Take action**
- **Step 4: Be recognized and inspire others**

I encourage you to Get a Game Plan and visit <https://www.ready.gov/business>. The Louisiana Business Emergency Operation Center stands ready to support Louisiana

businesses. Now is the time to get prepared for emergencies or disasters that threaten Louisiana. Please visit us and register for regular updates at <https://labeoc.org>.

Let's get prepared!

Stay Safe!  
Shannon

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## News & Upcoming Events

### Over Halfway There

On September 10th, we crossed the peak of the normal hurricane season. We have been very lucky, but now is not the time to let our guard down. Long range forecasts show that there may be at least two areas of concern between now and the end of September.

### October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month

NIMSAT and the LABEOC will sponsor a webinar at the end of October. Stay tuned for more details.

### Course: Cybersecurity Resiliency in Industrial Control Systems

The GOHSEP Training team has coordinated with the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) to provide the course – PER398 Cybersecurity Resiliency in Industrial Control Systems. The class will be held at the GOHSEP office on October 11, 2022. The event is open to the Louisiana business community.

[See Course Description](#)  
[Register with TEEX \(required\)](#)



### [Hurricane Toolkit](#)

Learn how your business can prepare at  
[ready.gov/business](https://ready.gov/business)

*Did you know the LABEOC at UL  
Lafayette is the only university-led*



## ***business emergency operations center in the nation?***

The NIMSAT Institute focuses on enriching public-private partnerships and advanced information technologies to enhance national resiliency for a full range of potential disasters.

As an R1 Carnegie research university, UL Lafayette specializes in applied research that solves real-world problems. Our motto is **Research for a Reason!**

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The LABEOC is managed by the National **Incident Management Systems and Advanced Technologies Institute** at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in partnership with the **Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness** and **Louisiana Economic Development**.

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