Champaign County Emergency Management

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TO: Justice and Social Services Committee

FROM: Bill Keller, Director

DATE: 2-27-07

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY ACTIVITY REPORT

The month of February has caused two activations of the Emergency Operations Center. The first was for the blizzard that occurred on the 13th through the 15th. The E.O.C. was activated for 36 hours and was staffed by the Sheriff's Office, County Highway, METCAD, and EMA. During the activation we coordinated over 60 rescues of residents stuck in the snow, coordinated ambulance escorts to medical problems and accidents; opened a shelter for stranded motorists, and issued several public information statements. The second activation was for the ice storm warning on the 24th. This was an 8 hour activation manned by the same departments. Other than tracking some power outages and traffic accidents not much was required. For both activations we conducted several conference calls with the Regional Emergency Coordination Group.

We are working with Champaign – Urbana, and the U of I to create a priority list of generators on the public safety side to insure that in case of a major power outage that refueling needs are met.

With severe weather preparedness week coming up, March 4th-10th, we are testing communication equipment and response protocols between Locals and the National Weather Service. We also had a meeting with local village E.S.D.A.'s to talk about the new radio system, and how we will coordinate the change over. As you know we were able to purchase radios for all of them through a grant.