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Domestic Violent Extremism, & Impacts on Emergency Planning: Risk Assessments and Planning Needs

This presentation discusses domestic violent extremism (DVE) through the paradigm of emergency management, namely, its impact on the planning process for a jurisdiction. DVE will be defined and portrayed as an emerging trend backed by data from the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This will be followed by an examination of how DVE impacts a jurisdiction or organizations risk assessment process along with open-source intelligence tools and academic research available to emergency managers to inform their decision-making. To conclude, planning needs, such as mass fatality and family assistance planning, will be discussed alongside potential exercise and training possibilities.

Speaker Biography

Michael Etzel has been a member of the Nassau County Office of Emergency Management (NCOEM) for about a year. Currently, he is assigned to the Planning Section, where he writes, reviews, and revises the County's emergency plans; participates in the planning process for county events; and assists in EOC management. Additionally, Michael serves as the office liaison to the Nassau County Fire Commission's Emergency Management Committee. Before he became a full-time employee, Michael interned with both NCOEM and the Nassau County Police Department's Homeland Security Unit. Michael is a doctoral student at St. John's University, studying Homeland Security. His research interests are domestic violent extremism, terrorism, and homeland security theory.