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Analyzing your Analysis: What is an HVA and Why Should We Care?

In this presentation, we will discuss the role and significance of the hazard vulnerability analysis (HVA) as a fundamental tool in emergency planning. The presentation will discuss several available HVA models, and the importance of applying scientific methodology and objective criteria in developing, validating, and reviewing an HVA to ensure meaningful results.

Speaker Biography

Zachary Goldfarb is the principal of Incident Management Solutions, Inc., an emergency management consultancy. Certified as a paramedic since 1978, Chief Goldfarb has served in many capacities during his 25-year career with City of New York Fire Department's (FDNY) Emergency Medical Service Command (and the NYC*EMS, prior to their 1996 merger), including Deputy Chief, Bronx Borough Commander, Deputy Chief of Operations, Emergency Management Coordinator, and commanding officer of the Special Operations Division. He authored the New York City Emergency Medical Action (disaster) Plan, promulgating one of the most frequently used medical incident command systems in the nation. During many major incidents over two decades, including both the 1993 bombing and the 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, he served as an EMS commander at the scene.

Zachary Goldfarb has an associate's degree in paramedic science, and a bachelor's degree in public administration and management from the City University of New York, and is a graduate of the New York City Leadership Institute. Validated by the United States Department of Defense as Medical Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Subject Matter Expert Instructor, Chief Goldfarb taught nationally as a consultant member of the federal Domestic Preparedness Training Team.

A certified healthcare emergency professional and certified healthcare safety professional (Master's level), as well as a certified Hazardous Materials Technician, he is a member of the National Fire Protection Association's Technical Committee on Health Care Emergency Management and Security, and lectures and writes widely on emergency management, incident command, and related topics.