



**FEMA**

## **US&R GENERAL MEMORANDUM – 2016-016**

February 16, 2016

**FOR:** National Urban Search & Rescue Response System  
Task Force Representatives

**FROM:** Dean Scott, Chief  
Operations Section  
Urban Search and Rescue Branch

**SUBJECT:** US&R General Memorandum 2016-016 – S-420 Command and General Staff  
Course, May 15-20, 2016

The National Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Response System (the System) in coordination with the three Incident Support Team (IST) leaders will be establishing a list of current and alternate IST members to attend the upcoming S-420 course in Irvine, CA on May 15-20, 2016. The personnel selected will be from those who currently serve in IST Command and General Staff (C&GS) positions identified on current IST rosters.

This course is intended to be a week of hands-on instruction and consists of simulated participation on an IST by each team member throughout the week. Students will only be put in a role they're qualified and rostered for, or listed as an alternate for. It is strongly advised that students bring their go-kit since the course is an exercise and they will need to be prepared to fully participate in their role. Full participation of attending members will be required each day during the week and home agency responsibilities should not impact personnel while in attendance. The participation of each member attending the course will be evaluated and that evaluation will be shared with both the individual and their Task Force Representative. A member who fails to participate properly or perform satisfactorily may not successfully pass the course.

Each Task Force Representative who has personnel assigned to positions within the IST C&GS should review their FY2015 US&R Readiness Cooperative Agreement budget to determine if they can support participation of these members. Follow-on coordination will be made to the IST members through their TFRs to confirm availability to attend this course, and once a final list of participants is completed that will be announced by a subsequent General Memorandum.

For any questions or concerns, please contact Dean Scott at [dean.scott@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:dean.scott@fema.dhs.gov).

cc:

US&R Strategic Group  
US&R Advisory Group  
US&R Branch Staff  
FEMA Regional/Federal/International ESF #9 Representatives