

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTICUT, 3rd EDITION

Instructor's Guide

Chapter 13

Class Discussion

1. What event in America led to the passage of the Homeland Security Act by Congress in 2002?
2. What was the name of the federal agency that dealt with emergencies, both natural and man-made, before the Department of Homeland Security was formed?
3. Explain why the State of Connecticut is different from most of the other states.
4. Name the titles of those local government positions that are the first-responders to emergencies.
5. What is the goal of a government's response to emergency, either natural or man-made?
6. Does your city or town have any of the citizen assistance and support groups that help provide support in the field of homeland security?
7. Which of these citizen assistance groups do you think is the most important, and why?
8. What is the name of the State of Connecticut agency that is responsible for emergency management and homeland security? Do you know where this State department is located?

Class Assignments

1. Inquire on how your local police and fire departments cooperate during an emergency.
2. Briefly describe the name of the current national warning system, and provide a brief overview of how it works?
3. Check-out the websites for these citizen assistance groups to see how many have chapters in your state?
4. Find out if your city or town has any mutual aid agreements (police, fire, ambulance) with other neighboring communities? How do they work? Has there been any major situation that involved joint town cooperation?

Field Trips-Other Ideas

- Visit your local police and fire department and ask them to review their role in homeland security and how it has changed since 9/11.
- Check your city or town's website to see if it mentions homeland security as a public service.
- Ask your principal to the classroom and ask him/her to review the school's security program (some security items he/she may not be able to discuss with you). Has your city or town ever held a simulated emergency management exercise?