

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

ChicagoFIRST Mid-Year Newsletter

2021



*Fostering
Industry
Resilience &
Security through
Teamwork*

Our motto encapsulates our approach to resilience, security, and overall preparedness
A CRISIS IS NO TIME TO EXCHANGE BUSINESS CARDS

TLP **Amber**

©2021 ChicagoFIRST. All rights reserved.

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

ChicagoFIRST Members, Partners, and Friends,

Greetings, so far this year has been one of adjustments. We have experienced changes in Board leadership, retirements, a pandemic rollercoaster, public safety challenges, a reopening of Chicago, and the beginnings of a “return to office”. The resiliency of ChicagoFIRST, its members, and the city is reflective of the civic responsibility, business ethics, professionalism, and dedication of all our members. Throughout these challenges ChicagoFIRST has put the needs of our members at the forefront. We have facilitated information sharing amongst members and strategic partners. ChicagoFIRST has taken lead roles in city efforts to support the businesses and communities, as well as listened and responded to your priority concerns.

As this is written, we have moved into Phase 5 of “Reopening Chicago”. Some members have started their return to normal while others are waiting to see the success of recovery efforts before taking additional risk. We understand the challenges involved and will continue to host meetings addressing best practices, covid concerns, public safety, and public transportation issues to assist in these transitions.

I look forward to the day we can host in person meetings again and expect the day is coming soon. I hope for and look forward to spending a productive second half of 2021 with each of you. If you have suggestions for upcoming meeting topics, changes to our dashboard content or procedure, and/or have any evolving needs, please let us know so we can ensure it is addressed and shared with other members. Thank you for your ongoing participation in this vital effort to make our entire community more resilient.

Stay well.

Steven Caluris, Executive Director

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

Newsletter Contents

ChicagoFIRST Governance	Page 3
ChicagoFIRST Congratulations and Best Wishes	Page 4
Corona Virus / CoVID-19	Page 5
National and Regional Endeavors	Page 6
ChicagoFIRST Events, Workgroups, and Services	Page 7
ChicagoFIRST Committee Updates	Page 11
Chicago Public / Private Task Force	Page 12
Get Connected: Distribution and Workgroup Lists	Page 13

Upcoming 2021 Events				
Month	Day	Event	Time	
August	2	Exercise Development Workgroup	9:00	10:30
August	5	Cloud Implementation Subcommittee	8:30	10:30
August	10	Intelligence Workgroup	1:00	2:30
August	16	Exercise Development Workgroup	9:00	10:30
August	30	Exercise Development Workgroup	9:00	10:30
September	7	Exercise Development Workgroup	9:00	10:30
September	14	Physical Security Workgroup	9:00	11:00
September	17	Exercise Development Workgroup	9:00	10:30
September	24	Exercise Development Workgroup	9:00	10:30
September	28	Cyber Workgroup	8:30	10:30
October	1	Exercise Development Workgroup	9:00	10:30
October	5	Annual Tabletop Exercise Part 1	8:30	12:00
October	6	Annual Tabletop Exercise Part 2	12:30	4:00
October	21	Business Continuity Workshop	12:00	2:00
November	2	Cloud Implementation Subcommittee	8:30	10:30
November	9	Intelligence Workgroup	1:00	2:30
November	18	Quarterly Strategic Partner & Member Social	2:00	6:00
December	16	Regulatory Roundtable	8:30	10:30

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

ChicagoFIRST Governance

Board Election Results: ChicagoFIRST held Board elections in January welcoming new Directors and re-electing existing members to expiring and leadership positions.

Board of Directors (three-year terms)

Michael Wallace, Director – Physical Security, U.S. Critical Facilities, BMO Harris

Bethany Netzel, Executive Director, Global Security and Business Continuity Management, CME Group

Leadership (one- year term)

Theresa Enright Oleson, Sr. Director, Global Business Technology Resilience, Aon, elected as Chair.

Arlan McMillan, Chief Security Officer, Kirkland & Ellis, LLP, elected as Vice Chair.

ChicagoFIRST Congratulations and Best Wishes



Chair Theresa Enright – Olsen has departed ChicagoFIRST, and we are wishing her the best in her next life adventure. Thank you for your years of leadership.

“Just a short 19 years ago, I had the privilege to be part of the grassroots coalition that worked to form ChicagoFIRST in 2003. Since that time, I’ve had the honor to represent ChicagoFIRST as a general member in addition to serving on the Board in several roles, and currently as the Executive Chair.

It is with much mixed emotion that I am writing to you today to resign my position from the Board, effective June 11, 2021. “Theresa Enright – Olsen.

Deputy Director Martha Meegan Retires. We all wish Martha the best in her retirement. Thank you, Martha, for all of the dedication and passion at your job.

- Six years as the Deputy Director of ChicagoFIRST
- Twenty-six years as Director of Campus Safety & Security @ Columbia College Chicago
- Five years as Sr. Asst Manager of Security and Building Services @ The American Museum of Natural History



ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.



ChicagoFIRST Welcome Arlan McMillan as the new Board Chair

Arlan McMillan is the Chief Security Officer (CSO) for Kirkland & Ellis LLP. Prior to joining Kirkland, Arlan was a board member of the Aviation Information Sharing and Analysis Center (A-ISAC) and the Transportation Sector Chief for the FBI-InfraGard Chicago region. He is currently a Governing Body member of Evanta, Executive Committee member of the Cybersecurity Collaborative, and a regular contributor on the topics of risk management and executive communications besides assuming the role of ChicagoFIRST Chair. No stranger to being a leader we welcome Arlan to the Chair knowing ChicagoFIRST is in good hands.

Congrats to John O'Malley

John is the former Director of Corporate Security at William Blair and as a ChicagoFIRST member John was the Co-Chair of the Physical Security Workgroup. John's dedication to everyone's safety was always apparent and it came as no surprise when he answered the call to become the **Deputy Mayor of Public Safety** here in Chicago. Best of luck John and thanks.



ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

2021 Goals: Committed to our core mission of enhancing members' business resiliency through sharing of best practices and public private partnerships, ChicagoFIRST identified the following goals:

- Provide opportunities to refine Vaccination Plans and Return to Office strategies with members and private and public sector strategic partners.
- Continue to bring new and innovative ideas to membership.
- Provide additional member networking opportunities.
- Enhance messaging through our website, social media, and HSIN rebuild.

Membership: ChicagoFIRST would like to welcome our two newest members **University of Chicago Medical Center** and **Guaranteed Rate**. While our current membership continues at its historical average, we welcome additional members that share a similar risk profile and critical assets in Chicago or operational sites in the collar counties. If you know of a firm that would be a good addition to ChicagoFIRST, please contact the Executive Director, Steve Caluris.

Social Media: Please help raise the profile of ChicagoFIRST by following and liking us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/chicagofirst> and LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company-beta/15520364/>

CoVID -19: The Path towards Restore Illinois – Phase 5

Since our last Newsletter Chicago has entered Phase 5 of the reopening plan. We at ChicagoFIRST continue to work with our members and public sector partners to identify the safest and most efficient best practices to keep everyone safe and comfortable in returning to the office. We will continue to work with the Chicago Department of Health, the Chicago Transit Authority, and Metra to ensure you have the latest information on variants, sanitation, and scheduling and to ensure that public sector partners are aware and acting on your concerns and needs.

Our City Our Safety

The Chicago Police Department (CPD) and City Government are aware of safety concerns in the Central Business District. Through the Public Private Task Force, CPD leadership, and with the assistance of the Deputy Mayor of Public Safety we are working at scheduling meetings with members in August to identify priority concerns and make every effort at a safe return to downtown Chicago.

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

National and Regional Endeavors

National Outreach: In addition to our robust relationship with California Resiliency Alliance and northeast partner associations, ChicagoFIRST continues to identify new association partnerships at the national level for participation in projects advocating on behalf of our members. The All-Hazards Consortium, a federal level cross sector partnership part of the Coordinating Regional Consortium Coordinating Council (RC3), along with the Global Resilience Federation, a spin-off of FS-ISAC focusing on business continuity, enhance our understanding of the threat landscape and offer an opportunity to collaborate on identifying mitigation measures. ChicagoFIRST assists in the development of the shared HSIN Community of Interest platform to broaden the scope of information sharing on event planning, and response management and for widespread emergencies. We reach out to the National Emergency Operations Center (NBEOC), DHS, and many other strategic partners to collaborate on priority issues and best practices.

Local Outreach: Throughout this year we have continued to participate in InfraGard, 1st District Advisory Council (DAC), and Building Owners Management Association (BOMA) virtual meetings, advocating on behalf of our members' needs and lead discussions amongst our partners at the Office of Emergency Management and Communication and Public Private Task Force (PPTF) on issues of importance. ChicagoFIRST coordinates the private sector staffing in the Emergency Operation Center for the various activations.

Emergency Planning and Exercise Ventures: ChicagoFIRST is a member of the FSSCC Executive Committee After Action Report Task Group. The group's work includes prioritizing and inventorying all projects to facilitate the development of future exercises.

ChicagoFIRST continues to participate in monthly calls with DHS and the Department of Treasury on "Return to Normal Operations". These calls host private and public sector partners from major cities across the country. We share updates and collaborate on best practices as we move closer towards our reopening.

ChicagoFIRST is a lead representative in the Illinois' Business Emergency Operations Center, representing members' operational interests statewide on calls informing of impending severe weather, pandemic response, or other current events with potential impact.



ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

ChicagoFIRST Events, Workgroups, and Services

Throughout the pandemic, workgroups and meetings were held virtually through the WebEX platform, utilizing the chat and breakout rooms to enhance the experience. Members were also afforded access to separate secure dashboards for CoVID-19 and Civil Unrest critical updates, resources, and information sharing opportunities.

Quarterly Meetings

ChicagoFIRST Quarterly Meetings present a forum for our public sector partners to educate on new programs and agency initiatives, in addition to a networking opportunity.

February

ChicagoFIRST featured a presentation by CISA Cyber Security Advisor Christopher Gabbard on the SolarWinds Breach; DHS Intelligence Officer Charles Junirs on Domestic Terrorism; FBI Intelligence Analyst Christopher Young on Vaccine Distribution Threats; and CPD Deputy Chief Michael Pigott on Central Business District Crime Conditions. The meeting concluded with networking breakout room discussions.

May

Chicago Department of Public Health Chief Medical Director, Dr. Jennifer Seo, provided updates on city CoVID cases and health safety guidance moving into Phase 5 Reopening. She also responded to members questions. DHS HSIN Mission Advocate David Henry and BMO Harris Consultant Paul Morin discussed HSIN platform and ChicagoFIRST site design revisions. Matt DeChant and Wayne Johnson promoted the CISO of the Year Award Program, soliciting nominations for award candidates, corporate sponsors, and program volunteers. Chicago's Deputy Mayor of Public Safety John O' Malley reviewed the City's objectives and security initiatives to address city crime.

Business Continuity Workgroup

Co-chaired by Kin Lee from Mesirow Financial and Dionna Cleaveland, the Business Continuity Workgroup provides a forum for collaboration among ChicagoFIRST members and industry experts in the public and private sectors to address emerging issues in regional emergency planning, response, and recovery.

March

The agenda included a discussion on the timeline and determining factors for firms to return staff to the office. Members shared challenges and offered guidance on aligning CoVID policies across national and

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

international operations, conducting client meetings, and implementing travel restrictions in alignment with CDC guidelines.

June

The Phase 5: Reopening of the city announcement prompted more discussion on the return to office date and related staff concerns; returning staff and visitors vaccine protocols, and changes to travel policies. Guest speakers included Dr. Rachel Bernard, Medical Director, Chicago Department of Public Health, presenting Phase 5 CoVID case numbers and guidance and Metra representative John Plante and Vice-President of CTA Security Kevin Ryan discussing transportation schedules and safety concerns. Members also discussed lessons learned from the pandemic and changes to their pandemic response plans.

Cyber Workgroup

The Cyber Workgroup is a forum for collaboration among ChicagoFIRST members and public and private sector industry experts to improve the cyber threat mitigation and response capabilities of ChicagoFIRST members. Paul Bivian from Kirkland and Ellis, LLP and Ralston Simmons from William Blair chair this workgroup.

February

DHS/CISA Cyber Security Advisor Christopher Gabbard reported on findings from the SolarWinds Data Breach and CISA security recommendations and resources. Co-chairs facilitated a discussion on revisions to the Cyber Workgroup Charter Mission, and objectives, in addition to communications members receive from other sources.

June

This month's meeting included a presentation on Evaluating Data Loss Prevention (DLP) Solutions by Richard Kim, Security Architect, Kirkland & Ellis LLP along with an open discussion on User Behavior Assessment in Remote Operations.

Cloud Implementation Subcommittee

Under the leadership of Peter Vays from Wintrust and Ralston Simmons from William Blair, a subcommittee within the Cyber Workgroup was developed to collaboratively develop policy guidance, frameworks, and project walkthroughs to securely work through cloud implementation initiatives. Contact us if you are interested in participating in this committee.

February

Members identified Activity Logging, Cloud Migration, and 4th Party Risks as some of the topics to be discussed throughout the year.

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

May

FBI Special Agent Jay Patel presented the FBI's role in combating cyber activity, findings from investigations of cyber case reports and available agency resources. Members Josh Lenzini, Harbor Capital Advisors, shared activity logging and tracking practices and John Orleans, Mesirov Financial, reported on his team's process in migrating to the cloud.

Physical Security Workgroup

The Physical Security Workgroup, chaired by Pat O'Meara from Bank of America and John O'Malley, from William Blair, is a forum for collaboration among ChicagoFIRST members and public and private sector industry experts to enhance our members' physical security and life safety response capabilities.

March

ChicagoFIRST arranged this ad-hoc meeting to brief members on updates on the Derrick Chauvin Trial and discuss potential protests and civil unrest associated with the verdict. Deputy Chief Michael Pigott from CPD Central Control Group informed of the City's preparedness measures.

April

As a follow-up to the previous month's briefing by CPD, ChicagoFIRST facilitated a panel discussion with Aurora Police Chief Kristen Ziman and Naperville Police Chief Robert Marshall, cities where many members reside or have operations on lessons learned from last year's significant civil unrest related to the George Floyd police related shooting and challenges with police response during the pandemic upsurge.

Intelligence Workgroup

ChicagoFIRST, with Co-Chairs Stone Conroy and Lisa Krzywicki from United, introduced this workgroup to establish current Intelligence and collection needs, enhance group protocols on Intelligence handling, and to create a dynamic network amongst ChicagoFIRST members and public sector strategic partners. Due to the nature of the meeting content, this meeting has been held in-person only and has been suspended throughout the pandemic. We plan to resume this meeting in the 4th Quarter.

Exercise Development Workgroup

Eric Strasser from Northern Trust, and Tye Clark from William Blair, chair this initiative designed to enhance members' business resilience efforts by developing tabletop exercise frameworks and by identifying best practices in exercise design, facilitation, and after-action exercise reporting. Currently the group is working on designing the ChicagoFIRST Annual Strategic Partners' Tabletop Exercise scheduled in October, in addition to developing a library to house exercise material and resources in the ChicagoFIRST HSIN secure website.

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

February

The Co-Chairs facilitated a discussion reviewing the objectives for the 2021 year and feedback from the 2020 Annual Tabletop Exercise on the platform and exercise design.

May

The Annual Exercise October 6th and 7th dates were identified, and Exercise Design and Logistic Team members were chosen. Feedback from members on suggestions for the annual exercise were reviewed. Options for the format and contents of the HSIN library were also presented.

June

CISA Exercise Training Coordinator Mitch Paine was introduced as one of the public sector partners who will assist with the design of the exercise framework. Members discussed incorporating a cyber attack into a critical infrastructure- based scenario to coordinate a cyber and business continuity response. Co-Chair Eric Strasser presented his firm's library of cyber exercises, resources, and template, as an example for ChicagoFIRST's website library.

Surveys

At the request of members, ChicagoFIRST conducts polls and surveys on various topics related to business or security related operations. Below is a list of the surveys conducted this year and their objective.

Cyber Workgroup

Workgroup Objectives: To determine the features, outcomes, and topics of interest members expect from this workgroup.

Business Continuity Workgroup

Employee Vaccination: To identify options for accommodating staff undergoing and recovering from CoVID-19 vaccinations.

Return to Office Poll: To ascertain when members were considering returning staff to the office and their reasons.

Physical Security Workgroup

Property Protection and Security Plans: To identify the property protection measures taken by firms with facilities located in the Minneapolis area in response to the Chauvin Trial.

Security Response: To assess and benchmark protective security measures implemented by member firms in response to an increase in violent crimes in the Central Business District

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

Exercise Development Workgroup

Annual Tabletop Exercise Design: To identify processes to be tested, suggest scenarios, platforms, and provide references used.

Chauvin Trial Verdict Survey: To identify and benchmark members' preparedness measures in anticipation of potential unrest from the outcome of the verdict.

Members Meeting

January 30: ChicagoFIRST held its bi-annual Members Meeting, electing member representatives to expiring and open Board terms. The 2021 goals and calendar of events were presented, in addition to Chicago Public Private Task Force updates.

Notification System Committee

To enhance member services, we have formed a Notification System Committee to help identify and acquire the best product to meet members' expectations and requirements. The system would operate for notification of emergency incidents. A special thanks to Walter Lefmann and all the committee members for their input, work, and expertise.

Mission: Ensure ChicagoFIRST's capabilities at providing optimal emergency notifications by examining systems currently available on the market, evaluating member's needs and product capabilities, and reporting findings to ChicagoFIRST Board members as recommendations.

Objectives

1. Determine membership needs and system requirements
2. Produce a vendor RFP
3. Identify a list of prospective vendors for demo and proof of concept.

Membership Committee

In the first quarter of this year, we started a Membership Committee consisting of Board Members and Officers designed with the mission and objectives below:

Mission

Provide oversight and recommendations to the ChicagoFIRST Board concerning the composition of ChicagoFIRST membership and its growth.

Objectives

1. To review and make recommendation concerning the size of membership
2. To establish a Code of Ethics / Confidentiality statement for new members
3. Establish and maintain a roster of prospective members

Members: Katy Hurst, Brad Paton, John Fowler, Michael Carano, Curt Schumacher

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

Website Upgrades

ChicagoFIRST has a new website host. We've contracted with Thirdwave to provide a stable and secure web environment. You can visit our website at the same address www.chicagofirst.org but will notice subtle changes like a greater mobile device experience.

Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) Upgrades

The Department of Homeland Security has upgraded HSIN to a SharePoint infrastructure. We've taken advantage by grabbing the opportunity to update the ChicagoFIRST Community of Interest (COI). We've made it easier to access the workgroup deliverables that are stored there. We've added a new calendar format for scheduled meetings and events and we are working on building a repository for the Exercise Development Workgroup to share products amongst their members. If you're not registered for HSIN yet let us know and we'll send you a nomination email. It will provide greater access to our event dashboards in the near future.

Chicago Public Private Task Force

Through co-chairmanship of the City's Office of Emergency Management & Communications Public/Private Task Force, ChicagoFIRST continues to foster collaboration across all sectors and initiate projects for effective public and private emergency response and recovery.

Business Recovery Access Program: Chicago's Business Recovery Access Program (BRAP) is designed to provide critical private sector personnel access into cordoned areas following a major emergency. Security staff, building engineers, and critical IT infrastructure staff can register for BRAP through the upgraded CP3 portal at www.preparedchicago.com. During the civil unrest this spring the city restricted access to the central business district requiring justification for anyone entering the area. Lessons were learned from the event and ChicagoFIRST will be working with the city and other Public Private Task Force members to improve on the current credentialing process.

Shelter in Place/City Evacuation Directives: An OEMC and Public Private Task Force collaboration on the revision of an emergency guidance document on directives for the public's safe evacuation out of the Central Business District.

EOC Activations: ChicagoFIRST coordinates private sector representation for Chicago's Emergency Operations Center activations to provide members with real-time updates and two-way communication with public sector agencies and critical support entities working in the EOC. ChicagoFIRST represented the private sector in the EOC for public gatherings associated with the President's Inauguration, the release of the Anthony Toledo video, the Derrick Chauvin trial verdict, and Memorial Day weekend activities.

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

Get Connected: Distribution and Workgroup Lists

ChicagoFIRST offers members a variety of workgroups and notifications described below. Please email info@chicagofirst.org to be added to or removed from any of these lists. We will coordinate the changes with your firm’s lead representative.

General Member	Receives invitations to Quarterly Meetings with strategic public sector partners and Members Meetings, which provides ChicagoFIRST’s organization updates and Board elections.
ChicagoFIRST Advisory	An email list used to disseminate emergency alert information received from trusted public or private sources. The information ranges from in-progress incidents in the Central Business District to special events and national emergencies.
Emergency Notification System	A SMS text mass notification system to inform of critical information and emergency conference call/ meeting arrangements.
Business Continuity Workgroup	Meets three times a year and features presentations from member firms and subject matter experts on business continuity issues and best practices.
Physical Security Workgroup	Meets bi-annually and features presentations from public sector representatives, subject matter experts and/ or member firms about physical security and life safety topics.
Cyber Workgroup	Meets three times a year and features presentations and discussions from member firms and subject matter experts on cyber threats and data security protection best practices.
Exercise Development Workgroup	Intended to engage members in the planning and facilitation process of the ChicagoFIRST annual exercise with strategic partners. Meets several times prior to the schedule of the annual exercise and afterwards to draft an after-action report.
Cloud Implementation Sub-Committee	This is a sub-committee of the Cyber Workgroup. The group continues to move forward with discussion on multiple interests concerning Cloud Implementation. All members are welcome to join.
CPIC Daily Homeland Security Bulletin	A daily report provided by Chicago Police Department’s Crime Prevention & Information Center on significant Chicagoland protests, special events, and national and international intelligence.
HSIN Site	A Department of Homeland Security site housing the ChicagoFIRST page, workgroup deliverables, calendar of events, TLP amber, and sensitive documents. The site is secure and requires member authorization and registration to access.

ChicagoFIRST

Nationally Connected. Regionally Focused.
Uniquely Resilient.

For more information about ChicagoFIRST activities and communications, please email Steven Caluris, steven.caluris@chicagofirst.org or info@chicagofirst.org

We want to thank each of you for your participation and support of ChicagoFIRST. The networking, best practices, innovative approaches, and multi sector projects that each of you contribute daily make the real difference. We hope you have a productive, safe, and enjoyable remainder of 2021.

*Fostering
Industry
Resilience &
Security through
Teamwork*

ChicagoFIRST

Steven Caluris Executive Director
312-528-9005
steven.caluris@chicagofirst.org

