

# PennFIRS Webinar

Thank you for joining the PennFIRS webinar. The meeting will start shortly.

There will be a Q&A session at the end of the presentation. Please submit any questions into the Q&A so that we can answer them at that time.





# PENNFIRS

Office of the State Fire Commissioner



## Emergency Networking



# Agenda

## Vendor Process- Quick Overview- Tom Cook

- Introduction of Staff
- Background

## NERIS- Joe Bynum & J.C Tedorski

- Background
- Incident types
- NERIS ID

## Emergency Networking- EN Staff

- Features
- Live Demo

## Transition- Christine

- Registration for PennFIRS
- Timeline
- Historical Data
- Grant Compliance
- Other Vendors

## Training

- In Person Schedule
- Virtual Training
- Additional Regional Trainings

## Final Set of Talking Points

- Information Documents
- Contact Us
- Q & A



# The State Fire Commissioner, Tom Cook

Background and Overview

Introduction of OSFC Staff

Introduction of Emergency Networking Staff



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# NERIS

Background

Timeline

Onboarding

Data Privacy

Important  
Dates

Incident  
Types

Incident  
Location Use

NERIS ID and  
definition

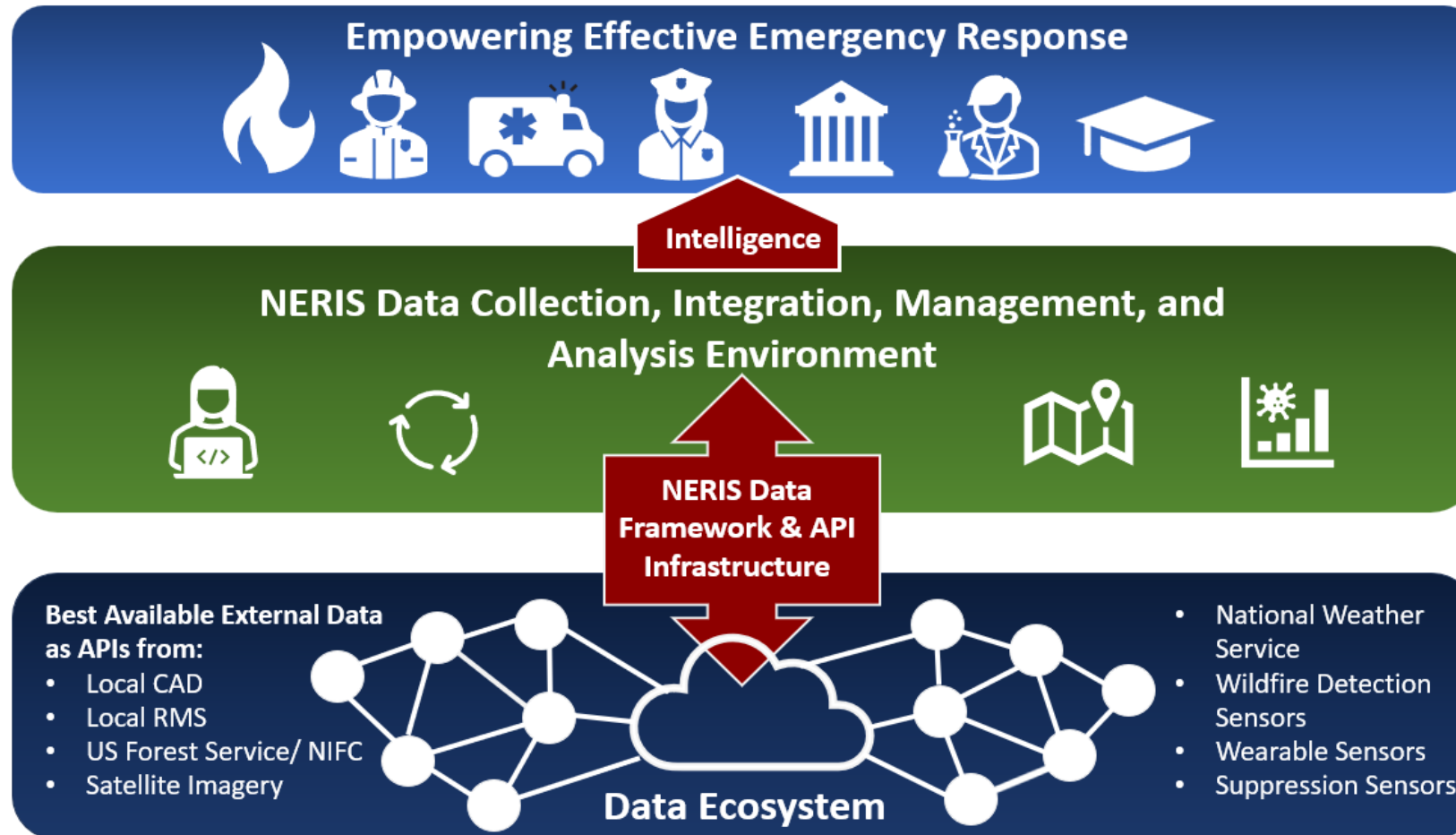




**The goal of NERIS is to empower the local fire and emergency services community** by equipping them with near real-time information and analytic tools that support data informed decision-making for enhanced preparedness and response to incidents involving all hazards.

# INTERCONNECTED INTELLIGENCE

*Powered by the National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS)*



# THE ROAD HERE

- Things that **have changed** in the fire service over the past 25 years:
  - Bunker Gear & PPE
  - Mission / Incident Types
  - Apparatus and Equipment
  - Communications
  - Tactics and Strategies
  - The workforce
  - Training
  - Available Technology
- Things that **haven't changed** in the fire service over the past 25 years:
  - **Our legacy Incident Reporting System, NFIRS**





# WHAT IMPROVEMENTS WILL NERIS OFFER?



## Enhanced Flexibility with Multi-Hazard Incident Reporting

- **Comprehensive Reporting:** Move from a single-category system to a model supporting up to three incident types. This reflects the complexity often faced by fire services in real-world scenarios.
- **For Firefighters:** Simplify reporting by selecting incident types that accurately depict the scene, eliminating the guesswork of single-category constraints.
- **For Chiefs/Data Analysts:** Reduce reliance on interpreting free-text narratives, streamlining data analysis.

NFIRS historically limited incident type selection to only one incident type, whereas NERIS allows multiple types per incident.

# WHAT IMPROVEMENTS WILL NERIS OFFER?

## Enhanced Reporting for Actions, Tactics, and Incident Outcomes

- **Actions and Tactics:** Modernized to capture comprehensive operational data including suppression techniques, ventilation efforts, and on-scene contamination reduction tactics.
- **Metrics on Rescues, Casualties, and Maydays:** Detailed tracking of key metrics reflecting the vital efforts of firefighters during emergency responses.

**Civilian Casualties and Rescues**

**Number of civilians rescued and/or injured (fatal or nonfatal) during the incident.**  
For Example: If 1 injured person self-evacuated and 1 non-injured person was rescued, enter 2. If 3 people were injured and subsequently rescued, enter 3.

1

**Civilian Casualties and Rescues (1)**

**1**

**Describe whether the presence of an occupant in need of rescue was known.**  
Select one.

Known rescue need upon arrival

**Describe whether the person was rescued, evacuated, or if there was no rescue.**  
Select one.

-Please select-

Rescued By Firefighter

Rescued By Firefighter RIT

Rescued By Non-firefighter

Evacuation Assisted By Firefighter

**Describe the nature of the casualty.**  
Select one.

-Please select-



# WHAT IMPROVEMENTS WILL NERIS OFFER?

## Enhanced Emerging Hazards and Structure Exposures:

- **Emerging Hazards:** This module will enable the system to evolve to the dynamic environments we operate in, enabling data collection of evolving threats.
- **Structure Exposures:** Entered as a straightforward addition to the original incident report, streamlining entry even in complex scenarios like urban conflagrations and the wildland-urban interface. This will reduce report completion time and improve accuracy on complex fire incidents.





# TWELVE MONTH OUTLOOK

**January 2025**

## **State Fire Marshal Office Onboarding**

SFM Training and NERIS Onboarding at National Fire Academy and develop partnership with SFM for NFIRS transition with local departments.



**May 2025**

## **Broader Adoption**

Fire departments onboard in phases and start reporting incident data to NERIS based on the onboarding ramp-up plan.



## **Targeted Roll Out**

Onboarding ~500 remaining early adopter fire departments and all 50 State Fire Marshals.



**February 2025**

**January 1, 2026**

## **Full Transition to NERIS**

All fire incident reporting is conducted using NERIS exclusively. Legacy NFIRS application is sunset, and decommissioning begins.



## **National Deployment and ATO**

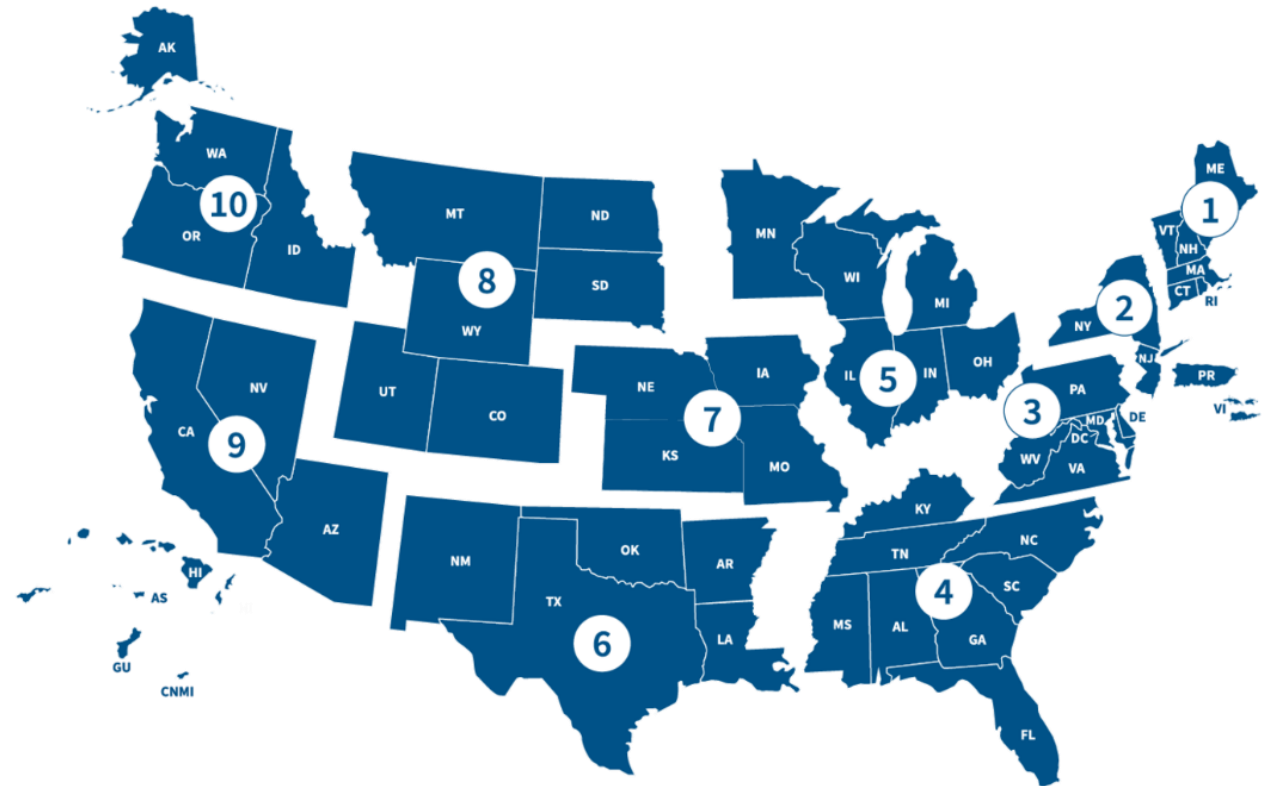
Fire departments onboard in phases and start reporting incident data to NERIS. Increased number of API connections established from local CAD & RMS. July 2025 is the target for ATO.



**July - December 2025**

# REGIONAL ROLL-OUT SCHEDULE

Month in 2025	# of Fire Departments
May	
FEMA Region 2	2,385
June	
FEMA Region 4	5,009
July	
FEMA Region 6	3,632
August	
FEMA Region 7	2,400
September	
FEMA Region 3	3,080
October	
FEMA Regions 1 & 10	2,496
November	
FEMA Regions 8 & 9	2,701
December	
FEMA Region 5	5,460



\*Dates and timeline are subject to change.

# NERIS in Action Webinar

- Today July 29, 2025 at 1:00 PM EST Virtual Webinar
- **Talk Title:** Regional Onboarding, Analytics, and the Future Roadmap
  - **Get Practical Guidance:** Understand how NERIS fits into daily operations and what it means for your department.
  - **Transition Roadmap:** Hear about key milestones and find out how departments can stay on track for 2026.
  - **Straightforward Q&A:** No fluff—just candid answers from the NERIS team.
  - **New Resources:** Onboarding materials and resources for your team.

<https://neris.fsri.org/events>

# NERIS RECORD SYSTEM

- **NERIS is not authorized to serve as an entity's system of record in fulfilling their local jurisdiction's records retention or storage solution.**

## Incident Data Privacy

NERIS Incident Data has undergone a privacy threshold assessment and has been determined **not to contain SPIL**.

## Fire Department - Data Entry Responsibility:

- **Free text fields in incidents should not have SPIL or PII information entered.**
- If PII or SPIL is entered into an open text field, NERIS automatically scans, identifies, and redacts such data/information.



# RECORDS RETENTION GUIDANCE FOR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Scenario A

Agency maintains their incident records via their local Records Management System (RMS) or other storage as their system of record and complies with their local records retention policy

**GOOD** – No further action needed

## Scenario B

Agency enters incident reports directly into NFIRS and does not have their own RMS or other storage for the incident records serving as their system of record

**ALERT** – Agency needs to establish a system of record, retrieve, and store historical incident records in compliance with their local records retention policy.

# TENTATIVE REPORTING TIMELINE

- **2025 will be a hybrid reporting year**
  - Once a fire department onboards onto NERIS and starts reporting incidents, they also do not have to submit to NFIRS.
- **2025 incidents can be submitted to either NFIRS or NERIS, depending on when a department onboards**
  - October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025- Start Date for 'GO LIVE' in PennFIRS/NERIS
  - January 15, 2026 – End date for 2025 Incidents to be submitted into NFIRS
  - January 31, 2026 – End date for edits/modifications for 2025 incident records in NFIRS
- **2026 incident reporting**
  - Starting January 1, 2026, incident data submission will be exclusively in NERIS
  - No 2026 incidents will be submitted into NFIRS

**\*\*February 2026- NFIRS will be offline\*\***

# REVIEW

- **Important dates:**

- **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025** – Onboarding with NERIS begins across PA.
- **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**- GO LIVE for PennFIRS/NERIS
- **January 1, 2026** – All incident data to be recorded in NERIS.
- **January 15, 2026** –2025 incidents submitted in NFIRS for inclusion in national statistics.
- **January 31, 2026** –2025 data edits/ modifications completed.
- **February 2026** – NFIRS decommissioned; no longer accessible.

# NERIS Incident Types

Number series no longer exist

Location Use as better known as Property Use is same

7 Core Incident Categories and their sub-group.

- **Fire**- Structure, Wildland, Outside, Transportation, Special
- **Medical**- Injury, Illness, Other
- **Hazardous Situation**- Non-chemical, Hazardous Materials, Overpressure, Investigation
- **Rescue**-Outside, Structure, Transportation, Water
- **Public Service**- Assistance, Non-Medical Alarm, Weather, Other
- **No Emergency**- Cancelled, False Alarm, Good Intent
- **Law Enforcement**- any Law enforcement assist/events



# NERIS ID: Title and Definition

- The first two digits are letters that describe the entity type. The middle five numeric digits are a geographic identifier — the FIPS code for the headquarters location of the entity or organization. The last three numeric digits are randomly generated. Ex. FD42013496
  - FD is a fire department that provides fire services and may or may not include EMS services.
  - FM is a fire marshal, which may be county, state, local, or tribal
  - EM is emergency medical or emergency medical and rescue only in service offerings in jurisdictions where the fire department does NOT participate in medical response.
  - PF is Fire Department, a Private/Industrial/Other entity that represents fire departments of a private, for-profit, industrial, or related nature. Non-governmental in organization and funding. Ex. Refinery FDs.
  - WF is Wildfire Agency, NOS that a Non-governmental entities that participate in wildfire response, preparedness, or research.

# NERIS ID Assignment

- All Fire Departments who are operating as individual corporations and not merged under one fire department will be assigned an NERIS ID. Shared Reporting IDs will no longer be accepted unless merged into one department and recognized by OSFC.
- No longer will be allowed to SHARE reporting IDs due to the design of NERIS
- Only 1 NERIS ID will be used for FDs who are merged and recognized by the OSFC as a single department.
  - Ex. If you are sharing FDID for reporting, starting Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, you will be reporting incidents separately.
  - Prime Example is Township FDs, which have multiple companies using 1 FDID for reporting.
    - Township leadership will be able to access multiple organizations to compile data and approve reports.



# Emergency Networking



Live Demo- Keith Doepp



# Emergency Networking



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# EN- Features

- ✓ NFIRS Fire Module
  - ✓ NERIS Fire Module
  - ✓ Department Insights (Analytics, Standard Reports, Ad-Hoc Reports)
  - ✓ Exposure Tracking Module (Tracking Hazardous Exposures to Crew Members)
  - ✓ Personnel Management
  - ✓ Staff Activity (Tracking points and hours for payroll & LOSAP requirements)
  - ✓ Daily Log
  - ✓ Events
  - ✓ Crew Schedule & Shifts
  - ✓ Document Library
  - ✓ Certification Tracking
  - ✓ Multi-Agency Single Sign On functionality
  - ✓ Importing historical NFIRS data for all accounts
- FDs will be required to update their contact information and change any POCs annually. An automatic reminder will be sent in the system.



# EN- Additional Modules

- For additional modules and discuss CADLINKS
- Contact Keith Doepp at [keith@emergencynetworking.com](mailto:keith@emergencynetworking.com)
- Fire Suite includes:
  - Training
  - Properties (Including Pre-Plans)
  - Inspections
  - Permits
  - Truck Checks
  - Inventory / Asset Management
  - Hydrants
  - Fuel Tracker





# Emergency Networking

Contact: 844-347-3367

Website: [emergencynetworking.com](http://emergencynetworking.com)

# Transition

Registration (QR Code)

Timeline

Historical Data

Grant Compliance

Other Vendors



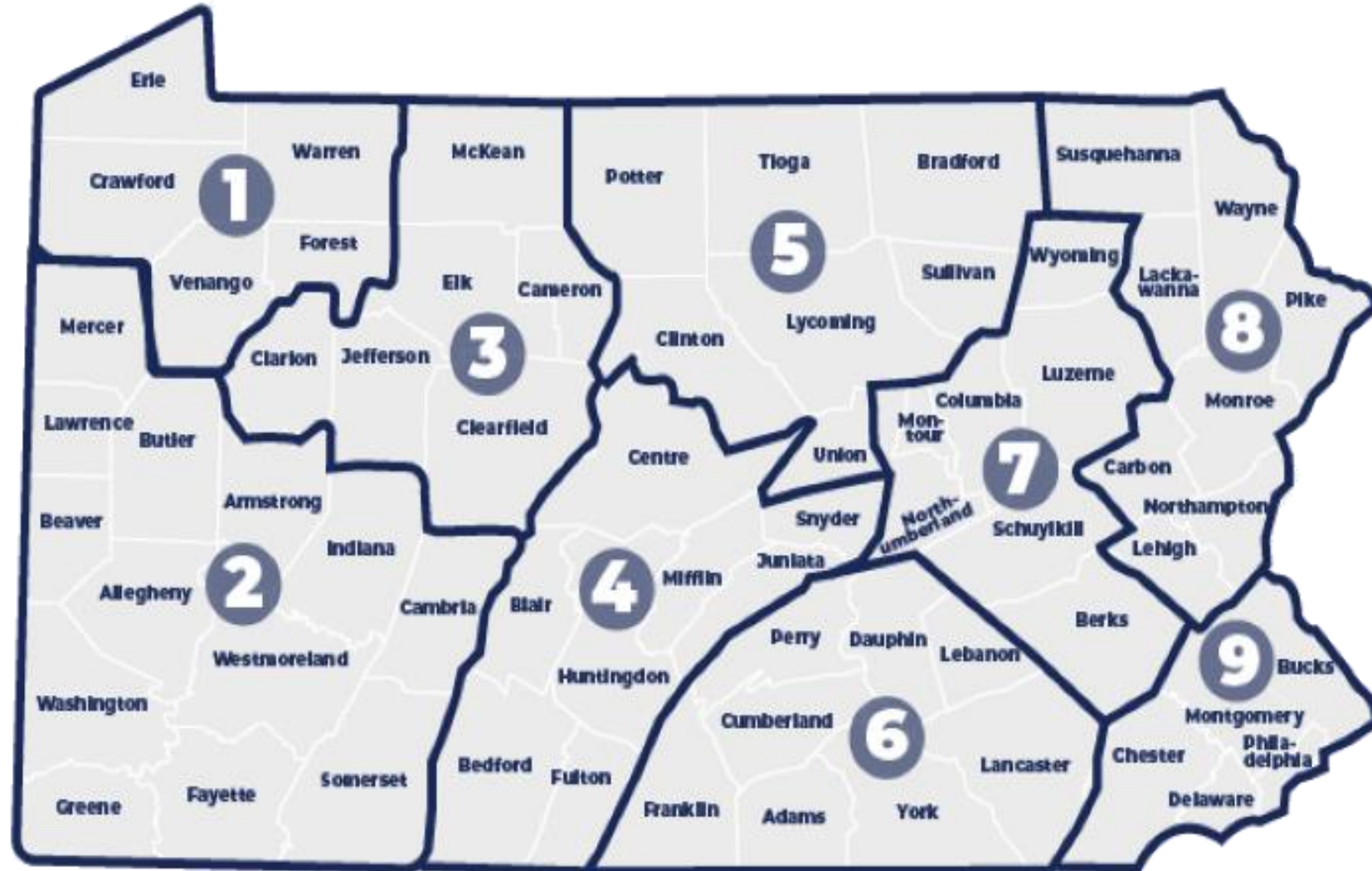
# Registering for PennFIRS



# Onboarding Schedule-EN

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- August 4<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>
  - Region 1, 2, 3
- August 18<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>
  - Region 4, 5, 6
- September 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>
  - Region 7,8,9



# Historical Data



7 years of data are saved by law



Working with ESO to export all incidents out of Emergency Reporting and import them into Emergency Networking



Years of data can go back to 2001 if you were reporting then



Check out the "Data Exporting Guide" on our website to learn how to export your own data if you are leaving the state system

# Grant Compliance

- All NFIRS incidents need to be submitted by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2026.
- The Monthly Participation report will be available in both NFIRS and NERIS standards for PennFIRS compliance.
- ER users must have all incidents for NFIRS completed by September 30<sup>th</sup> and ready for export, and before the ER cutoff date of 10/1/2025.





# Other Vendors

- OSFC will be communicating with other vendors
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party vendors have own Record storage
- Incident Transfer
  - Incidents will be exported out of NERIS into PennFIRS account.



# Training



# In-Person Training Schedule

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Each date will have 2 sessions  
1 PM – 3 PM and 6 PM – 9 PM



## Western

Allegheny County 9-1-1  
Wednesday September 10

## Eastern

Montgomery Fire Academy  
Wednesday, September 17

## Central

TBD  
Wednesday, September 24



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# Virtual Training

## Emergency Networking

- Monthly virtual trainings
- Will be recorded and available online

Trainings will be held once a month Oct- Mar

Specific Dates will be announced Soon

## Additional Regional Trainings

Trainings will be scheduled  
in the OSFC SFAB 9 Regions

After Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, “Go Live”

Dates and Locations- To be  
Determined



# Final Set Talking Points

Information Documents

Contact Us

Q&A



# Information Documents

The website will have attached PDF documents for download when available.

- NERIS Incident Type
- NERIS Property Use
- NERIS Actions Taken
- NERIS Unit types with definitions
- FAQs document
- Data Export Guide
- QR code and Link for PennFIRS registration



# NEED ASSISTANCE?



**Phone Number- 717-651-2200**



**Email: [RA-pennfirs@pa.gov](mailto:RA-pennfirs@pa.gov)**



**Website:  
[www.pa.gov/agencies/osfc/contact](http://www.pa.gov/agencies/osfc/contact)**



# Questions and Answers

