

## **Emergency Services Chaplain Training** **- Course Descriptions -**

Approved students may take one or more of the chaplain training courses in any order they choose. However, we recommend the following order to get the most out of our training.

### **Recommended Order**

- 1) \*Foundations of Christian Chaplaincy
- 2) Introduction to Emergency Services
- 3) Introduction to Emergency Services Chaplaincy
- 4) Death Notification
- 5) Getting Started in Emergency Services Chaplaincy

*\* This course is especially for those with limited evangelical, theological training.*

The following additional courses can be taken in any order: Overview of CISM, Psychological First Aid, Introduction to EMS, Introduction to the Fire Service, Introduction to Law Enforcement - Part 1, and Introduction to Law Enforcement - Part 2. (You should take Intro to LE - Part 1 before taking Part 2.)

NIMS training is important for chaplains to take. It is required by most departments and is necessary for access to an emergency scene including natural disasters.

### **Course Descriptions**

**Foundations of Christian Chaplaincy** - The purpose of this course is to provide the student with: 1) the firm assurance that they are indeed Christian and that heaven is their future home, 2) the knowledge and skills of how to write and present their personal, salvation testimony, and 3) the knowledge and skills of how to lead others into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We believe that knowing and being able to do these things well are essential to what it means to be a Christian chaplain. This course can become an excellent evangelism tool for the chaplain to give to others who are wanting to know how they can have a personal relationship with Christ.

**Introduction to Emergency Services** – This course is designed to introduce the student to the four major divisions of emergency services which are fire, law enforcement, EMS, and dispatch. It exposes the student to the culture, terms, concepts, and operations of each division. It explains emergency vehicle equipment and operations and specific points of interest of each division including its history and purpose(s).

**Introduction to Emergency Services Chaplaincy** – This course introduces the student to a variety of terms and concepts in emergency services chaplaincy as well as how this chaplaincy ministry differs from other forms of ministry. Other topics include the Role of the Chaplain, Ministering to and Relating to Responders, Ministering on an Emergency Scene, Ministering to Citizens in Crisis, Dealing with Death, Communications and Confidentiality, the Health and Safety of the Chaplain, CISM/CISD, NIMS, Evaluating Ministry Success, and the

Uniquenesses of Chaplaincy Ministry in each of the four divisions of emergency services.

**Death Notification & Related Issues** – This course give the student twenty-four suggested steps to follow in a death notification. It describes each one in detail including the preparation phase, the delivery phase, and follow-up ministry. It also covers other topics including Children and Death; the Deceased and the Dead Body; Embalming, Cremation & Funerals; Understanding Grief and Loss; and Self-Care for the Death Notifier.

**Getting Started in Emergency Services Chaplaincy** – This course gives the student a brief overview of the basic elements of emergency services chaplaincy ministry. It gives a variety of examples of effective ministry to both responders and citizens in crisis. Its main purpose is to take the student, step-by-step, through the process of becoming a chaplain in an emergency services department. It leads them from “OK, I’m interested” to actually being accepted as a department’s chaplain. Further, it describes how to begin ministry and suggests additional training the chaplain will need.

**Introduction to Emergency Medical Services (EMS)** – This course helps the student to understand the basics of emergency medical services and pre-hospital emergency medical care. The student will learn medical terms and concepts, as well as the different types of EMS emergencies. Other topics in this course include Safety & Protection; Tools and Equipment; Legal & Ethical Issues; Human Anatomy; Lifting & Moving Patients; Airway Management; Vital Signs, Medical & Trauma Patients; Scene Size-up, Patient Assessments; CPR , and more.

**Introduction to the Fire Service** – This course helps the student to understand the basics of the fire service. The student will learn the history of the fire service, as well as common terms and concepts used within this service discipline. Other topics in this course include Fire Service Personnel & Their Duties; Training & Safety; Tools, Equipment & Appliances; Ladders; Fire Behavior; Personal Protective Equipment Used by Firefighters; Water Supply, Fire Streams & Hoses; Fire Department Vehicles & Apparatus; Fire Control & Suppression; Loss Control; Rescue & Extrication; Communications; Fire Investigations & Enforcement, and more.

**Introduction to Law Enforcement - Part 1** -- This course helps the student to understand the basics of U.S. law enforcement. The student will learn the history of law enforcement, as well as common terms and concepts used within this service discipline. Other topics that will be covered include key constitutional amendments and Supreme Court decisions affecting law enforcement; a description of the many federal, state, local and other law enforcement agencies; an understanding of the structures, training, and equipment used in law enforcement; and an understanding of the basics of law enforcement culture.

**Introduction to Law Enforcement - Part 2** -- This course is a continuation of its sister course listed above. (We strongly recommend you take Intro to Law Enforcement – Part 1 before taking this one.) In this course the student will continue to gain a basic understanding of U.S. law enforcement. The course topics include some of the unique aspects of law enforcement culture, line-of-duty deaths, the basics of law enforcement chaplaincy, and law enforcement methods and procedures including laws and statutes, crimes and criminals, crime scenes and how evidence is managed.

**Overview of Critical Incident Stress Management** -- This course is intended to give the student a general overview of Critical Incident Stress Management. CISM deals with prevention, intervention, and post-vention of stress and its effects on people. CISM is a comprehensive, integrated, systematic, and multi-component approach to crisis intervention. It can become a valuable and very practical ministry tool for emergency services chaplains.

**Psychological First Aid: Providing PFA as an Emergency Services Chaplain** - - This course is intended to give the student an overview of psychological first aid, its value and application. You will learn the eight core actions that comprise PFA. You will learn how PFA is applied in the context of a natural disaster. From that knowledge base, you will learn how the core actions of PFA are applied to a variety of local emergency services scenarios.

**Chaplains should take the following four courses in order to become NIMS compliant.**

NIMS stands for National Incident Management System. These courses are offered online by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). Our “courses” simply guide you through the process of taking the FREE online FEMA courses. They also let us know when you are NIMS compliant. These courses are required training by most emergency services agencies.

**NIMS 100 – Introduction to Incident Command System** - - This course introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. It describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

**NIMS 700 – An Introduction to National Incident Management System (NIMS)** - - This course introduces and overviews the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents.

**NIMS 200 - ICS for Single Resources & Initial Action Incidents** - - This course is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS-200 provides training on and resources for personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position within the ICS. (As a chaplain, you may not end up serving in a supervisory role at an incident. Regardless, this course is an important one for you to take. It will help you to better understand the role of those who do function as incident supervisors.)

**NIMS 800 - National Response Framework, An Introduction** - - The course introduces participants to the concepts and principles of the National Response Framework. This course is intended for government executives, private-sector and nongovernmental organization (NGO) leaders, and emergency management practitioners. This includes senior elected and appointed leaders, such as Federal department or agency heads, State Governors, mayors, tribal leaders, and city or county officials – those who have a responsibility to provide for effective response. (As a chaplain, this course is an important course for you to take. It will help you to better understand the role of those who function as decision-makers in a major incident.)