

Personnel News

June 2010

Wendy Freitag was appointed External Affairs Section Manager effective June 1. She will supervisor a new section which will include public information, public education, and corporate relations. Freitag, who came to the Washington Emergency Management Division (EMD) three years ago, has led an EMD corporate relations program which has been a trend setter among the 50 states. "I am pleased that Wendy will be able to continue contributing to a renewed commitment to public education, public information, and corporate relations, which will serve to strengthen our overall public outreach strategy. I am sure that the very talented staff members who work in these program areas will benefit from Wendy's extensive experience in the public and private sectors, as she will profit from their talents and knowledge, said EMD Director Jim Mullen. Freitag previously worked for the Microsoft Corp and the former Washington Mutual Bank and has served as a public information officer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Chris Utzinger was named Emergency Logistics Program Manager on May 24. A Swiss Army veteran, Utzinger served as a training and exercise coordinator in the Exercise and Training Section of the Planning, Exercise and Training Unit. He provided coordination and support for more than 200 incident command systems instructors in the state and supervised the EMD's Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program exercise program. Utzinger came to EMD in 2008 from the University of Montana.

Casey Bloom became the Homeland Security Section Program Coordinator for the Buffer Zone Protection and the Interoperability Emergency Communications grant programs on July 1. A graduate of the University of Nevada, she has served in EMD's Public Assistance Program since 2007.

