



## Calendar

### Next Board Meeting

**October 14, 2020**

### Upcoming Meetings

**September 29, 2020**  
Executive Board

**October 21, 2020**  
Fire Chiefs Steering  
Committee

## eNews

September 24, 2020



### [How to Keep our Officers Safe During Civil Unrest](#)

*By: Margo Ely, Executive Director at IRMA*

Our officers are facing real danger. And it's not going away. Two officers shot last night in Louisville. The election is 40 days away. It's time to re-think our priorities. This is all very complicated and there are no easy answers. What use of force is reasonable in enforcing a curfew? What is the risk our officers face in situations that escalate? What are options to de-escalate? Should we give officers permission to step back depending on the situation? Life is more important than property. What is the appropriate balance? When a peaceful protest turns violent, what are the trigger points for different police responses? Join us for a discussion on [October 14](#) – "Civil Unrest and a Unified Response: Are your Departments Prepared?" with nationally renowned police expert Steve Ijames who will review options for being prepared as civil unrest continues to plague our nation. Then join us on [October 15](#) for a roundtable discussion with your fellow public safety officers and administrators to discuss the local perspective of preparing for response to civil unrest and a unified response.

### **2020 Annual Education Summit** *We're Better Together*

This year's Annual Education Summit is set to take place very Tuesday and Thursday in the month of October. We will cover a wide Range of topics. Including how to ace IRMA's Loss Control Visits, Conducting Internal Investigations, and much more! [Register today!](#)

#### IRMA

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## Upcoming Trainings

**October 1, 2020**  
*(Cancelled)*

**Education Summit Topics**  
*(October 6-22, 2020)*

**October 6, 2020**  
[Legal Update](#)

**October 8, 2020**  
[Conducting Internal Investigations: What You Should Know](#)

**October 13, 2020**  
[The Intersection of Workers' Compensation Surveillance, Employment, and Fraud](#)

**October 15, 2020**  
[Are You Up to Speed On Zoning Cases?](#)

**October 20, 2020**  
[IRMA's Loss Control Visits and How to Ace Them](#)

**October 22, 2020**  
[Cyber Attacks – A Threat to Public Entities](#)

## eNews



### Investment Update

*By: Rita Boserup, Director of Finance at IRMA*

IRMA's 2020 investment portfolio has made a dramatic comeback with a 3.5% estimated return at the end of August. Investment income return broke even at the end of July and moved positive in August. The low point was at the end of March when estimated investment income was approximately a 13% loss YTD. [Read more...](#)

### [IPELRA Podcast: COVID-19 and Workers' Compensation Claims](#)

Guest Speaker: Margo Ely, Executive Director, IRMA

### **Are you investing in organizational diversity and equality? You should – and we can help.**

*By: Jennifer Swahlstedt, Director of Risk Management & Training at IRMA*

Organizations large and small are challenged with combating systemic racism, discriminatory practices, and implicit bias. As your risk pool, we support diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) trainings not only to reduce and eliminate bias, but also as a risk prevention effort. The potential liability risks include not only in employment and hiring practices, but also housing or zoning issues, and complaint-based code enforcement. When escalated to lawsuits, these cases can reach jury awards in the millions. [Read more...](#)

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## Please welcome Venkat Pitchala!



IRMA is happy to welcome our new Data Analytics and IT Manager, Venkat Pitchala. Venkat has over 15 years of experience in the IT industry with expertise in data analytics.

[Read more...](#)



## Municipal Polling Place Measures to Mitigate COVID-19 Exposures

*By: Jennifer Swahlstedt, Director of Risk Management & Training*

The early voting period in Illinois is Thursday, September 24, 2020 to Monday, November 2, 2020. COVID-19 will make voting look different, but it is still possible and important to create a safe environment for your facilities, employees, polling workers and voters. By planning and following the guidelines, everyone can have a safe experience at the polls this year. [Read more...](#)

## Safe Driving Resources

*By: Frankie Giannetti, Loss Control Manager at IRMA  
September 17, 2020*

### [Distracted Driving Awareness Month](#)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Safety Council (NSC) postponed the observance of Distracted Driving Awareness Month from April to October 2020. In addition to offerings by NSC, here are other resources for driver safety available on IRMA's website. [Read more...](#)

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## eNews

### **Snowplow Safety and COVID-19**

*By: Frankie Giannetti, Loss Control Manager at IRMA  
September 17, 2020*

Managing the logistics of a snow and ice response plan is difficult enough without the threat of a COVID-19 outbreak affecting your workplace. As we all continue to focus on maintaining safe work conditions and healthy employees this winter, here are several tips to consider for the winter snow and ice season. [Read more...](#)

## *Training* AND EDUCATION

### **October is...National Cyber Security Awareness Month**

Now more than ever, the internet is prevalent in nearly every aspect of our lives as organizations, daily living and social interactions have shifted almost exclusively to online or social media platforms. The physical safety of your devices and the security of your data is crucial. Staying safe online is so crucial that October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM), which is now in its seventeenth year. [Read more...](#)

### **LUCAS Chest Compression System joins IRMA Membership Discounts**

Providing high-quality, Guideline-consistent chest compressions during a sudden cardiac arrest with minimal interruptions, the LUCAS device is designed to improve CPR quality while prioritizing caregiver and patient safety. [Read more...](#)

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## eNews

### Networking Made Easy!

What is another member's policy on "Responding to Burglar Alarms" or their "COVID Related Operational Changes"? Our Member Forums page where you can pose questions, share resources, and start discussion on important topics effecting your municipality and operating departments. Do not hesitate, signing up is easy. Simply click on [Member Forums](#) from the IRMA Website then hit subscribe to any of the feeds you're interested in receiving. It's that simple!

This feature requires a username and password. If you do not have a username and password, you may contact Donna Morin at [donnam@irmarisk.org](mailto:donnam@irmarisk.org) for access.



### Safety Toolbox

BLR – [Employee Newsletter – October 2020](#)

BLR – [Employee Safety Newsletter – October 2020](#)

EHS – [Employee Newsletter – October 2020](#)

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