



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

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JOHN SCRIVANI
State Coordinator of Emergency
Management

To: All Interested Conference Speakers

From: Thomas Jordan, Chief – Technological Hazards/Conference Education Program Committee

Re: 2026 Virginia Hazardous Materials Conference Presentation Proposals

Greetings:

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the Virginia Association of Hazardous Material Response Specialists have begun to solicit potential speakers for the 2026 Virginia Hazardous Materials Conference. In receiving this invitation, we hope that you're available and willing to share your time and knowledge with us this year.

This year, the Conference will be held September 15-18 at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach. Our approach to a secure and resilient future for the Commonwealth is based on a foundation of planning, preparedness, teamwork, and expanding the knowledge of all emergency responders. Given today's ever-changing environment, there are many opportunities for new and innovative workshops. This year, the Conference has opportunities for 90/180 minutes sessions as well as four-hour blocks for longer presentations and hands-on activities. The Conference is also looking for presentations that can offer course completion credit for the attendees. Recent case studies of significant incidents, discussion on emerging trends or technology and repeat performances of popular past presentations are always encouraged. We request that you please keep within the scope of the following subject matter: **Planning, Safety, Chemistry/ Reference, Detection and Monitoring, Personal Protective Clothing, Decontamination, Containers and Tactical Control, and Tactical Planning and Management.** The Conference committee will arrange for Virginia Office of EMS continuing education credit for eligible topics.

As an incentive to our speakers, we offer complimentary conference registration, lodging necessary for your participation and of course, the opportunity to spend time with people from all aspects of the hazardous materials response community.

We hope you will be able to submit a proposal for consideration in this year's program. You can access the presentation proposal form at <https://app.okwhen.com/conferences/VAHMRS26/Proposals> You are welcome to submit multiple presentations or to forward this link to other people. Please complete the online form **no later than June 10, 2026.**

I would like to thank you in advance for your interest and participation in our conference. Please feel free to contact me at tom.jordan@vdem.virginia.gov if you have any questions or have any difficulties with submitting a proposal. You will be notified via email regarding the acceptance of your proposal and confirmation of the date and time of your presentation prior to June 20. We look forward to seeing you in Virginia Beach in September.