



Robert J. Schillerstrom, DuPage County Board Chairman

When President Abraham Lincoln addressed the war-torn nation in his Inaugural Address in 1865, he made a promise to our nation's veterans, saying that America would: "care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan." Those words became the motto of the US Veteran's Administration.

On November 11, we pay tribute to our 25 million American veterans.

One of the best ways we can honor our veterans is to renew our commitment to their future and their well-being.

I invite all DuPage County residents to offer their personal gratitude to a veteran whenever possible. Take time to visit a VA hospital or donate your time to a veteran's organization.

On Veteran's Day and throughout the year, we must honor our veteran's' patriotism, love of liberty and commitment to freedom and vow to never forget their contributions and their sacrifice.

I hope that you and your family will find a way to make the Veterans Day meaningful to you, your children, and our brave men and women who have served so proudly.

My God Bless all our Veterans and may God continue to bless America.

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DuPage County Office of Homeland Security
& Emergency Management

Businesses Urged to Prepare For Emergencies

Planning Saves Lives and Stabilizes Our Economy

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is urging small and medium-sized businesses to prepare for potential catastrophic events by creating an emergency plan to help protect a company's assets and to maximize it's potential to survive and recover after an incident.

Government officials warn that emergencies, including natural disasters and terrorist attacks, can cripple business operations and therefore threaten our economy as a whole. Small and mid-sized businesses are often the most vulnerable because they may not have the resources to effectively plan for a disaster and may not have continuity plans in place.

The *Ready Business* campaign was created to help facilitate emergency preparedness for the business community. Practical information and affordable ways to keep a business operational after a disaster is now available on the

website. Easy to use materials are available including:

- creating evacuation plans,
- developing employee communication strategies,
- protecting business investments,
- securing facilities and
- renewing insurance coverage.

To learn more, log-on to www.ready.gov.

According to the U.S. Department of Small Business Administration, small and mid-sized businesses are critical to our nation's economic engine and include more than 99 percent of all employers, provide approximately 75 percent of net new jobs added to the economy and represent 97 percent of all U.S. exporters.

If our nation's businesses are prepared to survive and recover quickly from an emergency, our country and economy will be more secure.

For more information go to <http://www.citizenscorpdupage.org>