

UPSA Regional Meeting Executive Summary

Public safety leaders in electricity and natural gas discussed ideas and shared resources at four regional Utility Public Safety Alliance meetings in 2018.

UPSA Regional Meeting Vision

Since 2000, UPSA has created opportunities for industry thinkers to **connect and innovate**. In 2018, UPSA expanded its impact by holding one-day regional meetings across the United States. Diverse influencers gathered to collaborate on **emerging best practices** for public safety. These meetings included content specific to each region's unique public safety concerns as well as insights from across the country.

2018 Regional Meetings, Dates & Hosts

- Sacramento, 9/11, Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- Detroit, 11/2, DTE Energy
- San Antonio, 11/7, CPS Energy
- Nashville, 11/15, Duke Energy & Piedmont Natural Gas

“When it comes to public safety, there is no competition, and sharing lessons learned is invaluable.”

Collaborative Format

The regional meetings were designed to foster cross-company cooperation. A variety of industry-led sessions allowed participants to network, ask questions, explain public safety strategies, collect reusable resources, and discuss trends and concerns.

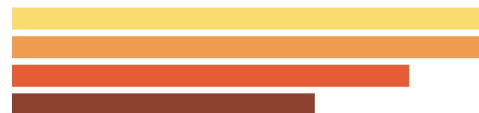
Sessions, Panels, Roundtables & Case Studies

Participants enjoyed unique regional content on the following topics:

- Utility public safety program overviews
- Regional case studies
- Public safety emerging issues and best practices
- Public safety risks, insurance gaps, and outreach effectiveness
- Damage prevention: third-party contractors
- Teacher and student outreach programs
- Emergency responders' perspectives
- Regulators' perspectives
- Executives' perspectives



4 Regional Meetings, 125 Participants



- 37** Hosted by CPS Energy
- 36** DTE Energy
- 30** SMUD
- 22** Duke Energy

Participation & Engagement

- Over 70% of survey respondents were first-time attendees of a UPSA meeting.
- Over 70% of respondents would be interested in participating in a Regional Utility Public Safety Alliance.
- 87% of all respondents said they are likely to participate in a UPSA Regional meeting in the future.



Participant Feedback

“UPSA meetings are a great value to our industry. They allow us to share best practices and compare notes with peers we wouldn't otherwise have access to from across the industry.”

- JESSE HERNANDEZ, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, CPS ENERGY

Speakers

Dozens of presenters spoke and moderated discussions at the 2018 regional meetings, including the following:

- **Catherine Mankins**, Supervisor, Public Safety, SMUD
- **Tony Marino**, Executive Officer, Underground Facilities, Safe Excavation Board, Office of California State Fire Marshall
- **Scot Runke**, Manager Damage Prevention, DTE Energy
- **Chris Bush**, Assistant Division Commander, Emergency Management & Homeland Security, Michigan State Police
- **Jesse Hernandez**, Director, Community Programs, CPS Energy
- **John Sparks**, Director of Damage Prevention, Texas 811
- **Susan Browning**, Lead Health and Safety Specialist, Duke Energy
- **Michael Armistead**, Chief, Nashville Fire Department

Key Takeaways

Participants left the regional meetings with the latest **knowledge and insights** about how the utility industry and its partners are improving public safety. They received **free presentation materials** and other documents to educate and lead their teams. Participants discussed cutting-edge technology, **analytic data**, and effectiveness research to inform future decisions.

Participant Response

Participant feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

In fact, **98%** of respondents agreed that the format of the meeting provided valuable **opportunities to learn** more about utility public safety and public awareness program best practices.

Also, **98%** of respondents said that the format of the meeting facilitated **valuable discussion** with industry peers on topics related to public safety.

2019 Calendar

The UPSA nationwide **Annual Meeting** will be held in San Antonio, Texas on May 8 and 9. Register at: bit.ly/UPSA2019

Four regional meetings are currently being planned at various locations around the country.

To host a future regional meeting, or for any questions about UPSA, visit: bit.ly/ContactUPSA

Meeting Highlights

Interactive Format:

- Roundtable Discussion
- Networking/
Relationship-Building
- Group Discussions
- Q&A with Presenters



44 Different organizations attended
— *Including* —



26 Utilities

18 Public Safety Partners

What We Learned

Participating empowers organization leaders with actionable ideas to advocate for change.

Recommended Future Session Topics

- Public Safety Program Overviews
- Emergency Response to Wildfires
- Measuring Public Safety Outreach Effectiveness
- Cultivating/Assessing Safety Culture
- Damage Prevention
- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Engaging/Including Emergency Officials
- Predictive Analysis Research and the Safety Index
- Emergency Responder Training
- Electric Safety Topics