



## *MIA FALL CONFERENCE LESSONS LEARNED FROM LAST WINTER*

The Winter of 2014-15 was not only an historic event, but it tested the resources of city and town officials state wide. As with any challenging situation, there are lessons to be learned. On September 17th, those who were "in the trenches" will join our featured speaker, Harvey Leonard, to discuss last winter's impact on municipalities from a public safety, management and operational perspective. We will talk about what worked and what didn't and brainstorm solutions so that we can ensure whatever this winter brings, we will be prepared.

### **Where:**

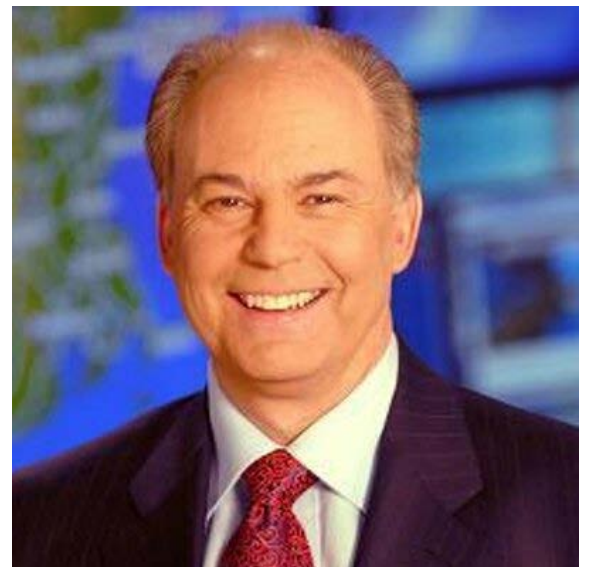
Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center  
219 Littleton Road, Westford, MA

### **When:**

September 17th, 2015  
9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Harvey Leonard is WCVB Channel 5's chief meteorologist. He joined the station in 2002 as Storm Team 5's co-chief meteorologist with his longtime friend Dick Albert, who retired in 2009. Leonard forecasts for NewsCenter 5's early evening and late newscasts, as well as the stations' website WCVB.com.

Leonard earned two New England Emmy Awards for outstanding achievement in television weathercasting, and he has been named "Best Meteorologist" by Boston Magazine four times. In addition, he has been dubbed the Hub's "favorite forecaster" by the Improper Bostonian. Leonard is a fellow of the American Meteorologist Society and is credited as the first meteorologist to correctly predict the impact and intensity of the Blizzard of '78'.



## **The MIIA Perspective**

**Mike Cusack, MIIA Member Services, Vice President  
Property and Casualty Operations**

**Niko Pappas, MIIA Member Services, Director  
Workers Compensation Claims**



## **Department of Public Works**

**Chip Barrett, Highway Superintendent, Westford**

**Robert Cantoreggi, Public Works Director, Franklin**

Battling last winter's snow and ice fell on the heroic shoulders of the municipal DPW workers. But, logging countless hours cleaning roads and performing numerous weather related tasks didn't come without much mental and physical strain. We will look at the importance of fatigue management and stress reduction as well as best practices in the areas of planning, preparing, operations, recovery and review.



## **Public Safety**

**James Cormier- Chief of Police, Reading**

Adverse weather conditions increase the risk of accidents and this past winter was no exception. Whether it's a road mishap, a school roof failure or medical emergency, extreme winters present multiple challenges. Here we'll look at the importance of interdepartmental communication in managing such risks, as well as balancing professional demands with personal or family needs. Strategies will be explored for enhancing future safety preparedness.



## **Management**

**Jodi Ross, Town Manager, Westford**

As with any crisis, one way to get through it is through effective leadership. Last winter highlighted the multiple challenges that municipal officials face in battling extreme snow and cold: dealing with the public, disseminating alerts, general communication, triage, budgetary pressures and personnel management.



Attendance at this seminar qualifies the member for 2% credit under the FY 16 MIIA Public Officials, School Board or Law Enforcement Liability category.