National Incident Management System

(NIMS)

FEMA

US Department of Homeland Security

On February 28, 2003, President Bush issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5. HSPD-5 directed the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents. You can also find information about NIMS at http://www.fema.gov/nims/

While most incidents are generally handled on a daily basis by a single jurisdiction at the local level, there are important instances in which successful domestic incident management operations depend on the involvement of multiple jurisdictions, functional agencies, and emergency responder disciplines. These instances require effective and efficient coordination across this broad spectrum of organizations and activities.

Since the September 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, much has been done to improve prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation capabilities and coordination processes across the country. A comprehensive national approach to incident management, applicable at all jurisdictional levels and across functional disciplines provides a core set of doctrine, concepts, principles, technology and organizational processes that are applicable to all hazards

NIMS establishes standardized incident management processes, protocols, and procedures that all responders -- Federal, state, tribal, and local -- will use to coordinate and conduct response actions. With responders using the same standardized procedures, they will all share a common focus, and will be able to place full emphasis on incident management when a homeland security incident occurs -- whether terrorism or natural disaster. In addition, national preparedness and readiness in responding to and recovering from an incident is enhanced since all of the Nation's emergency teams and authorities are using a common language and set of procedures.

NIMS incorporates incident management best practices developed and proven by thousands of responders and authorities across America. These

practices, coupled with consistency and national standardization, will now be carried forward throughout all incident management processes, exercises, qualification and certification, communications interoperability, doctrinal changes, training, and publications, public affairs, equipping, evaluating, and incident management. All of these measures unify the response community as never before.

Beginning in FY 2007, which starts on Oct.1, 2006, all federal preparedness funding will be conditioned upon full compliance with the NIMS. By completing the FY05 activities as well as the FY06 activities, which are outlined in the State/Territories compliance matrix on the NIMS Homepage, states and territories will achieve what is considered to be full NIMS implementation by FY07. Local and tribal jurisdictions will achieve what is considered to be full NIMS implementation by completing the FY06 activities outlined in the Local/Tribal matrix, which also may be found on the NIMS Homepage at www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/.

All future federal preparedness grants will be contingent upon NIMS compliance by the end of FY 2006. This includes preparedness grants from the Department of Homeland Security, as well as other federal departments that award preparedness grants and other types of funding. This does not affect disaster assistance as money awarded to help jurisdictions that have suffered disasters are not classified as preparedness funds. For more information about federal preparedness funding see the NIMS Web page at www.fema.gov/emergency/nims

For Further information about NIMS and how it may impact your CISM Team Response to Local State and National Emergency please visit the following websites:

http://www.nimsonline.com/

http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700.asp

www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=3697

http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/index.shtm

IS-700 and 800 are core training programs providing an appropriate introduction to the National Incident Management System and the National Response Plan. ICS 100 and 200 are *all hazards* training programs that provide a more focused approach to the Incident Command System.

IS-700 NIMS: An Introduction

All personnel with a direct role in emergency preparedness, incident management or response must complete this training.
http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/is700.asp

IS-800 NRP: An Introduction

All federal, state, local, territorial, tribal and local emergency managers or personnel whose primary responsibility is emergency management must complete this training.
http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/is800.asp

ICS-100 Introduction to ICS ICS-200 Basic ICS

*All Federal, State, territorial, tribal, private sector and non-governmental personnel at the entry level, first line supervisor level, middle management level, and command and general staff level of emergency management operations must complete **ICS-100** level training.*

*All Federal, State, territorial, tribal, private sector and non-governmental personnel at the first line supervisor level, middle management level, and command and general staff level of emergency management operations must complete **ICS-200** level training.*

The above information summarized by Douglas J. Mitchell, MPA, Lt. (Ret.) FDNY, (ICISF Faculty/Trained Trainer), Deputy Chief John Scholz, AACoFD (ICISF Board Member) and Kenneth Bohn (ICISF Director of Operations).