

## MARYLAND NIMS IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

### Foreword

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private sector and nongovernmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents. The Federal Homeland Security Presidential Directive #5 (HSPD-5) requires Federal departments and agencies to make the adoption of NIMS by State, Tribal and local organizations a condition of eligibility for Federal preparedness grants, contracts and other activities by Federal Fiscal Year 2005. Jurisdictions can comply in the short term by adopting the National Incident Command System. Other aspects of NIMS require additional development and refinement to enable compliance at a future date.

The State of Maryland will comply with the Federal Homeland Security Presidential Directive #5 (HSPD-5) by adopting the National Incident Management System (NIMS) by October 1, 2004. Implementation will be completed by December 1, 2005. This document identifies the strategy for state departments or agencies to reference in the implementation of this system.

### Department or Agency Responsibilities

Each state department or agency will adopt and implement NIMS, and specifically the Incident Command System (ICS). Please note that the level and amount of training will be determined by the criteria delineated below. Each criteria identifies levels of training to prepare individuals to perform within the Incident Command System. They are not correlated to personnel job descriptions for day-to-day management of an organization.

Awareness Level: Individuals that may be involved in an incident and/or perform a direct or supporting role, shall be trained in the following components of ICS:

- Organizational Structure
- Positions and responsibilities
- Facilities

Operational Level: Individuals who may be involved in or with ICS general functions shall be trained in the following components of ICS:

- Principles and Features of ICS
- Organizational Overview
- Incident Facilities
- Common Responsibilities Associated with ICS Assignments

Supervisory Level: Individuals who may be assigned to ICS supervisory positions for Incidents will be trained in the following components of ICS:

- Essential Principles of ICS
- Air Operations (if applicable)
- Special Events Planning
- Resources Management

Command Level: Individuals who may be expected to perform in a management capacity, incident commander and/or area commanders in a complex incident environment:

- Large Scale Incidents
- Unified/Area Command
- Complex Incident Management
- Interagency Coordination

Executive Level: Local and State elected/appointed officials who should have an understanding of ICS principles and who, at the time of ICS implementation, participate at the policy level.

### **Implementation Plan**

A training implementation plan will be prepared by each state department or agency and submitted to the Maryland Emergency Management Agency for review. Further guidance to develop these plans will be provided by the Maryland Emergency Management Agency in the fall of 2004. Each department or agency should begin to identify individuals who need training as defined by the aforementioned levels.

### **Summary**

This strategy has been developed through a collaborative effort including local, state and federal representation from emergency management, fire, law enforcement, public health, transportation and public works. It is intended to serve as the foundational step to ensure adoption and implementation of the National Incident Management Systems. NIMS will provide our State with a consistent template for public and private agencies and is a key component that supports ongoing efforts to improve interoperability and ensure effective integrated response for any event, natural or man-made.