

THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Proclamation

Implementing the National Incident Management System

December 20, 2004

Whereas, In Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5, the President directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS), which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local, and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity; and

Whereas, the collective input and guidance from all federal, state, local, and tribal homeland security partners has been, and will continue to be, vital to the development, effective implementation and utilization of a comprehensive NIMS; and

Whereas, it is necessary that all federal, state, local, and tribal emergency agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management; and

Whereas, to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management it is critical that federal, state, local, and tribal organizations utilize standardized terminology, standardized organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training, and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters; and

Whereas, the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities and resources will improve the state's ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local and state agency readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management processes; and

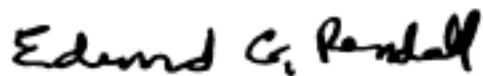
Whereas, the Incident Command System components of NIMS are already an integral part of various incident management activities throughout the state, including all public safety and emergency response organizations training programs; and

Whereas, the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks (9-11 Commission) recommended adoption of a standardized Incident Command System.

Now Therefore, Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the provisions of the Emergency Management Services Code (35 Pa.C.S. Section 7101 et seq., as amended), I do hereby mandate the National Incident Management System be utilized for all incident management in the Commonwealth.

I further proclaim this to take effect immediately.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twentieth day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand four and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and twenty-ninth.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund G. Rendell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "E" at the beginning.

Governor

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