

NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

On February 28, 2003, President Bush signed Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5). This directive establishes the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and requires local governments to conform and adopt NIMS, as well as put into place other qualifiers to be eligible for Homeland Security grant funds in FY-05 and beyond. Two key components for local government compliance are the three-hour on-line NIMS training program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the four-hour WMD/Terrorism for Emergency Responders on-line training course through Texas A&M University.

The first course is IS700 through the Emergency Management Institute at:

<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS700.asp>

The course is module based, so it is not necessary to do all three hours in a single setting. The course description reads in part, "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/>*** The course explains the purpose, principles and key components of NIMS.

The second training component is also an on-line course. It is entitled WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction)/ Terrorism for Emergency Responders (WMD005) offered through Texas A&M University at:

<http://www.teexwmdcampus.com/index.cfm?locRef=1>

This course is presented in three modules with an option to test out of the instructional modules by going straight to the final exam. Both courses issue completion certificates.

As noted above, one of the key elements to demonstrate compliance and maintain grant eligibility is completion of both the NIMS and WMD/Terrorism awareness training by all police officers, firefighters, paramedics, dispatchers, and selected employees of Community Health. The county was awarded grant money in FY-04 to pay for this training.

Richard Winsett, 9-1-1 Director and Livingston County Emergency Management Coordinator has the required documents and instructions for local public safety departments and their officers to complete the training and recover training costs from funds made available in the 2004 Homeland Security Grant. For auditing purposes, Mr. Winsett is creating and maintaining a database of public safety employees completing the training. If you have any questions contact him immediately at 517-540-8680.

**If Livingston County is to qualify for future Homeland Security grants,
this training is mandatory.**