



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 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 Terrorism Attacks (9-11 Commission) recommend adoption of a standardize Incident Command System.*

*NOW THEREFORE, Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and 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.*

*Edward G. Rendell*

EDWARD G. RENDELL

Governor