

RESOLUTION NO. 2005 - 255

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA DESIGNATING THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) AS THE BASIS FOR ALL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY.

WHEREAS, the President of the United States in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5, 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 and desirable that all Federal, State, local 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 and local 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 County's ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local 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 current emergency management training programs.

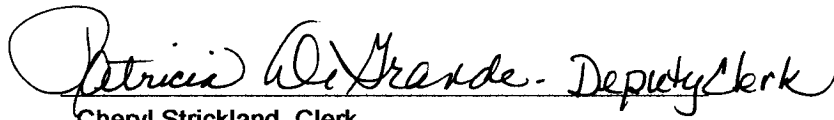
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 6 day of September 2005, by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, as follows:

1. The Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, adopts the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the standard to incident management in St. Johns County.
2. Employees of St. Johns County response agencies will complete the required NIMS training appropriate to their level of assigned responsibilities, and maintain that level of training by certification within the timeframe to be established by the Federal requirements for NIMS.
3. The Director of Emergency Management is authorized to provide training opportunities and other management activities to facilitate NIMS Training.
4. All County Departments having personnel required to complete NIMS Training shall allow for scheduling and completing of such training.

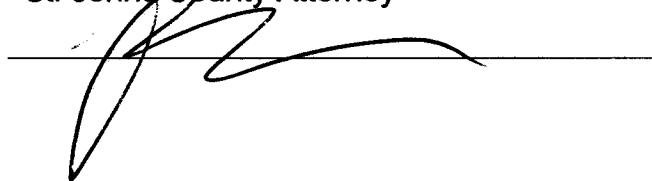
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA


Chairman

ATTEST:


Cheryl Strickland, Clerk

Approved as to form by the
St. Johns County Attorney



RENDITION DATE 09/08/05

June 7, 2005

Department of Community Affairs
Division of Emergency Management
2555 Shumard Oak Blvd
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

To: All Florida County EM Directors

Subject: NIMS Training Requirements

In a letter sent a letter to the nation's governors from the Secretary of Homeland Security is outlined a series of steps that must be taken and actions that should be taken in FY 2005 to become compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The purpose of this correspondence is to discuss and inform you of requirements, problems and solutions that have arisen during the quest for compliance to the NIMS.

IS-700 The NIMS Introductory Course

Specifically, the letter said that state; territorial, tribal and local level jurisdictions should support NIMS implementation by completing the National Incident Management System, An Introduction - IS 700. This independent study course explains the purpose, principles, key components and benefits of NIMS. The Secretary clearly intended to provide discretion to state, territorial, tribal and local governments in deciding who should take the course. At further guidance, the NIMS Integration Center encourages all emergency personnel with a direct role in emergency preparedness, incident management or response take the NIMS course by Oct. 1, 2005. It is offered free-of-charge through the Emergency Management Institute at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslist.asp>.

The first question to ask yourself is, where are you at with the training course that is required for compliance? Only you can answer that question. This is an online course that can be taken on any computer that has an Internet connection. To access the course, simply go to <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700.asp>. For continuity purposes, you may want to train your team together. To do so, you need to download the materials along with the online test. Bring you team together to discuss the course then have each individual log onto the web site and take the test.

The Second question is, who has to take IS700? http://www.fema.gov/txt/nims/nims_is700.txt

Executive Level – Political and government leaders, agency and organization administrators and department heads; personnel that fill ICS roles as Unified Commanders, Incident Commanders, Command Staff, General Staff in either Area Command or single incidents; senior level Multi-Agency Coordination System personnel; senior emergency managers; and Emergency Operations Center Command or General Staff.

Managerial Level – Agency and organization management between the executive level and first level supervision; personnel who fill ICS roles as Branch Directors, Division/Group Supervisors, Unit Leaders, technical specialists, strike team and task force leaders, single resource leaders and field supervisors; midlevel Multi-Agency Coordination System personnel; EOC Section Chiefs, Branch Directors, Unit Leaders; and other emergency management/response personnel who require a higher level of ICS/NIMS Training.

Responder Level – Emergency response providers and disaster workers, entry level to managerial level including Emergency Medical Service personnel; firefighters; medical personnel; police officers; public health personnel; public works/utility personnel; and other emergency management response personnel.

The NIMS introductory course very likely will be a required in FY'06 for state, territorial, tribal and local personnel who have emergency assignments at any level of government. Full NIMS compliance is required by Oct. 1, 2006, (FY 2007).

At the present time, the Florida Director of Emergency Management, Mr. Craig Fugate is requiring all FDEM Staff, to include the JFO personnel to take the IS800 (NRP) Course, in addition to IS 700. This is to insure that the staff has better understanding of how this all fits together. This goes beyond the NIMS training requirement.

Other ICS Courses for team training:

EMI Incident Command System Curriculum

EMI is revising its ICS curriculum to align with the NIMS and the new National Wildfire Coordinating Group course objectives. As this process continues, EMI will phase out certain ICS courses and replace them with courses that more accurately reflect NIMS guidance. New ICS courses include:

ICS 100-Introduction to ICS	=	IS100
ICS 200-Basic ICS	=	IS200
ICS 300-Intermediate ICS	=	G300
ICS 400-Advanced ICS	=	G400

The 100 and 200 level courses will be available in a Web-based independent study and classroom format. Law enforcement, public works, public health and "generic" versions of 100 and 200 are planned with the same content and course objectives, but with discipline specific examples and exercises. The 300 & 400 level courses will be classroom based

The two courses were jointly developed by FEMA's U.S. Fire Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG). These new courses integrate the NIMS guidelines and meet the NIMS Baseline Training requirements. Q-462 and Q-463 are the first in a series of Incident Command System courses developed in Web-based and blended learning format to meet all-hazards, all-agency NIMS ICS requirements for operational personnel.

The two courses can be found at the FEMA Virtual Campus <http://training.fema.gov/> and clicking on "Online Training (NETC Virtual Campus)" at upper left.

These courses are free!!!

If there is anything that I can help, feel free to contact me at (850) 413-0261 or (850) 528-7528. I will be glad to assist you in any way possible.

Rupert C. Dennis
RUPERT C. DENNIS
FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMET
STATE TRAINING OFFICER

On September 8, 2004, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge issued a letter to all Governors outlining the steps required to fully implement the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

In order to remain eligible for federal and state preparedness funding, all federal departments, state, tribal and local governments are required to comply with first phase of NIMS implementation in their jurisdiction by **September 30, 2005**. Specifically, all levels of government are required to attest that they have accomplished the following:

- **All response personnel in the agency have completed the NIMS Awareness Course: "National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction" IS 700.** This is a web-based independent study course, or it may be delivered by an instructor. The IS-700 course can be found at:
<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700.asp>.

PowerPoint presentations, Student Text, Facilitators Guides, and Instructor Guides can be obtained at: http://www.nimsonline.com/download_center/index.htm

- **Formally recognizing the NIMS and adopting the NIMS principles and policies.** This may be done as a Board Resolution, or Executive Order. Sample versions can be found at: http://www.nimsonline.com/download_center/index.htm
- **Establish a NIMS implementation baseline by determining which NIMS requirements you already meet. This will be helpful in developing a plan for full NIMS implementation.**

The NIMS Integration Center has developed the NIMS Capability Assessment Support Tool (NIMCAST). The NIMCAST is a **voluntary** self-assessment system that States, territories, tribes, and local governments can use to evaluate their incident response and management capabilities. Additionally, the NIMCAST can provide guidance and help identify any deficiencies in agency Emergency Operations Plans. The NIMCAST can be found at:
http://www.nimsonline.com/download_center/index.htm

- **Establishing a timeframe and developing a strategy for full NIMS implementation.**
- **Institutionalizing the use of the Incident Command System (ICS).** This may be accomplished by reviewing and amending agency Emergency Operations Plans as necessary based on completing the NIMCAST.

Please note that the Department of Homeland Security and the NIMS Integration Center have recently re-affirmed these compliance requirements and the **September 30, 2005** deadline. Many of our partners are well positioned to meet this deadline. Some agencies

may be lagging behind in completing the requirements. I strongly urge those agencies that may be lagging behind to re-double their efforts to meet the compliance deadline.