State of Maryland Strategy for Homeland Security

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TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

Dear Fellow Marylanders:

Since being inaugurated in January of 2003, I have taken significant steps towards improving homeland security and protecting the citizens of Maryland. We are mobilizing state and local government, private industries and our citizens in an unprecedented coordination effort. Our state and local agencies continue to strengthen our abilities to prevent, respond to, and recover from all emergencies confronting our citizens. Every citizen plays an important role in homeland security by maintaining vigilance and awareness, which helps us fight terrorism on a daily basis.

Our goal is to achieve a safe environment for all Marylanders through a continuous, cost effective and sustainable state of readiness that is resistant to foreign and domestic terrorism and fully prepared to respond and quickly recover from significant emergencies. The mission of our state agencies, in conjunction with our citizens and private-sector partnerships, is to provide both all-hazards emergency management and anti-terrorism measures to protect the citizens and the vulnerable infrastructures within our borders while building a creative coordinated response with local, state, and federal assets.

We have taken some significant early actions, while planning for the future.

- On June 23, 2003 we established an Office of Homeland Security to create focus and accountability within state government.
- On November 3, 2003 the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center opened its operation. This Center collects, analyzes and coordinates local, state and federal intelligence information related to the war on terrorism.
- Our Emergency Management Agency opened a twenty-four hour watch center to coordinate local, state, and federal response to all emergencies.
- We have established a statewide initiative to address interoperability partnering with the Maryland Association of Counties (MACO) and the Maryland Municipal League (MML).

Our State government's most important mission is to provide for the protection of our citizens. The State of Maryland Homeland Security Strategy is the basic planning document for our coordinated efforts in both the war on terrorism and emergency preparedness. We have made tremendous progress and together we will continue to work to make Maryland stronger and safer. Thank you for your support.

ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.
Governor

Homeland Security Strategy: Vision, Mission, Principles and Overall Goals

Vision:

Achieve a safe environment for Maryland citizens through a continuous, cost effective, and sustainable state of prevention and readiness that is resistant to both foreign and domestic terrorist threats and fully capable of responding to and rapidly recovering from both man made and natural disasters.

Mission:

Provide all-hazards emergency management and anti-terrorism measures to protect citizens and vulnerable infrastructures within Maryland boarders by working with citizens, local governments and private sector partnerships to build creative, coordinated responses using local, state and federal assets.

Guiding Principles:

- Align Maryland's State Strategy with Federal Homeland Security Strategy and the President's Statewide Template Initiative.
- Synchronize efforts between federal, state and local governments.
- Foster a culture of teamwork, responsibility and accountability.
- Expect accountability through Leadership.
- Develop capabilities that can be used on a daily basis and during an emergency.
- Ensure that systems built are interoperable and sustainable.
- Use a risk management approach to guide preparedness efforts.[1]

Overall Goals:

- Deter and prevent terrorist attacks within the State of Maryland while contributing to their prevention within the United States.
- Identify and reduce the vulnerabilities within our state's borders.
- Mitigate, minimize, and recover from incidents that occur.
- Use intelligence and citizen input to predict, detect and deter terrorist activities.
- Foster a coordinated and integrated public safety system.

[1] GAO-02-208T Homeland Security: A Risk Management Approach Can Guide Preparedness Efforts

- Support the continued development of cost effective regional systems by networking and empowering local emergency response organizations.

- Enhance and establish interoperable information sharing systems that respond to the demand for information and intelligence analysis.

- Create a sense of security for Maryland citizens by providing information and ensuring that people know how to react during an emergency.

HOMELAND SECURITY KEY GOALS FY04-06

Introduction

Maryland's Homeland Security Strategy is centered on critical mission areas and foundations described in the National Strategy for Homeland Security. These mission areas and foundations are focused on preventing terrorist attacks, reducing our identified vulnerabilities, and responding to and recovering from man made and natural disasters. This strategy provides the framework to prioritize state and federal resources to protect Maryland citizens.

The critical mission areas are: Intelligence and warning, border and transportation security, domestic counter-terrorism, protect critical infrastructure, defending against and responding to catastrophic threats and emergency preparedness and response.

The foundation areas are unique American strengths that cut across all of the mission areas, all levels of government and all sectors of our society. These foundations – law, science and technology, information sharing and systems and international cooperation – provide a useful framework for evaluating our homeland security investments.

The Statewide Template Initiative provided by the federal government outlines 21 key areas and questions, as an assessment tool for states to plan their homeland security programs. Embedded within Maryland's Homeland Security Strategy are goals that reflect the template's 21 key areas.[2]

Maryland's Homeland Security Strategy will identify specific goals in each of the National Strategy Mission Areas and Foundations. Each of the following sections contains the definition for the mission or foundation areas as set forth in the National Strategy in italics, followed by our goals related to that area.

[2] To view the entire National Strategy on Homeland Security and the Statewide Template Initiative visit our website at www.gov.state.md.us/homelandsecurity.html.

Intelligence and Warning, Domestic Counter-terrorism and Information Sharing and Systems

Intelligence and Warning
Assemble an intelligence and warning system capable of detecting and deterring terrorist activity.

Domestic Counter-terrorism
Prevent and interdict terrorist activity within the United States.

Information Sharing and Systems
Create a statewide environment that enables the sharing of essential homeland security information.

Maryland Goals:

- Improve information sharing at all levels and facilitate the ready identification and apprehension of potential terrorists.

- Establish a framework for statewide incident management tools and information sharing.

- Aggressively embrace the Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council's framework led by the United States Attorney's Office for Maryland and the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) led by the FBI.

- Promote and support the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) as the statewide law enforcement threat based information sharing and analysis center.

Border and Transportation Security

Ensure the efficient and reliable flow of people, goods and services across borders, while preventing terrorists from using transportation conveyances or systems to deliver implements of destruction.

Maryland Goals:

- Ensure comprehensive security measures are in place throughout the modes of transportation: air, sea, transit and highways.

- Continuously identify opportunities to partner with the federal government on transportation related pilot programs.

Protect Critical Infrastructure and Key Assets

Achieve cooperation throughout all levels of government and industry to protect critical infrastructure and key assets from attack.

Maryland Goals:

- Improve our system of identifying and reducing the vulnerabilities of our key infrastructure by achieving cooperation throughout all levels of government and private industry.

- Initiate activity in key sectors of critical infrastructure to ensure each sector is protected.

- Foster cooperation with businesses and institutions to improve security for their core infrastructure and processes as an approach to contributing to homeland security.

- Encourage and facilitate risk management approaches to critical infrastructure protection and engage the insurance / risk management industry for support.

Defend Against Catastrophic Threats

Prepare for, prevent, and respond to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear terrorist threats and explosive devices through a coordinated effort.

Maryland Goals:

- Coordinate public health, emergency medical services and hospitals in preparation for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive device terrorist threats.

- Recognize, evaluate, and control chemical, biological, and radiological hazards to protect human health and the environment.

- Promote public awareness and ensure that citizens are informed regarding appropriate actions during emergencies.

- Ensure preparedness and capacity for response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive terrorist threats.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Strive to create a fully integrated emergency response system that is adaptable to deal with any terrorist attack or natural disaster.

Maryland Goals:

- Promote the activities and services of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to provide quality emergency management to the citizens of Maryland.

- Use an all-hazards emergency management approach to support the strategies and principles of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security.

- Develop a coordinated Maryland community exercise program plan that includes federal, state and local agencies.

- Implement the National Incident Management System as a state system by December 2005.

- Support and coordinate agencies in the development and evaluation of Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) and Continuity of Government (COG) plans.

- Support programs and procedures, which enable voices and data integration among state and local agencies.

- Integrate Maryland National Guard and MEMA activities to ensure seamless delivery of services during routine and emergency operations.

- Assess and implement technological solutions to advance Maryland's role at the forefront of emergency management.

- Assure that local emergency preparedness response plans align with plans developed at the state level.

- Facilitate National Capitol and Baltimore Metropolitan Region Urban Area Security Initiatives to develop partnerships and rapidly pursue regional partnerships throughout the state.

- Coordinate volunteer structures that leverage state, local and private resources and organize a citizen education effort.

Law

Thoroughly review existing laws that pertain to security and terrorism and propose revisions to or creation of laws as needed to enhance security and liberty.

Maryland Goals:

- Establish state measures, which provide appropriate emergency powers and strengthen continuity of government.

- Facilitate the legal basis for federal resources, both civil and military.

- Ensure procurement laws provide the flexibility to purchase innovative technology and the capacity to respond quickly in an emergency.

Science and Technology

Emphasize research and development efforts to address catastrophic threats, while building on existing technology where possible. Ensure testing and piloting of new technologies; set standards to assist acquisition decisions of all jurisdictions.

Maryland Goals:

- Assist the Federal Government to harness the energy and ingenuity of the private sector to develop and produce the devices and systems needed for homeland security.

- Actively partner with Maryland colleges, universities and science and technology companies in the area of research and development for implementation of pilot programs.

Funding Homeland Security

Provide continuous strategic oversight and leadership to ensure that key leaders are collaborating to invest the resources required to implement the Homeland Security Strategy.

Maryland Goals:

- Increase emphasis at the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, on accountable and measurable oversight of federal grant programs by state and local agencies that maximizes the expenditure of funds based upon the State of Maryland Strategy.

- Leverage existing resources to the extent possible to avoid unnecessary duplication of structures and systems, fulfill currently unmet needs and ensure interoperability.

- Ensure the ongoing sponsorship and support of all systems funded to provide sustainability.

- Use program management techniques to plan, program, and implement measurable actions that provide a tactical basis to Maryland's Homeland Security Strategy.

Measurement and Accountability

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security in coordination with the Governor's Homeland Security Senior Policy Group will develop a coordinated Management Plan to track progress in reaching the goals stated in the Maryland Homeland Security Strategy. The Management Plan will list objectives and short-term actions that will help reach the goals listed in the Maryland Strategy. Incident lessons learned and exercises to measure programmatic performance improvement will be used. Maryland will foster a culture of teamwork, responsibility and accountability through leadership.

Appendix

A. Governor Ehrlich's Homeland Security Executive Order 01.01.2003.18

The State of Maryland

Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER
01.01.2003.18

Establishment of the Governor's Office Of Homeland Security

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of Government to plan and provide for public safety, protection of public and private institutions and infrastructure, and continuity of governance;

WHEREAS, On September 11, 2001, terrorists with the intent of weakening our national infrastructure attacked the United States of America and its institutions and compromised the peace and security of our nation;

WHEREAS, In the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks upon our nation, the President, Congress, and our intelligence communities predict continuing terrorist activities against American interests, citizens, and symbols; it is thus clear that Maryland must be vigilant and focused in addressing the threat that terrorism poses to the safety and health of our populace and visitors;

WHEREAS, Maryland's proximity to the U.S. capital, our many points of entry into the United States, and the high-profile targets within the Washington-Baltimore region mandate that homeland security be a top priority for the Governor of Maryland;

WHEREAS, There is a continuing need to assess the homeland security of the State of Maryland, to direct and coordinate policy and actions relating to the security of the State, and to coordinate the activities of the various State agencies and political subdivisions relating to homeland security; and

WHEREAS, There is an ongoing need to identify funding for state and local homeland security and to advise the Governor on measures to detect, prepare for, prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from man-made emergencies or disasters including terrorist attacks.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

A. Establishment. The Governor's Office of Homeland Security is hereby established. The Office shall be managed by a Director, who shall be primarily responsible for directing and coordinating homeland security activities throughout the State, and will be the State's principal interface with local, regional, and federal counterpart organizations. The Director will advise the Governor on homeland security issues, and shall represent the Governor on boards, forums, and councils as appropriate. The Director shall serve at the will of the Governor.

B. Authority. The Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security will direct homeland security efforts across State Government and coordinate with federal and local government, private sector, academia, and the public to find solutions that ensure public safety which protecting individual freedoms; the Director will ensure that Maryland is a full and active partner in federal homeland security and will work to leverage federal initiatives and innovations to enhance public safety and security within the State and its subdivisions.

C. Staffing. The Governor's Office of Homeland Security shall be comprised of limited professional staff appointed by the Governor and by professional staff on rotational assignment from State agencies. The Maryland Emergency Management Administration (MEMA) shall provide logistical and infrastructure support. Contract employees may also be used to augment the office staff as required.

D. Duties. The Director shall be responsible for the following activities:

(1) Direct and coordinate homeland security activities within the State, paying special attention to key linkages between federal, State, regional, subdivision, metropolitan, and purely local activities;

(2) Advise the Governor on policies, strategies, and measures to enhance and improve the ability to detect, prevent, prepare for, protect against, respond to, and recover from, man-made emergencies or disasters, including terrorist attacks;

(3) Assess the homeland security of the State of Maryland on a continuing basis and ensure the development and updating of plans as appropriate;

(4) Serve as the principal liaison to the White House Office of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of Homeland

Security as well as other federal entities within Maryland responsible for homeland security and emergency preparedness;

(5) Direct and coordinate policy and actions relating to homeland security across State agencies and political subdivisions; emphasize communication and cooperation with subdivision agencies and their first responders on all homeland security concerns; provide executive and legislative recommendations to streamline existing committees, commissions, agencies or departments to prevent redundancy or enhance efficiency; and

(6) Coordinate investment decisions to avoid conflicts, redundancies and misallocation of resources; work to obtain and allocate federal funds for State and subdivision homeland security activities.

E. All departments, commissions, boards, agencies, and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security in implementing the provisions of this Order.

F. This Executive Order shall not be construed to alter the existing authorities of any executive agency or department, except that all executive departments and agencies are directed to assist the Maryland Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security in carrying out the purposes of this Order.

G. This Executive Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the Governor or terminated by operation of law.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 1st day of July, 2003.

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

ATTEST:

R. Karl Aumann
Secretary of State

Governor's Office of Homeland Security

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