



**BOBBY JINDAL**  
GOVERNOR

**State of Louisiana**  
Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact Subcommittee

**RICHARD BOUDREAU**  
CHAIRMAN

**JOHN GALLAGHER**  
CO CHAIRMAN

December 23, 2013

Honorable Bobby Jindal  
Governor of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 94004  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Dear Governor Jindal:

In accordance with L.R.S. 29:739, I am pleased to submit this report on the 2013 activities of the Intrastate Mutual Aid Subcommittee (IMAS). The IMAS is comprised of stakeholders identified in the legislation that created the Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact (IMAC); IMAC establishes a system of mutual aid between parishes for the prevention of, response to, and recovery from, emergencies that exceed a parish's resources.

The year has focused on IMAC training primarily at the local government level. The annual workshop for the directors of parish offices of homeland security and emergency preparedness, held in February, provided the platform to further educate and discuss the IMAC with those who are primarily tasked with the movement of local resources by the plan. Additionally, in the month of April, IMAC training and discussions were offered to chief elected officials and their alternates at nine comprehensive workshops throughout the state. These workshops were specifically designed for local elected officials; GOHSEP realizes it is the primary duty of every elected official to provide for the public safety within their districts. Therefore, there is great value in educating these leaders in the utilization of the IMAC process so that in times of great need, they can efficiently request or mobilize for deployment the valuable resources needed to respond and recover from disaster.

Continued training is recommended in the coming year. New elected officials can be reached and other refreshed through presentations at the annual conferences of the Louisiana Municipal Association and Louisiana Policy Jury Association. Further, local emergency managers, fire chiefs, sheriffs, chiefs of police, and public works directors can be trained by targeting the annual conferences of these disciplines' statewide annual conferences. It is also advisable to inject IMAC specific scenarios into future disaster exercises for increased recognition, familiarity, and comfort with the process.

The efficient and effective utilization of the IMAC serves to mobilize equipment, supplies, and personnel into areas where local resources have been overwhelmed. The unsustainable spending of the past decade by the Department of Homeland Security,

which rained down to the state and local levels for homeland security has become but a trickle. It is imperative that Louisiana embrace a collaborative approach to emergency management that provides long term sustainability; IMAC represents just such a collaborative effort. No single city or parish can maintain every single resource that may be required in response to an incident, however, by effective planning and collaboration between parishes within a GOHSEP region, the limited grant money available can be utilized for maximum benefit. Instead of the need to purchase and maintain sixty-four pieces of equipment, one for each parish, nine can be purchased and made available within the region or state utilizing the IMAC.

The collaborative regional approach to prioritizing future needs is imperative as homeland security funding dwindles. Fortunately, Louisiana is well positioned in that there has been significant planning and resource procurement at the municipal and parish level through grant assistance from GOHSEP and DHS. The task at hand is to organize the massive resources available within the parishes into mission ready packages of strike teams, task forces, and specialized individual resources for expedited deployment when called to action. Such coordination must start at the local level, be cataloged at the parish level, organized at the GOHSEP regional level, and coordinated by GOHSEP to be effective, but will be essential for future of disaster response.

The IMAC has the potential to greatly enhance the ability of the parishes and the state to manage events that are beyond the capability of a local government's assets by creating a cache of capable resources. It was utilized effectively during this past year during an incident in which Cameron and Calcasieu parishes rendered aid to Jefferson Davis parish. Unfortunately, the process of educating and in some cases changing the culture of traditionally independent emergency responders to accept the reality of interdependence during events which exceed the norm is challenging. The great benefit of this program is the ability to respond the closest appropriate resource in a timely manner to those in need. In comparison to states with highly successful programs that have been in place thirty to forty years, Louisiana IMAC is in its infancy, however, we have talented motivated people, a huge cache of equipment, and excellent leadership in the state which guaranties the success of the program.

We appreciate your continued support of our efforts.

Respectfully,



Chief Richard Boudreaux, Chairman  
Intrastate Mutual Aid Subcommittee