



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
First Responder Subcommittee

WILLY MARTIN
CHAIRMAN

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First Responders Subcommittee Semi-Annual Report
July 2012

July 3, 2012

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

Dear Governor Jindal:

On behalf of the First Responder Subcommittee on Homeland Security and Emergency Management, it is my pleasure to provide this semi-annual report on accomplishments for the first half of calendar year 2012. The subcommittee met as a regular meeting of the First Responders Subcommittee at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 30, 2012 in the LA-SAFE (Fusion Center) conference room in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The first responder community was represented as outlined by statute.

The First Responder Subcommittee plans and advises on issues identified by The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and the Unified Command Group (UCG) regarding First Responders in their efforts in the preparation for, response to and recovery from all emergencies and disasters. Additionally, this subcommittee is committed to coordinating with boundary states by securing memorandums of understanding between first responders during emergencies and disasters. The committee serves to coordinate a variety of individuals and agencies representing various parts of the First Responder community in order to discuss developments in their areas and review projects that cross organizational boundaries.

During this reporting period, the sub-committee discussed hurricane preparation for all member organizations and other numerous topics in detail including:

- The State Homeland Security Strategy and the Homeland Security Grant Program for 2012 and the associated grant development of investment justifications based on state/regional capabilities and gaps;
- Current threats with groups such as Sovereign Citizens, present trends in various crimes, the Fusion Liaison Officer (FLO) program, Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) training, and the new Fusion Center program of TacTrend;
- The initiatives of the Louisiana Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high yield Explosive (LA-CBRNE) Working Group members, and the workshop agendas that had already been held and those that were planned for the future;
- Maritime Security initiatives in addition to Maritime Special Response Teams and US Coast Guard initiatives and operational plans;
- Urban Search and Rescue (USAR), National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) Boat Operations and Training (BOAT) Program.

GOHSEP reported an update on Homeland Security Grants for FY-12. A recap of DHS grant involvement to explain the itemized structure of the grants will remain and that we continue to be looking at reduction of funds. An overview was presented of the different grants and the grant program reductions over past years. It was pointed out that we are still working off 2008 - 2010 years and that we continue to use funds for emergency management, law enforcement, and terror prevention activities. The successful effort to raise New Orleans to a level to receive UASI funds was discussed.

LSP/LA-SAFE – A threat brief was conducted concentrating on the current threat on the who and what of Sovereign Citizens. More reports of Sovereign Citizens have been documented in the state and may be due to increase in numbers within the state, or it could be due to increase in knowledge and awareness. Also discussed were present trends in various crimes, the Fusion Liaison Officer (FLO) program, our Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) training, and the new Fusion Center program of TacTrend that scans Facebook, Twitter, etc. with some examples of success.

GOHSEP/LA-SAFE – The subcommittee was briefed on the initiatives of the Louisiana Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high yield Explosive (LA-CBRNE) Working Group. Identification of who the members of the working group were and the workshop agendas that had been held and planned for the future.

OSFM/LFCA – Representatives spoke of the ESF 4 and the Urban Search and Rescue (SAR) 5 year plan. Also discussed were the needs for continuation of hurricane and wildfire preparation as well as the need to incorporate gap analysis in these areas.

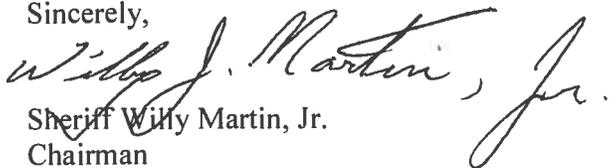
LANG - Hurricane preparation and POD (Points of Distribution) exercises were discussed as well as LANG addressing future short falls due to Guard deployments by planning with other states to assist us if needed.

LDWF – Updates on the Louisiana BOAT Program were presented. The BOAT Program establishes a standard for the training, qualification, credentialing and typing of maritime law enforcement and rescue personnel that is a standard accepted by USCG, DHS and FEMA. This program provides for baseline and advanced standards of training for all maritime law enforcement and rescue personnel, from a boat crewmember to boat SAR operator to a tactical law enforcement operator. LDWF is the first agency in the country to receive accreditation. LDWF is working towards the adoption and implementation of the BOAT Program for all maritime law enforcement agencies throughout the state utilizing a regionalized approach.

USCG – Representatives discussed Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) and some of the most recent maritime accidents, drug interdiction programs, and incidents of drugs washing ashore in Louisiana. Hurricane preparation is also a major endeavor.

No changes to the First Responder Subcommittee by-laws have been made during this period and they remain unchanged. Annual review of by-laws is scheduled to take place at the next meeting

Sincerely,



Sheriff Willy Martin, Jr.

Chairman

First Responder Subcommittee