



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
First Responder Subcommittee

WILLY MARTIN
CHAIRMAN

COL MICHAEL D. EDMONSON
VICE CHAIRMAN

January 22, 2013

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 encompassing the reporting period of July 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. The Subcommittee met at a regular meeting of the First Responders Subcommittee on December 10, 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 cut across organizational boundaries.

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

- Homeland Security Grant Program update for the federal fiscal year (FY) 2012 and the FY 2013 grant allocation outlook, which may include the continued reduction of federal funding
- State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP) continues to earmark 25% of the grant funding toward Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA)
- FEMA Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) process and the capability gaps evidenced would be the target of future homeland security grant funding
- Potential threat of Cyanide

- Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) on international terrorist recruiting efforts due to the recent Alabama and Florida arrests on terrorism charges
- Cyber threat of Hezbollah with Iranian backing
- Major threats of Sovereign Citizens and issue of sovereigns feeling disenfranchised by the re-election of President Obama
- Intrastate Mutual Aid Compacts issue of state agencies requesting assistance from the parishes
- Alert FM system covers over 95% of state
- FEMA requirement of the THIRA that describes the scenarios and cascading effects that establish core capabilities to achieve expected outcomes and thereby identify existing gaps in capabilities; the reduction of these gaps is the aim of future homeland security funding.
- Wildlife and Fisheries Search and Rescue missions including the marine support training to support the 2013 Super Bowl in New Orleans
- Hurricane Isaac after action meetings
- State Military Department support to 2013 Super Bowl in New Orleans

GOHSEP reported on the Homeland Security Grants for FY2012 and provided a recap of DHS' future funding for various grant programs. It is anticipated that the federal homeland security grant program will continue to receive a reduction of funds. Louisiana was successful in its effort to raise New Orleans to a higher Tier level to receive Urban Area Security Initiative funds.

State Police/LA-SAFE – A threat brief was conducted concentrating on the current threat on the who and what of Sovereign Citizens. Additional reports of Sovereign Citizens have been documented in the state. 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. citing 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.

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

State Military Department (SMD) – Discussed Hurricane Isaac after action meetings including the DSNAP response and the support for the 2013 Super Bowl in New Orleans.

Wildlife and Fisheries – Presented updates on the Louisiana BOAT Program. 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. Wildlife and Fisheries is the first agency in the country to receive accreditation, and is working towards the adoption and implementation of the BOAT Program, utilizing a regionalized approach, for all maritime law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

US Coast Guard – 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.

There were no changes made to the Subcommittee By Laws during this period.

Sincerely,


Sheriff Willy Martin, Jr.
Chairman