


**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE**  
**EXECUTIVE ORDER**

<b>Subject:</b> Pennsylvania Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Organizational Structure		<b>Number:</b> 2007-10
<b>Date:</b> December 4, 2007	<b>By Direction of:</b>  Edward G. Rendell, Governor	

- WHEREAS, in response to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States and its people, the President of the United States, George W. Bush, called upon all Americans to be vigilant to the threat of terrorism and to defend our nation against additional and future terrorist attacks; and
- WHEREAS, natural disasters and health-related epidemics continually pose a threat to the citizens of the Commonwealth; and
- WHEREAS, terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and health-related epidemics may result in mass casualties to civilian populations, disruption of critical government functions, and/or disruption or destruction of interdependent critical infrastructures that can impact the national economy and deny services upon which the welfare of citizens and vitality of the nation depend; and
- WHEREAS, the Commonwealth must take necessary steps to protect its citizens from these threats and be prepared to act if such threats occur; and
- WHEREAS, preparedness involves a continuous cycle of activity to develop the elements (e.g. plans, procedures, policies, training, and equipment) necessary to maximize the capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, especially major events that require coordination among an appropriate combination of federal, state, local, private sector, and non-governmental entities, in order to minimize the impact on lives, property, and the economy; and
- WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security requires an all-hazards approach to preparedness requiring the Commonwealth to have an efficient and comprehensive approach to prevent, protect, respond, and recover from an incident or event of national significance that necessitates uniformity between federal, state, and local entities; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the Commonwealth to continually review its capacity to coordinate prevention, protection, response, and recovery capabilities across a multijurisdictional and regional spectrum and develop the necessary enhancements to address any needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Edward G. Rendell, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws of the Commonwealth, do hereby establish the Pennsylvania Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Organizational Structure. By doing so, I invest it with the necessary powers to perform the duties and functions set forth herein and to advise and counsel me in the development and operation of preparedness initiatives specifically with respect to the Commonwealth's overall duty to ensure public safety.

**1. Pennsylvania Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Organizational Structure.** The Pennsylvania Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Organizational Structure ("Pennsylvania Preparedness") shall consist of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), and the Governor's Preparedness Interagency Executive Management Committee. Each entity shall be responsible for fulfilling specific activities, as outlined below, necessary to support national and Commonwealth emergency preparedness and homeland security activities. PEMA will be the lead agency responsible for Pennsylvania's role in the National Response Plan and emergency preparedness and homeland security activities.

**2. Goals.** The goals of Pennsylvania Preparedness are to:

**a.** Oversee preparedness strategies and plans within the Commonwealth by ensuring that the focus of preparedness efforts remain an all-hazards approach in preventing, protecting against, responding to, and recovering from incidents or events that have actual, potential, domestic, or international implications;

**b.** Coordinate federal, state, and local preparedness efforts within the Commonwealth;

**c.** Enhance the integration of disciplines involved in preparedness;

**d.** Develop the necessary relationships among public and private sector entities in order to effectively coordinate the Commonwealth's overarching preparedness efforts;

**e.** Reduce the Commonwealth's vulnerability from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies;

**f.** Create, for the purposes of prevention and response, an all-hazards information fusion capability to facilitate information collection, analysis and intelligence production, and sharing functions;

**g.** Set forth necessary plans and actions to ensure the identification and preservation of critical infrastructures including, but not limited to, the critical infrastructure sectors and key resource categories as defined by the federal Department of Homeland Security and relevant homeland security presidential directives;

**h.** Coordinate the administration of all grants for homeland security and public safety to ensure their integration across disciplines and agencies in order to enhance the Commonwealth's preparedness strategy;

**i.** Build upon the existing homeland security and crisis response infrastructure by unifying and maximizing our assets and acquiring resources; and

**j.** Heighten awareness, preparedness, and the need for planning at all levels of government and citizenry through training, planning, exercises, and outreach.

**3. Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.** Within the Pennsylvania Preparedness Structure, PEMA has overall authority for emergency preparedness and homeland security. PEMA will be responsible for all aspects of prevention, protection, response, and recovery planning. PEMA may partner or coordinate with other Commonwealth agencies to accomplish its responsibilities. During times of disaster or emergency declaration, PEMA shall serve as lead agency and have authority for emergency direction and control.

**4. Office of Homeland Security.** OHS shall be managed by a Director of Homeland Security, who shall serve as the Commonwealth's primary point-of-contact on homeland security issues and who shall report to the Director of PEMA.

**a. Responsibilities.** OHS will:

(1) Make recommendations to the Director of PEMA on issues that affect the security of the Commonwealth;

(2) Review and make recommendations to the Director of PEMA regarding pending legislation and regulations that pertain to homeland security;

(3) Submit to the Governor, through the Director of PEMA, an Annual Report on homeland security activities;

(4) Monitor government grant and private sector funding opportunities that may be used to strengthen homeland security efforts and resources; and

(5) Establish working groups and steering committees, as needed, to set forth the goals of Commonwealth preparedness.

**b. Organizational Location.** OHS will be located at PEMA headquarters.

**c. Priorities.** Priorities shall be established by PEMA, based on the advice of the Governor's Preparedness Interagency Executive Management Committee within the overall strategic direction set forth by the Governor.

**5. Governor's Preparedness Interagency Executive Management Committee.**

**a. Responsibilities.** The Governor's Preparedness Interagency Executive Management Committee shall coordinate Commonwealth Preparedness plans, procedures, policies,

resources, and capabilities necessary to fulfill the Commonwealth's responsibilities in prevention, protection, response, and recovery planning.

**b. Composition.** The Committee shall be composed of:

- (1) Governor;
- (2) Governor's Chief of Staff;
- (3) Governor's General Counsel;
- (4) Director of PEMA;
- (5) Director of OHS;
- (6) Adjutant General of Pennsylvania;
- (7) Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police;
- (8) Secretary of Administration;
- (9) Secretary of Agriculture;
- (10) Secretary of Environmental Protection;
- (11) Secretary of General Services;
- (12) Secretary of Health;
- (13) Secretary of Transportation; and
- (14) Other agency heads, as designated by the Governor, on an as-needed basis.

**6. Relationship with other agencies.** All agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction shall cooperate with and provide assistance to PEMA and the Governor's Preparedness Interagency Executive Management Committee in performing their functions.

**7. Effective Date.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**8. Termination Date.** This Executive Order shall remain in effect unless revised or rescinded by the Governor.

**9. Rescission.** Executive Order 2006-05, Pennsylvania Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Organizational Structure, is rescinded.