

In Missouri, we recognize that “homeland security” encompasses all of the public safety missions ranging from law enforcement, fire service, and first-responders, to emergency preparation, management, training and mitigation.

Homeland Security is also the responsibility of every citizen in our nation and state. We need an informed and prepared population to help us do our jobs. United, we are strong.

### **HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

In July 2005, Gov. Matt Blunt signed an executive order establishing the Homeland Security Advisory Council to examine current state and local homeland security plans. Director of Public Safety, Mark James chairs the 17-member council which puts a cohesive command structure in place and establishes meaningful goals with cooperation from all executive agencies who play a role in homeland security. Since its inception, the council has made marked improvements in homeland security issues. Missouri is preparing an emergency preparedness plan for the governor’s review, regionalizing the state to improve the homeland security grant reimbursement process, embracing school safety projects and working toward interoperable communications.

Other members of the council include: the Director of the State Emergency Management Agency, the Directors of Health and Senior Services, Mental Health, Transportation, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Economic

Development, the Chief Information Officer of the State, the State Adjutant General, the Superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the State Fire Marshal, the Commissioner of the Water Patrol, the Chairman of the Public Service Commission, and three public members appointed by the governor.

### **REGIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (RHSOC)**

Missouri has implemented regional committees mirroring the existing nine Highway Patrol Troop Regions. These Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committees (RHSOC) report directly to the Governor’s Homeland Security Advisory Council. The regionalization process acts as a mechanism to administer grant funding in an efficient and effective way utilizing partnerships between all counties in the region to ensure funds are spent on long-term, sustainable capabilities. More importantly, regionalization encourages input into the homeland security system from stakeholders at all levels across Missouri. Never before have so many opportunities for input been presented to stakeholders from a variety of disciplines. With regionalization in place, everyone will have an opportunity to influence the homeland security direction of the state.

### **MISSOURI INFORMATION ANALYSIS CENTER (MIAC)**

Missouri Information Analysis Center (MIAC) provides a public safety partnership consisting

of local, state and federal agencies, as well as the public sector and private entities that collect, evaluate, analyze, and disseminate information and intelligence to the agencies tasked with Homeland Security responsibilities in a timely, effective, and secure manner.

MIAC is the mechanism to collect incident reports of suspicious activities to be evaluated and analyzed in an effort to identify potential trends or patterns of terrorist or criminal operations within the state of Missouri. MIAC also functions as a vehicle for two-way communication between federal, state and local law enforcement community within our region.

The MIAC began operations in December, 2005, and went to a 24 hr/day, 365 day/yr. operation on October 1, 2006.

### **INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS**

Governor Blunt’s Homeland Security Advisory Council deemed Interoperable communications as the number one priority and the state has been working statewide to achieve compatible communications among law enforcement and first responders. This move ensures all emergency officials especially law enforcement can talk to each other over interoperable channels and increases their flexibility to adapt to technology in the future. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Missouri State Highway Patrol set these public safety specific program channels aside.

## SAFE SCHOOLS

The Governor's Homeland Security Advisory Council voted to spend \$1.6 million dollars in federal homeland security dollars to purchase the rights to and expand a web-based tool to assist schools in planning and training for an emergency event using the latest technology.

The expanded program includes all-hazards and pandemic influenza planning and makes the tool available to licensed day care facilities and colleges and universities, in addition to elementary and secondary school systems.

## NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)

Gov. Matt Blunt signed an executive order making the National Incident Management System (NIMS) the standard for all incident management in the state. It calls for the standardization of training, organization, and communications procedures for multi-jurisdictional interaction.

All major disasters require emergency response and recovery. Implementing NIMS allows Missouri to synchronize efforts with other states, local agencies and federal resources in order to maximize the ability to serve Missourians.

NIMS not only standardizes terminology, but also organization structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, command structures, as well as designate incident facilities during emergencies. NIMS

gives a uniform approach to personnel qualification standards, planning, training and exercising, and resource management.

## THE MISSOURI PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (MOP3) COMMITTEE

The Missouri Public Private Partnership (MOP3) Committee authorized under the Governor's Homeland Security Advisory Council seeks to foster direct involvement of the private-sector to augment and support Missouri's prioritized homeland security issues and initiatives.

This partnership seeks to involve the private sector as part of the solution to improve Missouri's homeland security.

This subcommittee serves to provide advice, information, and recommendations on issues associated with Missouri's Homeland Security Strategy from a private-sector perspective.

It promotes the application of best business practices; collaborating on planning, training and exercise development; fostering participation in intelligence/information fusion; and provides a private-sector platform to address issues and concerns for homeland security initiatives.

For more information on these and other Homeland Security initiatives go to:

[www.dps.gov](http://www.dps.gov) or call 573-522-3007

# MISSOURI OFFICE OF



# HOMELAND SECURITY