

TASK FORCE CHARGES

Technology Committee Charges

- Study the Supreme Court Order creating the Task Force and, consistent with the order, develop recommendations to assist courts in using and preserving technological resources in times of emergencies;
- Develop a template for an IT disaster recovery plan for use by individual courts;
- Study courts in other states, and any other entities or organizations to determine the best practices for IT disaster recovery in times of emergency;
- Identify and seek assistance from internal and external stakeholders with an interest in emergency preparedness for the Texas courts; and
- Submit final recommendations to the Task Force by August, 2008.

Committee Border Issues Charges

- Study the Supreme Court Order creating the Task Force and, consistent with the order, develop recommendations to assist courts in the border regions with developing best practices for emergency preparedness;
- Work with internal and external stakeholders in the border regions to identify specific needs to be addressed in order to ensure judicial readiness; and
- Submit final recommendations to the Task Force by August, 2008.

Committee on Judicial Coordination

- Study the Supreme Court Order creating the Task Force and, consistent with the order, develop recommendations to ensure continuity of operations by Texas courts in times of emergency;
- Develop, in cooperation with the other committees of the task force, templates of response plans for addressing natural threats, manmade threats, and terrorist threats;
- Study the emergency management plans for the executive and legislative branches of Texas government and the plans of other relevant entities in order to ensure that all existing and available state and local resources are used by the courts in times of emergency in order to minimize disruption to the courts;
- Work with the National Center for State Courts and internal and external stakeholders as needed in developing committee recommendations; and
- Submit final recommendations to the Task Force by August, 2008.

Committee to Develop an Interim Plan

- Study the Supreme Court order creating the Task Force and, consistent with the order, develop and recommend an interim plan in order to ensure that essential court operations can continue in the event of an emergency;
- Study existing statutes, rules, and other legal authorities to ensure that basic due process rights are protected in the event of an emergency; and
- Submit final recommendations to the Task Force by May, 2008.

Committee on Legislative and Judicial Procedures

- Study the Supreme Court order creating the Task Force and, consistent with the order, develop legislative and judicial recommendations for ensuring that court operations can continue in the event of an emergency;
- Monitor and coordinate with the other committees of the Task Force in developing legislative and judicial recommendations;
- Study relevant legislative and judicial recommendations from other states to ensure that Texas courts are fully prepared for emergencies; and
- Submit final recommendations to the Task Force by September 2008.