

First Responders Subcommittee
State of Louisiana

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



WILLIE MARTIN
CHAIRMAN

June 1, 2017

Honorable John Bel Edwards
Governor of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Dear Governor Edwards:

On behalf of the First Responder Subcommittee on Homeland Security and Emergency Management, it is my pleasure to provide this semi-annual report on our activities for the first half of calendar year 2017. The subcommittee met on Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 10:00 AM in the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) Overwatch in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The first responder member representation was as outlined by statute.

The First Responder Subcommittee plans and advises on issues identified by the 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 (MOU) 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 subcommittee discussed emergency preparation for all member organizations as well as the following topics:

GOHSEP:

Christina Dayries presented a discussion on the 2017 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Allocations. She advised the the anticipated federal award was reduced by an estimated \$16,000. She presented three options for allocations to local parish governments. After a discussion of the options, option 2 was recommended to Director Jim Waskom for the 2017 SHSP local parish grant awards.

Christina Dayries gave an overview of the FirstNet Project:

- Due to the retirement of Colonel Michael Edmonson, GOHSEP Director James Waskom has been appointed as the State Point of Contact (SPOC).

- On March 30, U.S. Department of Commerce announced that the First Responder Network Authority will partner with AT&T to build the nation's modern, mobile broadband LTE network for first responders; a \$46.5 billion network for first responders nationwide.
- FirstNet through AT&T delivered the DRAFT State Plan simultaneously to all states on June 19, 2017 through an online Portal.
- States will have 45 days to provide comments to FirstNet on the DRAFT State Plan.
- For Louisiana, secure Portal access was given to the SIEC members, Broadband Subcommittee members, LA FirstNet team and select Governor's Office staff.
- Members of the public and other first responders will be able to access the state plans through a public version by visiting firstnet.com. This audience will not have access to secure data.
- FirstNet will then provide the Governor of each State the final version of the state plan. **The Governor will have 90 days (December 2017) to choose whether to participate in the plan provided by FirstNet or conduct its own deployment of a radio access network.**
- If a Governor decides to opt out, then he/she is required to notify FirstNet, NTIA, and the FCC. After providing the notification, the Governor has 180 days to develop and complete requests for proposals for the construction, maintenance and operation of the RAN within the State. The State is required to submit an alternative plan to the FCC that is interoperable with the NPSBN and complies with the minimum technical interoperability requirements under the Act.

LA-SAFE:

Captain Chuck McNeal gave a threat brief on the current threat issues. He discussed the current issues concerning rallies and protests regarding Alton Sterling shooting and civil war statue removals.

GOHSEP Intel Officer/Fusion Center Liaison:

Buren Ric Moore gave a brief on the 2017DHS Relative MSA risk assessment and the changes from 2016 to 2017. He discussed the analytical findings that are used to rank the states by risk (i.e., consequence, vulnerability, and threat). He reported that a previous meeting with DHS had assisted in adjustments of our threat level. We now need to engage with them to increase our other consequence items of visitor numbers and targeted infrastructure.

Sincerely,


Sheriff Willy Martin, Jr.
Chairman, First Responder Subcommittee