

# Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service

## **FIRE CHIEF'S GENERAL ORDER**

**NUMBER: 05-14**

August 25, 2005

**TO: All MCFRS Personnel**

**FROM: Fire Chief Thomas W. Carr, Jr.**



**SUBJECT: Implementation of the NIMS-ICS Plan**

The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service will comply with Federal Homeland Security Presidential Directive # 5 (HSPD-5) by adopting the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) has developed planning guidance for the implementation of NIMS across all State agencies. Directive #5 **requires** NIMS-ICS compliance as a condition for federal preparedness assistance through grants, contracts and other activities, beginning in FY 2005.

NIMS provides a consistent, nation-wide approach, enabling Federal, State, and local governments to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of their cause, size or complexity. This System will bring all the stakeholders in our County together through a Unified Command System to be used to mitigate any major event. As you know, the Incident Command System is not foreign concept for MCFRS; we have been using its models for more than 25 years. The NIMS-ICS will be the same standard ICS that will be used by all core discipline partners, nation-wide. Montgomery County Government has identified and prioritized its local equivalent of the 10 Core Disciplines named in the federal NIMS-ICS to adopt, integrate, and implement the NIMS for use within the County. These Disciplines will undergo training and implement the ICS to communicate its priorities, plans, and actions:

- Government Administration, i.e., Office of the County Executive;
- Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service;
- Hazardous Materials;
- Emergency Medical Services;
- Public Safety Communications;
- Law Enforcement, including the Department of Police, Sheriffs, Corrections, Municipal Police Departments, and MC Public School Security;

- Emergency Management, i.e., MC Department of Homeland Security;
- Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services;
- Health Care, i.e., local hospitals; and
- Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation

The PSTA Training Section is responsible for supporting all County departments identified in HSPD-5. PSTA staff has developed a NIMS-ICS training matrix for each Core Discipline for this purpose. MCFRS is working closely with MEMA, FEMA, and MFRI to ensure support and resources for the NIMS-ICS training. Questions regarding NIMS implementation in Montgomery County may be e-mailed to [fire.nims.ics@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:fire.nims.ics@montgomerycountymd.gov), or to Assistant Chief Mike Clemens at [michael.clemens@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:michael.clemens@montgomerycountymd.gov).

Our training strategy will follow the NIMS requirements for 2005-2006. To ensure compliance for 2005, the NIMS Integration Center encourages all emergency personnel who have a direct role in emergency preparedness, incident management, or response, to complete the NIMS IS-700 course on-line by **December 31, 2005**. This course is free of charge, and can be accessed at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS700.asp>. All active personnel on the IECS list are required to complete this course on-line. Be sure that your certification is mailed directly to the PSTA's NIMS Center at 9710 Great Seneca Highway, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Your original FEMA certificate will be copied and returned to your station, to be included in your personal records.

The PSTA will also offer 3-hour NIMS IS-700 courses once each week in a classroom setting at 0900 hours on Thursdays, from September 1<sup>st</sup> through October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005. These sessions will be available for personnel who may have difficulty using, or do not have access to a computer. A schedule showing additional classes will be posted on the PSTA web site at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/fire/rescue/psta/nims>. There are two options on this site: one is a hot link to the FEMA web-based NIMS IS-700 course; the second option allows you to register for the Training Academy NIMS IS-700 courses being offered.

**PLEASE NOTE: Non-uniformed personnel are not required to complete this training if they do not perform facility emergency planning, or duties that require responding as part of an emergency operation.**

The MEMA approach is based on training needs, by both discipline and response levels. Therefore, Maryland NIMS-ICS implementation strategy is divided into 4 levels for response personnel, and one level for executive-level personnel, all of whom require NIMS-ICS training. Specific training is required at each level to prepare individuals to perform within the Incident Command System.

**Awareness Level:** Prepares individuals who may be involved in an incident, or who perform a direct or supporting operational role. NIMS IS-700 is the required NIMS-ICS training.

**Operational Level:** Prepares individuals who may be involved in or with ICS general functions. IS-100-200 on-line is the required training.

**Supervisory Level:** Prepares individuals who may be assigned to an ICS supervisory position. Unified Command, and IS-300, under development, is the required training.

**Command Level:** Prepares individuals who may be expected to perform in a management capacity, including Incident Commander, or Area Commanders, Command and General Staff Functions. IS-400, under development, is the required training.

**Executive Level:** Prepares local elected and appointed officials who should have an understanding of the ICS at the policy level during an event. A briefing will be provided at this level.

Our training goal is to complete training for **everyone at the NIMS IS-700 Awareness Level at a minimum, by December 31, 2005.**

Attachment: A-1 HSPD-5

Attachment: A-2 State of Maryland Executive Order NIMS

Attachment: A-3 Montgomery County NIMS ICS training Matrix

Attachment: A-4 MEMA Guidance information

<b>Issued:</b>	<b>Revised:</b>	<b>Rescinded:</b>
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