



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia recognizes the importance of safeguarding the citizens of this State against the possibility of a threat or act of terrorism as well as the need for emergency management in the case of natural disasters;

WHEREAS: The statewide response to such events would fall under the immediate authority and leadership of the Director of Homeland Security ("the Director");

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That there is hereby created, within the Office of the Governor, the Office of Homeland Security ("Homeland Security"), created in the manner and for the purposes set forth herein;

ORDERED: That the Director shall be the central authority reporting to the Governor on all matters relating to homeland security and shall be given command and control authority over all operational areas involving terrorist activity within the state;

ORDERED: That the Director shall be responsible for creating a crisis management plan, including measures to identify, acquire, and plan the use of resources needed to anticipate, prevent, and/or resolve a threat or act of terrorism;

ORDERED: That the Director shall be responsible for evaluating information developed by the criminal justice community in regard to threats or potential threats of terrorism;

ORDERED: That the Director shall oversee all risk and threat assessments and coordinate all plans for timely and complete responses through a network of state, local and federal organizations, including the coordination of efficient and timely flow of information;

ORDERED: That the Director shall coordinate and review all activities involving homeland security, including the oversight of Homeland Security activities found in the Department of Public Safety, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Georgia National Guard, Department of Human Resources, Division of Public Health, and any other state entity providing support to Homeland Security;

ORDERED: That the Homeland Security Task Force report directly to the Director of Homeland Security;

ORDERED: That the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) shall be an integral part of Homeland Security and the Director of GEMA shall report directly to the Director of Homeland Security;

ORDERED: That the Director shall coordinate and review all activities of GEMA and restructure the current organization to enhance the efficiency and utilization of existing resources for the purposes of homeland security;

ORDERED: That the Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center (GISAC) shall be an arm of Homeland Security reporting directly to the Director; positions assigned or attached shall operate under the direction of the Director;

ORDERED: That the Georgia Bureau of Investigation shall dedicate 11 of its employees to support the GISAC's operations to work under the direction of the Director;

ORDERED: That Homeland Security central staff shall include, but not be limited to, 6 positions dedicated by the Department of Public Safety to work under the direction of the Director;


ORDERED: That Homeland Security shall operate as an autonomous entity attached to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget for administrative purposes only and reporting directly to the Governor;

ORDERED: That the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety shall serve as the state coordinator for the Excess Property Program, as provided in 10 U.S.C. 2576A, as enacted by 1033 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997, and for the procurement by state and local governments of law enforcement equipment for counter-drug activities, as provided in 10 U.S.C. 381, as enacted by 1122 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994;

ORDERED: That the resources provided by the Excess Property Program may be made available for the purpose of executing a statewide crisis management plan;

ORDERED: That the Director of Homeland Security shall be vested with all of the powers and authority set forth in the provisions of this Executive Order for the purpose of providing the State of Georgia with leadership and direction in the area of protecting the citizens of this state against the possibility of a threat or act of terrorism and retain the powers of command and control in the case of an actual act of terrorism.

This 13 day of March, 2003


GOVERNOR