

MARYLAND

Governor's Annual Report on Homeland Security



2005

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor
Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor



HOMELAND SECURITY IN MARYLAND

Sitting next door to our nation's capital and as home to key highway and rail routes, a major port and key defense and government installations, a robust homeland security strategy is required to ensure the safety of all Marylanders. With Public Safety and Safer Neighborhoods as a pillar of his administration, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. has developed a comprehensive all-hazards strategy for homeland security.

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security (GOHS), created by Governor Ehrlich in 2003, is the coordinating entity that works with federal, regional, state and local entities to develop and implement initiatives to keep Marylanders safe. GOHS also engages the private sector and non-governmental organizations to implement homeland security policy.

Under the leadership of Governor Ehrlich, Maryland is at the forefront in implementing innovative solutions to homeland security issues. Some examples:

- Maryland is the first state to receive accreditation under a federal information sharing program enabling the State to access a federally maintained database of private sector critical infrastructure information.
- Maryland has received national recognition for its collaborative all-hazards approach to regional response planning among first responders.
- Maryland has developed the only comprehensive continuity of operations planning (COOP) guide in the country, which serves as a national model for COOP planning.

These are just a few of the many innovative solutions that are making Maryland more secure. What follows is a look at many of the major homeland security accomplishments of 2005.

In 2005, several new programs were instituted to help first responders – police officers, firefighters, emergency medical responders, health officers and public works employees – work more effectively.



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. addresses the Maryland State Firemen's Association as Homeland Security Director Dennis R. Schrader looks on.

VISION

The vision of homeland security in Maryland is to protect the public through a continuous, cost-effective and sustainable state of readiness that is resistant to foreign and domestic terrorist threats and prepared for natural disasters.



MISSION

The mission of homeland security in Maryland is to provide emergency management and terrorism prevention services to the citizens of Maryland through an all-hazards approach that builds on the creative coordination of existing state functions and local resources such as emergency management, law enforcement, fire and communications.

COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. tours the Port of Baltimore on November 15, 2005; **Top Middle:** Members of Operation Lifeline are photographed from above in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana last September; **Top Right:** Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. with former Laurel Police Chief David Moore at the Laurel Police Department on March 28, 2005; **Bottom Left:** Emergency personnel from several jurisdictions practice responding to an incident involving the release of hazardous materials as part of the Operation Rescue Below Exercise at Johns Hopkins Hospital and Metro Station on November 6, 2005; **Bottom Middle:** Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announces the deployment of the Governor's Wellmobile, operated by the University of Maryland School of Nursing, to the Gulf Coast Region in response to Hurricane Katrina on August 31, 2005; **Bottom Right:** State and Baltimore City emergency personnel participate in an exercise in the Fort McHenry Tunnel on October 4, 2004.

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April 19, 2006

My Fellow Marylanders:

Protecting the citizens and families of Maryland by improving public safety remains one of my highest priorities. In July 2003, I created the Governor's Office of Homeland Security (GOHS) in order to leverage federal, state and local security assets, in coordination with private sector initiatives, to develop a continuous, cost-effective and sustainable approach to homeland security. Since that time, we have mobilized state and local government, private industry and citizens like you in an unprecedented coordination effort. Our state and local agencies continue to strengthen our ability to prevent, respond to and recover from all emergencies confronting our state. Every citizen plays an important role in homeland security by maintaining vigilance and awareness to help us fight terrorism on a daily basis.

I am happy to report that last year, Maryland made significant strides toward the realization of our goal of achieving a safe environment for all of our residents; a state of readiness that is resistant to foreign and domestic terrorism and fully prepared to respond and quickly recover from significant emergencies. In 2005, we saw several major accomplishments in each of the seven fundamental areas of homeland security:

- Information Sharing and Intelligence
- Law Enforcement
- Border and Transportation Security
- Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Health and Medical Readiness
- Critical Infrastructure Protection
- Public Safety Communications

This report presents many of our important accomplishments over the past year. We have made tremendous progress and together we will continue to work to make Maryland a stronger and safer place to live, learn, work and thrive. Thank you for your continued support.

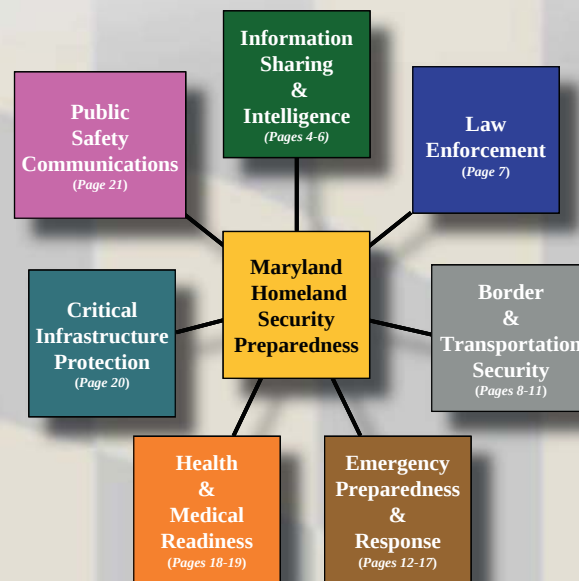
Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr." The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "R" and a cursive "J" at the end.

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor



THE SEVEN FUNDAMENTALS OF MARYLAND HOMELAND SECURITY



2005 HOMELAND SECURITY HIGHLIGHTS

General

- Maryland adopts the National Incident Management System as the statewide standard for governmental operations during emergencies- p. 3

Information Sharing & Intelligence

- Maryland's first-of-its-kind intelligence fusion center improves information sharing capabilities resulting in better analytical products - pp. 4-5
- Governor's ID Maryland initiative brings electronic fingerprinting capabilities to major criminal intake facilities and designated MVA locations enabling rapid background checks on criminal subjects and HazMat CDL applicants - p. 6

Law Enforcement

- Homeland security funding helps law enforcement acquire new tools to better protect the public - p. 7
- A statewide partnership helps safeguard Maryland elections - p. 7

Border & Transportation Security

- BWI Marshall Airport, a TSA test site, receives an inline baggage screening system and explosive chemical screening portals - p. 8
- Maryland's Port of Baltimore gets a state-of-the-art drive-through x-ray machine, which can screen entire cargo containers in under a minute - p. 9
- A threat to Maryland's tunnels demonstrates the State's readiness - p. 10
- Maryland develops a regional transit security strategy, which includes random rail sweeps - p. 11

Emergency Preparedness & Response

- Maryland gets praise for its Hurricane Katrina response efforts, in which the State deployed over 1,500 personnel to Louisiana and Mississippi - p. 12
- Members of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Professional Volunteer Corps are integrated into the Maryland Defense Force for Hurricane Katrina response - p. 13
- Maryland is recognized as a leader in Continuity of Operations planning and receives a federal grant to train officials from other states and the federal government - p. 15
- Maryland involves citizens in homeland security efforts and becomes one of three states to establish Citizen Corps Councils in every jurisdiction - pp. 16-17

Health & Medical Readiness

- Maryland's unique agricultural security center establishes Agricultural Local Emergency Response Teams to respond to incidents affecting agriculture and the food supply - p. 18
- Maryland helps hospitals increase surge capacity and devise plans for a bioterrorism event or other public health emergency - p. 19
- Maryland takes steps to prepare for and protect against an avian flu outbreak - p. 19

Critical Infrastructure Protection

- Maryland's Critical Infrastructure Protection Program identifies approximately 1,400 critical infrastructure sites and key assets around the state - p. 20

Public Safety Communications

- Maryland constructs two regional networks to enhance first responder communications on the Eastern Shore and in Central Maryland - p. 21



Exercises such as this one at BWI Marshall Airport utilize NIMS.

ELEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 01.01.2005.09

- *Establishes the National Incident Management System as the State standard for incident management.*
- *Requires all State governmental agencies to adopt NIMS as a basis for command and control of emergency incidents in cooperation with local jurisdictional response planners.*
- *Provides that the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security will facilitate NIMS training programs using an all-hazards approach.*

MARYLAND ADOPTS THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

When an emergency incident requires a response from different agencies and a variety of jurisdictions, will the various responders be able to work together? Will they use the same command structure? Will they use the same terminology? On March 4, 2005, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. signed Executive Order 01.01.2005.09 to ensure that Maryland's answer to each of these questions is "yes." This executive order commits the State to the implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), a core set of doctrines set forth in Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5). NIMS includes concepts, principles, terminology and organizational operations that lead to an efficient, collaborative and coordinated response for any type of hazard. A key component of NIMS is the Incident Command System (ICS), which provides the framework for determining who is in charge at an incident scene. ICS guidelines provide for personnel to take the lead in public information, plans, operations, logistics and finance/administration and other sections that can be added as needed, based on the particular incident.

A presidential declaration requires state and local implementation of NIMS as an eligibility criterion for funding from federal preparedness grants. State employees are being trained to perform within the ICS at five different levels and all state agencies have developed training implementation plans. Counties around the state also have developed NIMS and ICS training protocols and are formally adopting NIMS through legislation, executive order, resolution or ordinance.

NIMS also includes guidelines on command and management (of which ICS is a major component), preparedness, resource management, communications and information management as well as ongoing management and maintenance. Maryland has identified 10 core disciplines that should undergo training for NIMS: fire service, hazardous materials personnel, emergency medical services, emergency management, law enforcement, public works, government administration, public safety communications, health care and public health.





MCAC: A NATIONAL MODEL FOR INFORMATION SHARING & ANALYSIS



The Maryland Coordination & Analysis Center (MCAC) is the first information-sharing center in the nation that collects and analyzes data with police, National Guard, fire, emergency management, health, transportation and emergency medical personnel from the federal, state and local levels. MCAC is overseen by the Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council, led by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland, which brings together professionals from a variety of disciplines at all levels of government.

FACT

In 2005, MCAC answered 14,041 calls on its 24/7 tips line, received 2,375 requests for information, processed 1,385 tips and disseminated 1,742 analytical products.

MCAC is divided into two sections: a watch section and a strategic analytical section. The watch section provides tactical analytical support to law enforcement, other first responders and homeland security personnel regarding terrorism and other criminal activities. It provides federal, state and local investigators with the ability to query numerous relevant federal, state and local databases and provide immediate lookout or terrorism information. In potential terrorism matters, the watch section is closely aligned with the threat squad of the FBI-sponsored Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF). The JTTF, supervised by a

Maryland State Police lieutenant, is staffed with nearly 100 full-time federal, state and local personnel who investigate terrorism-related tips received by the watch section to prevent and disrupt terrorism-related activity. While the watch section is not designed to perform routine criminal and/or motor vehicle checks, it is engaged when a subject or circumstance gives rise to a suspicion of potentially terrorism-related activity that requires investigation.



MCAC's Watch Center looks out for suspicious activity across the state.

MCAC also fully coordinates with national entities involved in the collection and analysis of critical information such as the Homeland Security Operations Center, the National Counterterrorism Center, the FBI's Counterterrorism Watch, the TSA Operations Center and others.

It also coordinates with fusion

MCAC TIP AVERTS POSSIBLE THREAT TO BAY BRIDGE

Three Baltimore County police officers were returning in a marked police vehicle from official business on Maryland's Eastern Shore one fall day when they noticed a passenger in a car videotaping the structure of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and otherwise acting suspiciously. The officers followed protocol and notified the Maryland Transportation Authority Police who, in turn, called MCAC. MCAC investigated and found that the driver of the car, Ismail Elbarasse, was named as an unindicted co-conspirator in a federal terrorist financing indictment issued in Chicago. Contact with a federal prosecutor in Maryland resulted in a material witness arrest warrant being issued in Chicago for Elbarasse.

In a similar case before the terrorist attacks and mass murders of September 11, 2001, and before the creation of MCAC, the results were different. Ziad Harrah, one of the hijackers in the 9/11 attack, was pulled over for speeding by a Maryland State Police Trooper. With no access to relevant databases, Harrah was simply given a ticket and sent on his way. Tracking such individuals before MCAC opened was inefficient and time consuming, if possible at all. A similar traffic stop now would likely lead to far different results.

MCAC - continued on next page



ATAC COORDINATES MARYLAND INFORMATION SHARING EFFORTS

The Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council (ATAC) coordinates activities, develops policy and implements strategic plans to combat terrorism in Maryland. ATAC is a prime illustration of the collaboration that is necessary to implement a successful homeland security strategy. It has representation from all levels of government and the private sector. Specifically, ATAC serves to (1) facilitate information sharing among its members; (2) prevent and disrupt terrorism activity through aggressive investigation and prosecution; (3) assist in preparing for and responding to any future terrorist incidents; and (4) provide relevant training. Over 225 agencies are represented on ATAC. Its policy making body, the Executive Committee, is comprised of 16 chief executives of federal, state and local member agencies representing law enforcement, emergency management and response, public health, military and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security. The chair, who also serves as the ATAC Coordinator, is an Assistant U.S. Attorney for Maryland.

MCAC - continued from previous page

centers in other states.

The strategic analysis section enhances investigative activities being conducted by law enforcement agencies at all levels around the state. It also assists public health and safety agencies in protecting citizens from terrorism and associated criminal activity by providing predictive intelligence analysis that is widely disseminated to all necessary entities, public and private.



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. receives a current operations update at the Maryland Joint Operations Center from Maj. Gen. Bruce Tuxill (center) and Maryland Emergency Management Agency Director John Droneburg (right).

MCAC is staffed by more than 50 people from 24 different federal, state and local agencies. Every staff member at MCAC holds a security clearance. A federal prosecutor is always on call to answer critical legal questions that arise during MCAC operations. The United States Department of Justice considers MCAC a national model for the analysis and dissemination of homeland security information.

MCAC is funded through a collaborative effort, as each agency pays the salary of its own personnel. The facility is provided by the FBI while other operational expenses come from federal grant funding.

MJOC: A FOCUS ON AGENCY COORDINATION, COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

The Maryland Joint Operations Center (MJOC) is the State's primary hub for agency coordination, communications and information. In this capacity, the MJOC monitors, updates and maintains situational awareness. Information received from federal, state and local sources is used to coordinate state response actions and make recommendations to the Governor and his top advisors. MJOC also serves as Maryland's gateway to the Department of Defense and additional National Guard resources.

Under the leadership of Governor Ehrlich, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Maryland National Guard have expanded MJOC operations to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. MJOC serves as the principal point of contact for emergency-related information and disseminates vital emergency information to federal, state and local partners and senior leaders. Operations officers oversee and coordinate multiple incident response activities and work with local authorities to identify requirements and provide timely state assistance. MJOC also maintains redundant communications, situational awareness and intelligence fusion capabilities with MCAC. As a result, each is able to provide continuity of operations by assuming the functions of the other if a catastrophic event were to affect one of these facilities.



ID MARYLAND: A MAJOR INFORMATION SHARING INITIATIVE



On January 24, 2005, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announced his Homeland Security and Public Safety Initiative, known as 'ID Maryland.' This multifaceted initiative advances homeland security and public safety objectives to collect and share criminal justice and terrorism-related information across regional and state lines. Governor Ehrlich's ID Maryland success highlights interagency cooperation with representation from a broad cross section of the public safety community. This partnership includes the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Maryland State Police and local criminal justice agencies.

Central to ID Maryland is the replacement of the existing and outdated technology with a new state-of-the-art automated fingerprint identification system which, when coupled with LiveScan digitizing technology, facilitates the collection and processing of fingerprints at both criminal booking facilities and applicant fingerprinting locations. This new system will be compatible with new advances in fingerprint technology, including improved accuracy and faster identification processing of offenders, while moving Maryland toward achieving a 100% rate of transmitting electronic criminal and applicant fingerprints to the FBI's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System.

LiveScan machines have been installed at major booking facilities around the state. This technology enables a subject's fingerprints to be compared against those in criminal justice databases in only 20 minutes, greatly decreasing the chances of the release of a wanted offender from custody before a positive identification can be made. This technology is now being used to register convicted sex offenders at law enforcement locations across the state.

In 2005, LiveScan fingerprint technology was deployed statewide at several Motor Vehicle Administration locations. The HazMat CDL effort provides the required background check on applicants for commercial driver's licenses with a hazardous materials designation, bringing the State into compliance with federally mandated provisions in the *USA PATRIOT Act*. Through this success, Maryland has been recognized as a national model. Additional LiveScan services include automated processing of applicant fingerprints for various licenses, including childcare and gun permits, which will reduce the processing time for these applications from about eight weeks to approximately seven days.

Another component of ID Maryland, NCIC 2000, gives law enforcement personnel in the field access to a web-based system enabling searches of numerous federal and state criminal justice information databases from a mobile data terminal. This new system will also give law enforcement personnel the ability to transmit and share images, including mug shots, fingerprints, signatures and crime scene information.



ID Maryland is equipping Maryland State Police vehicles with state-of-the-art equipment, so police officers can better protect the public.

As part of ID Maryland, state police vehicles were equipped with mobile data computers and other communications enhancements giving troopers real-time access to criminal justice and homeland security information. The equipment has already been installed in 500 patrol units with upgrades planned for another 1,000 vehicles. Finally, as part of the ID Maryland Initiative, the State's expanded DNA database provides law enforcement agencies the ability to resolve more cases, help close cold cases, and significantly reduce the backlog in DNA sample collection from 13,000 to less than 4,000.



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announces his Homeland Security and Public Safety Initiative, 'ID Maryland', on January 24, 2005.



HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS HELP MARYLAND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ACQUIRE NEW TOOLS

Grants from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security are helping law enforcement agencies in Maryland acquire state-of-the-art equipment to more effectively fight crime and terrorism.

In February 2005, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announced the delivery of specialized emergency response vehicles acquired with approximately \$1.4 million of homeland security grant funding.

The Calvert County Sheriff's Department received \$215,000 in federal funds to purchase a Lenco Bearcat, a tactical armored security vehicle. The Department of Natural Resources Police received nearly \$20,000 to purchase a global positioning system so officers can be tracked while patrolling Maryland's waterways. More than \$250,000 was used to buy cutting-edge mobile data terminals for Maryland State Police (MSP), and \$123,000 was used to acquire safes, paper shredders and fax machines to support MSP's SecureComm project, which provides a secure communications channel for the Governor in the event of an emergency or disaster.



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announces the delivery of specialized emergency response vehicles to seven jurisdictions in Central Maryland at the State House on February 2, 2005.

The State of Maryland assisted Anne Arundel County and Ocean City to secure federal funding for their mobile command centers. The State provides e-mail accounts to municipal law enforcement agencies that do not have them, so those agencies can receive reports from the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center.

The State of Maryland has worked hard with local government partners to secure available federal funds for homeland security efforts which make our citizens safer.

A STATEWIDE PARTNERSHIP IS FORMED TO SAFEGUARD MARYLAND ELECTIONS

One sure way to create chaos in a democracy is to disrupt the election process, something terrorists have tried in other countries. Recognizing this risk and taking a proactive approach, Governor Ehrlich acted quickly to ensure the integrity of Maryland's elections. During the 2004 election cycle, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security (GOHS) and the Maryland State Police (MSP) helped to coordinate the efforts of state and local law enforcement, elected officials, emergency managers, boards of elections and others to prepare for the election. These partners worked together to develop plans and procedures to minimize the chances of a disruption to the electoral process, ensure the security of polling places and guarantee the safety of voters and poll workers around the State.

A newly revised Board of Elections Disaster Recovery and Incident Management Plan takes an all-hazards approach by addressing a wide spectrum of events that could impact voting, including severe weather, electrical blackouts, a change in the national threat level and attacks by conventional weapons, dirty bombs and chemical or biological agents. The plan includes guidance to promote secure polling places, including suggestions for parking, development of site plans to deal with emergencies and increased patrols by law enforcement personnel. As part of this continuing partnership, GOHS and MSP participated in the 2005 Biennial Meeting of Election Officials last October.



A MODEL FOR AIRPORT SECURITY

The Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport is touted as the “Easy Come, Easy Go” airport in the region, but it also has gained a reputation for its security programs. BWI Marshall is one of a few U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA)-designated test sites for new technologies around the country with upgraded facilities for canine patrols, enhanced baggage screening capabilities and improved terminal security checkpoints. In addition, BWI Marshall received an “Excellence in Airport Security Award” from *Airport Security Report* in 2005.

The Maryland Aviation Administration partners with federal officials on security at BWI Marshall Airport. TSA observed operations at BWI Marshall and used those findings to help develop procedures at all of the nation’s 429 commercial airports. BWI Marshall served as the first of 115 U.S. international airports to use the United States Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT) process. Designed and implemented by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, US-VISIT is used to confirm the identity of travelers entering and exiting the U.S. via air travel. All international airports perform incoming US-VISIT functions; BWI Marshall was the test airport for the outgoing system.

BWI MARSHALL GETS NEW TRACE PORTAL TO DETECT EXPLOSIVES ON PASSENGERS

In the wake of 9/11 and the capture of Richard Reid, a would-be terrorist who tried to blow up a trans-Atlantic flight with a bomb in his shoe, the need to screen passengers for explosives has become apparent. As one of four model airports nationwide to test new technologies, BWI Marshall has received a new, sophisticated explosive detection trace portal. The machine is a walkthrough device similar to a metal detector. It blows several quick “puffs” on passengers and analyzes the air for explosive materials. An alarm sounds if suspicious materials are detected.



The new Terminal A and expanded Terminal B at BWI Marshall Airport are designed to implement the latest security technologies while providing better service to passengers.

The airport continues to undergo a major expansion and modernization program that includes a totally rebuilt terminal, new rental car and parking facilities, new sky bridges, moving sidewalks and wider terminal roadways. New security projects have been incorporated into the design of many of these improvements, especially the new terminal A that opened in the spring of 2005 as well as the modernized and expanded terminal B, which opened later in the year. Both serve Southwest Airlines, which operates about half of the daily flights to and from the airport. BWI Marshall’s Terminal A/B is the first airport facility in the region to include a state-of-the-art, inline baggage screening system. Inline explosives detection system (EDS) technology automates, streamlines and improves the baggage screening process. Terminal A/B also includes additional passenger screening checkpoints to help expedite screening procedures.



A passenger is screened in the new trace portal machine at BWI Marshall Airport.



SECURING MARYLAND'S PORT AND WATERWAYS

As key points of entry into the United States, securing our ports and waterways is a necessary part of any viable border security strategy. With a major port and an extensive network of waterways, the State has placed a high priority on security along its shores and at the Port of Baltimore. Securing the Port and the State's waterways is a collaborative effort between federal, state, local and the private sector partners that handle everything from waterside security to protection of port facilities and cargo safety.



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. and then U.S. Customs and Border Patrol Commissioner Robert C. Bonner announce the arrival of the Mobile Sea Container System at the Port of Baltimore on June 2, 2005.

The Maryland Port Administration (MPA) has been working hard to maintain and improve security at its terminals and loading facilities. The agency is undertaking an ambitious program to improve access control and surveillance, along with a perimeter intrusion detection system. Through a collaborative agreement between the MPA and the Maryland Transportation Authority (MdTA) Police, the latter agency has primary law enforcement jurisdiction at all MPA facilities. MdTA coordinates landside security with the Baltimore City police and a variety of private firms that operate terminals, warehouses and transport companies. Waterside security is a coordinated effort between the Coast Guard, MdTA Police and the City of Baltimore.



The Mobile Sea Container System in action on June 2, 2005.

Ensuring the safety of cargo that passes through Baltimore's port and the surrounding area is primarily the responsibility of the U.S. Customs & Border Patrol (CBP). Last spring, the Port of Baltimore became one of the first in the nation to receive from CBP a sophisticated drive-through machine designed to examine a full container of cargo. This machine, the Mobile Sea Container System (MSCS), greatly enhances screening capabilities at the Port by employing a powerful x-ray enabling CBP agents to "see" through solid steel, scanning a 40-foot shipping container in less than a minute. The MSCS will assist in the detection of illegal contraband, including weapons of mass destruction. The \$6-million-dollar system augments the previously existing shipside gamma ray-reliant Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (VACIS).

A COALITION TO PROTECT MARYLAND'S WATERWAYS

Maryland leads the way in maritime security with the Area Maritime Security (AMS) committee. The AMS committee brings together top leaders from federal, state and local government, as well as the private sector. The AMS committee is chaired by the Coast Guard Captain of the Port and the Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge of the FBI's Baltimore Field Office, and has representation from Customs, Immigration, the Baltimore City Fire Department, the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, the Private Sector Port Coalition and other entities.

In the words of Ben Franklin, "We must hang together, or surely we will all hang separately." The AMS committee has taken cooperation to a new level to promote the safety and security of Maryland residents.



TUNNEL THREAT TESTS STATE'S READINESS

How quickly could Maryland stop traffic to protect a tunnel or bridge from a terrorist attack? The answer came in October, when foreign intelligence sources warned of a possible attack on one of the tunnels that carries traffic under the Patapsco River in east Baltimore: about two minutes. While the attack never materialized, the response to the incident showed how effectively the State's response was organized, which could help minimize the loss of life and extent of damage in the event of an actual incident.

Maryland is home to one of the most important logistical highway networks in the country, including I-95, the key north-south highway in the East; I-70, one of the nation's primary east-west routes; two major metropolitan beltways; two tunnels and several major bridges. So, two modes of the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) – the State Highway Administration for state, U.S. and Interstate-numbered roadways, and the Maryland Transportation Authority (MdTA) for toll highways, bridges and tunnels – work with the Maryland State Police and MdTA Police along with local and federal law enforcement to help keep the roads safe for travel and commerce. This is no small feat given the major mixing of interstate vehicles passing through



Governor Robert L. Ebrlich, Jr. answers questions about the closing of the Baltimore Harbor and Ft. McHenry Tunnels along with Special Agent-in-Charge Kevin Perkins of the Baltimore Field Office (left) and Chief Gary McLhinney (right) of the Maryland Transportation Authority Police on October 18, 2005.

Maryland and the volume of commuters on roadways in the congested Washington and Baltimore areas.

While the various agencies drill regularly to prepare for potential incidents, the preparation that went into the October incident in Baltimore was extraordinary. Because law enforcement had some advanced knowledge of the potential terrorist incident, MdTA personnel actually performed a dry run of the tunnel closure in the overnight hours in advance of the actual shut down, which occurred just after the morning rush hour. That drill gave MdTA officials confidence that they could quickly and efficiently seal off either the Harbor or Fort McHenry tunnels on short notice.



CHART's operations center in Hanover keeps constant watch over Maryland's roadways.

CHART: A PARTNERSHIP TO KEEP MARYLAND HIGHWAYS SAFE AND MOVING

The Coordinated Highway Action Response Team (CHART), a joint effort between MDOT; the Maryland State Police; and other federal, state and local agencies, strives to improve the real-time operation of Maryland's highway system through teamwork and technology. This includes traffic flow sensors, video cameras, weather data, highway message signs and more. CHART and its products, such as traveler information, interactive mapping and weather updates can be found on the web at <http://www.chart.state.md.us/default.asp>. CHART helps local and state officials respond to traffic issues more rapidly to keep the traveling public safe and moving.



PROTECTING OUR PUBLIC TRANSIT AND RAIL SYSTEMS

Whether it is local commuter traffic, interstate travelers on some of Amtrak's busiest routes, or vital freight traffic from Baltimore's port to other parts of the country, Maryland is home to some of the most important rail links in the country. In light of rail and subway incidents in Europe, the need to protect public transit systems has become even more apparent. The State has worked to develop transit security strategies both in the Baltimore area and, along with our partners in the National Capitol Region, in the Washington area. The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) has conducted threat and vulnerability assessments of its public transit systems to implement the most effective security measures.



Maryland has taken substantial steps to protect public transit and rail systems.

As home to a major U.S. port and several major rail freight hubs, the security of rail freight is also a major priority in Maryland, the birthplace of the nation's rail system.

FACT

In 2005, over 300,000 passengers rode transit systems operated by the MTA each day.

The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), part of MDOT, administers regional mass transit systems in the Baltimore area – one subway line, one light rail line and dozens of bus routes. Maryland also collaborates with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority to help secure parts of its subway lines and bus routes that

operate in the State. MTA's MARC train service has three lines stretching from Cecil County and West Virginia to Union Station in Washington, DC. The State collaborates with CSX and Amtrak, which own the tracks, to provide security on these lines. MDOT also coordinates with local law enforcement agencies to provide security on smaller bus lines that operate within the counties.

Because of its proximity to the nation's capital, Maryland has often been the site of important security initiatives, especially with regard to transportation. For example, Amtrak rolled out a pilot security initiative at its New Carrollton station with total passenger and baggage screening. Lessons learned from that pilot program will improve rail security across the nation.

TRANSIT EXERCISE SIMULATES DIRTY BOMB EXPLOSION IN STATION

Operation Rescue Below was the third in a series of annual exercises designed to get first responders familiar with rescue operations in Baltimore's subway tunnels. More than 400 people participated in an event that simulated a dirty bomb explosion at the Johns Hopkins Metro station. First responders exercised incident command, communications, decontamination, protective equipment, rescue procedures and more.

Detection and prevention are the top priorities of Homeland Security. But preparation for disaster response, whether natural or man-made, is key to saving lives. Operation Rescue Below brought together first responders throughout the region to practice in the most demanding environment imaginable with the hope that those skills will never be needed.



MARYLAND GETS PRAISE FOR KATRINA RESPONSE

Maryland's response to last year's monster Hurricane Katrina has been described as phenomenal proof that our state stands ready to respond to even the most horrific disaster.

As the storm was churning off of the Florida coast on August 23, Maryland's National Guard and the Maryland Joint Operations Center were already monitoring its movement and holding daily conference calls with Florida Emergency Management and the National Guard Bureau. Two days before the hurricane made landfall on the Gulf Coast, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency was coordinating resources to respond to the region.

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. sent a fact-finding team to New Orleans to help determine the region's needs just days after the storm made landfall. Governor Ehrlich then deployed more than 800 military personnel and 700 civilian volunteers to Louisiana and Mississippi to provide law enforcement and medical care to hurricane victims.

As Jefferson Parish President Aaron Broussard told Governor Ehrlich: "When things were the bleakest here and we were looking for some sort of relief from the federal level or state level or whatever, you were a lighthouse on a dark shore."

Maryland's response to Katrina's wake is proof: when a neighbor cries out for help in an emergency, Marylanders can be counted on to answer that call...whether it comes from next door...or a thousand miles away.



Mel Blizzard and Mike Zeigler from the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and Brig. Gen. (Md.) Benjamin Lucas of the Maryland Defense Force present Jefferson Parish President Aaron Broussard (center) with a Maryland state flag sent by Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. prior to their departure on September 20, 2005.

MARYLAND LAUNCHES COORDINATED EFFORT TO HOST THOUSANDS OF KATRINA EVACUEES

Most of us can remember watching the ruin and devastation left in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina on television and in newspapers. Many in the affected area lost everything, and some decided to start a new life in Maryland. In total, more than 5,000 evacuees came to Maryland.

The Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR) is responsible for the coordination of mass shelter and care efforts to help surviving victims following a disaster. DHR engaged various faith-based organizations, the private sector and several other state agencies, (including the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Maryland State Department of Education and others), to ensure that evacuees were provided the assistance they so desperately needed. DHR employees identified various resources – including housing, clothing, food and transportation. A job fair was also set up to help evacuees find employment in their new home state.

DHR issued \$2,078,753 in benefits to Katrina evacuees (not counting medical assistance), some 3,275 individuals representing 1,663 households. The assistance provided to the evacuees is the product of one of many successful collaborative efforts crafted under the leadership of Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.



MARYLAND VOLUNTEER CORPS DELIVERS BIG FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS IN KATRINA AFTERMATH



Dr. Richard C. Lavy, M.D., a member of DHMH's Professional Volunteer Corps, tends to a young child at Meadowcrest Hospital in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana during Katrina relief efforts.

Like angels sent from Heaven, Maryland doctors and nurses descended on Jefferson Parish, Louisiana to help victims in the hellish aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Approximately 700 members of this volunteer medical corps, some only receiving 24 hours notice, generously donated time away from their families to board C-130J cargo planes bound

for the storm-ravaged area to serve residents desperately in need of medical attention. Each was sworn into the Maryland Defense Force, vowing to uphold the Maryland Constitution.

Upon arriving in Jefferson Parish, they found deplorable conditions, but each helped clean up the abandoned Meadowcrest Hospital so they could establish a 'base camp' where they could sleep, if only on the floor. The teams established six satellite clinics throughout the Parish, rendering medical attention to more than 6,200 Louisiana residents, most of whom said they had never received such excellent medical treatment. The Maryland volunteers also rendered aid to some of the thousands of animals left behind during the storm. Strangers became friends, friends became 'like family'. The days were long and the work hard, but nearly all agreed their work in New Orleans was a life-changing experience. Jefferson Parish residents will be forever grateful to the State of Maryland because of these heroic efforts.

A STORY FROM OPERATION LIFELINE

Just hours after they arrived in Louisiana in the days following Hurricane Katrina, a team from Maryland received a call for assistance from the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office. A group of 35 people, including 20 children, had been discovered in Bridgetown, a Jefferson Parish community on the west bank of the Mississippi River. They were in dire straits with little food and water and in desperate need of medical attention. Mel Blizzard, the Maryland Task Force Commander, immediately dispatched members of Operation Lifeline to render aid to the hurricane victims. The Maryland team provided assistance desperately needed and the group was later evacuated to Baton Rouge. For these 35 individuals, Operation Lifeline was truly their 'lifeline'.

EMERGENCY PLANNING FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Hurricane Katrina demonstrated the importance of including and accounting for individuals with disabilities or other special needs in planning for emergency preparedness and response. Maryland is championing efforts to address these needs.

The Maryland Department of Disabilities held seven statewide conferences on Emergency Preparedness and Response for Individuals with Disabilities in Maryland during 2004 and 2005. These regional conferences provided training and technical assistance on appropriate emergency preparedness and planning for and with individuals with disabilities in Maryland's communities. The conferences focused on the concept of 'Inclusive Planning', which emphasizes the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in strategic planning and coordination, since they understand better than anyone their unique needs during an emergency.



EXERCISING & TRAINING FOR ALL HAZARDS

There's an old saying in sports that goes, "You play like you practice." Translation: Athletes who practice hard give their all in a game. This is the theory behind exercise and training in homeland security and emergency management. Working with the Exercise and Training branch of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), state agencies, local governments and federal and private partners collaborate to prepare for and respond to a wide variety of natural and man-made disasters. The training is based on the State's cutting-edge Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP), which was established to ensure that exercises targeted priority-based preparedness and response capabilities.



An exercise involving hazardous materials was conducted in Western Maryland in October 2005.

One of the most important tools in a major incident is the ability of people to communicate and track what is happening. To that end, Maryland provides WebEOC at no cost to local jurisdictions. WebEOC is a web-based communications, incident tracking and mapping program that allows real-time collaboration between the state and local agencies involved in a response and many non-profit and private partners. MEMA has provided in-depth WebEOC training to all local emergency management operations around the state, along with dozens of other state and non-profit partners.

Those same partners have all been trained in the use of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the national program that establishes common response procedures regardless of the type of incident or responders. The integration of NIMS into statewide exercise and training programs is a key requirement for funding from the United States Department of Homeland Security. MEMA also works with local governments and regional groups (e.g., the National Capital Region, Central Maryland Region and Eastern Shore) to develop multi-jurisdictional exercises. Some of the noteworthy exercises that have taken place in Maryland include preparations for the Presidential inauguration, Harbor BASE (Biological Attack-Simulated Exercise) III and nuclear preparedness drills at the Calvert Cliffs and Peach Bottom nuclear power plants.



The SEOC in Reisterstown is Maryland's emergency coordination and communications hub.

EXERCISES TO EVALUATE COORDINATION & COMMUNICATION

During an emergency, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Reisterstown is used to facilitate and ensure that resources are effectively and efficiently deployed to protect and preserve Maryland communities. More than 40 emergency preparedness and response professionals from a variety of state agencies and non-governmental organizations staff the SEOC during an emergency. To ensure proper coordination and communication, exercises are conducted at the SEOC. These exercises place the SEOC participants in a simulated situation requiring them to function in the same capacity that they would serve in an emergency.

One such exercise was FloodEx in May 2005, when 43 representatives were called into the SEOC to simulate a major flooding event in Maryland communities.



FULFILLING GOVERNMENT'S CORE FUNCTIONS THROUGH CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANNING

If a major catastrophe knocked out a key state facility for an extended period, how would that agency continue to serve the citizens of Maryland? The ability of government to maintain operations during a disaster, manage the situation and continue to provide the critical services upon which the public depends promotes public confidence at a time when it is needed most. To limit disruption to governmental operations during times of crisis, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. has made the creation, adoption and training on Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans a priority in Maryland by directing all state agencies to participate in COOP planning.

COOP CONSIDERATIONS

- ✓ Alternative modes of operation under conditions of uncertainty
- ✓ Vital systems and equipment
- ✓ Hardware/software requirements
- ✓ Communications requirements
- ✓ Advance preparations of the alternate facility so COOP can be activated
- ✓ Primary and alternate facility occupancy and resumption plans
- ✓ Internal reporting requirements
- ✓ Agreements with other state agencies
- ✓ Goal of providing essential functions for 14 days

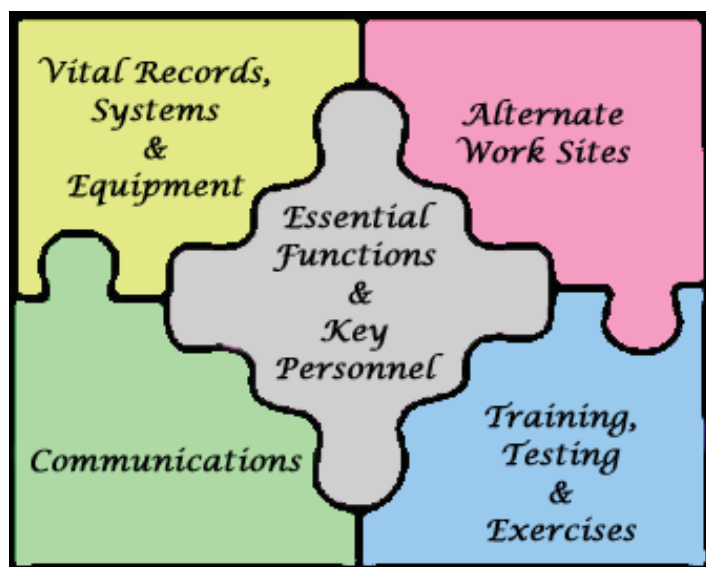
FACT

11 of 16 state cabinet agencies have developed approved COOP plans under the leadership of Governor Ehrlich.

The Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) has helped to coordinate this effort by working with other state agencies as they develop their COOP plans. Maryland has compiled the only comprehensive how-to planning guide available to COOP planners, which had its second printing last summer. Using that guide, 11 of 16 Mary-

land cabinet agencies developed approved plans and identified 44 sites as possible relocation facilities for state government functions. Of course, simply finding a new site to set up offices does not mean that an agency will be ready to serve its customers. Agency personnel must be able to access essential records, financial information, and vital documents, which requires thoughtful and inventive COOP planning to provide provisions for data backup and remote access. Since a fully functioning state government will not be of much help to residents if local governments cannot deliver their vast array of services, MEMA is also working closely with county and municipal leaders to make sure that they, too, can continue to operate in the wake of a disaster.

Maryland has become a national role model for COOP planning. Recently, the State received a \$1.4 million training grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security to set up a program to train officials from other states and the federal government on the design and implementation of continuity of operations plans and programs. This grant reflects Maryland's commitment to this crucial element of homeland security.



The many facets of a continuity of operations plan.



CITIZENS GET INVOLVED IN HOMELAND SECURITY

One of the most profound changes in a post 9/11 world is the realization that all citizens, through disaster preparedness, are responsible for helping to ensure the safety and security of themselves, their families and our country. This is why Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. emphasizes the need for citizens to become involved in the homeland security effort. From building a greater awareness of their surroundings, to citizen programs and projects that focus on making neighborhoods safe, volunteer efforts in Maryland that focus on homeland security have mushroomed over the last four years.

Led by the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV), Maryland has established Citizen Corps Councils in every jurisdiction, becoming one of just three states to do so. These councils are an integral part of a program that focuses on the development of a grassroots movement that involves all Americans in hometown security. Citizen Corps Councils are coordinated in cooperation with local offices of emergency management and bring to the table all community leaders who have an interest in making their Maryland safer, stronger and better-prepared for disasters of all kinds. Citizen Corps Councils focus on personal responsibility: making a plan, building an emergency kit, being informed and receiving training such as CPR, first aid and volunteer service. Citizens can get involved in a Citizen Corps program at the community level such as Volunteers in Police Service, Neighborhood Watch, Community Emergency Response Teams and the Medical Reserve Corps. Governor Ehrlich funded Citizen Corps Councils with \$200,000 through the State Homeland Security Grant Program in 2005. This competitive grant process allows local jurisdictions to apply for funding to strengthen their community outreach and education efforts through Citizen Corps Councils in their communities.



Members of the Prince George's County Citizen Corps Council and Prince George's County Homeland Security Director Vernon Herron (far right) present Chief Administrative Officer, Dr. Jacqueline Brown, (center) a plaque expressing the Council's gratitude for Dr. Brown's support of the Council. The members are, from left to right, Mike Attick (representing the County Council of Community Emergency Response Teams), Calvin Hawkins (representing the Office of Emergency Management), Nancie Park (representing the Prince George's County Volunteer Center), William Milligan (representing the Volunteers in Police Services as well as the American Legion).

CITIZEN PREPAREDNESS - continued on next page

PROJECT OFFERS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS LESSONS IN HOMELAND SECURITY

Using the Harford County Public School System as a pilot, the State has collaborated with local educators, business leaders and emergency management professionals to develop a homeland security and emergency preparedness curriculum in Maryland high schools. The course of study will begin in 10th grade, and targets the following career pathways:

- Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement
- Information/Communication Technology
- Homeland Security Sciences

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Governor's Office of Homeland Security

Tel: 410-974-2389 E-mail: gohs@gov.state.md.us

Governor's Office of Service & Volunteerism

Tel: 1-800-321-VOLS E-mail: dstaigerwald@gosv.state.md.us

Maryland Coordination & Analysis Center

Tel: 1-800-492-TIPS E-mail: mdtips@leo.gov

Maryland Joint Operations Center

Tel: 410-517-3600 E-mail: mdjoc@mema.state.md.us

Maryland Emergency Management Agency

Tel: 877-MEMA-USA E-mail: help@mema.state.md.us



CITIZEN PREPAREDNESS - continued from page 16

Maryland's citizen education efforts harness the power of individuals to make a difference in their lives and the lives of their neighbors through volunteer service and public outreach campaigns. Maryland's strategy for homeland security citizen education mirrors the United States Department of Homeland Security's Ready.gov program. This plan is designed to educate all Marylanders about disasters and disaster preparedness. GOSV also helped coordinate "Maryland Preparedness Month" in September, during which over 70 preparedness programs were offered around the state. GOSV provided mini-grants of up to \$500 for 15 of these programs.

FACT

In 2005, Maryland became one of three states to establish Citizen Corps Councils in every jurisdiction.

To make sure a wide cross section of citizens are involved in these activities, GOSV works closely with other Maryland agencies to integrate citizens with disabilities and other special needs into council leadership positions and other volunteer emergency man-

agement efforts. The Maryland Department of Transportation has developed volunteer watch programs for the highways and waterways and sponsors partnerships with AmeriCorps programs.

The 14 volunteer centers across the state also work closely with homeland security efforts. The development of volunteer mobilization centers will coordinate the efforts of spontaneous and unaffiliated volunteers that emerge after a disaster occurs. Volunteer centers tie together the needs of the community with people who want to volunteer and give back to their neighborhoods, working together to make Maryland safer, stronger and better prepared.

Readiness Shopping List

- * **WATER:** One gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- * **FOOD:** At least a three day supply of non-perishable food
- * Battery-powered or hand-crank radio and a NOAA weather radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- * Flashlight and extra batteries
- * First aid kit (including sterile gloves, sterile dressing, soap, antibiotic ointment, bandages, eye wash and thermometer)
- * Whistle to signal for help
- * Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air, and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- * Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- * Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- * Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- * Local maps



Citizens participate in CERT training.

CERT TRAINING IS WIDELY AVAILABLE

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member training is readily available for interested individuals. The CERT course is presented to groups of citizens through local jurisdictions. Classes usually last approximately 2.5 hours, one evening a week for seven or eight weeks. The course includes sessions on disaster preparedness, fire suppression, medical operations, light search and rescue, disaster psychology and team organization. It concludes with a review and disaster simulation. Completing this course enables citizens to better help themselves and their families during times of disaster before first responders arrive. Individuals interested in CERT should contact their local emergency manager.



A PARTNERSHIP TO PROTECT MARYLAND AGRICULTURE

The scenario: an outbreak of avian influenza at an Eastern Shore poultry house. At risk: the multi-million dollar food production industry affecting three states and the risk of public panic because of concerns that the disease might mutate into a virus that can be passed among humans. Maryland's response: the Center for Agro-Security and Emergency Management (CAEM), a joint effort of the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension, the Maryland Department of Agriculture and other public and private partners. The Center strives to improve readiness to respond to agricultural emergencies by improving education and outreach efforts, promoting efforts to better prepare for and respond to an emergency, educating the industry about food security issues and developing an emergency communications network.



A sample disaster kit.

CAEM established teams of emergency responders (first detectors) around the state and equipped them with disaster kits and communications equipment. Agricultural Local Emergency Response Teams (ALERT) help to rapidly identify agricultural security issues in their early stages, helping to prevent or slow the spread of problems.

The Center also created a website, <http://www.agrosecurity.umd.edu>, which provides accurate and timely information to consumers and producers. Furthermore, CAEM partnered with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and a variety of agriculture-related groups, including veterinarians, to provide rigorous training about preparedness and response to agricultural terrorism for ALERT members.

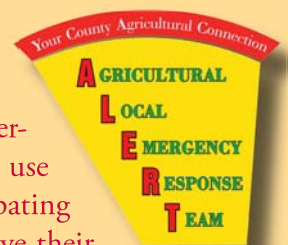


Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Lewis R. Riley (left), Dr. Cheing-i-Wei (center), Dean of the University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (AGNR), and Deputy Secretary of Agriculture John R. Brooks, D.V.M. (right) in front of the Biosecurity Awareness exhibit at the Maryland State Fair in August 2005. MDA has partnered extensively with AGNR on Agricultural Security, as exemplified by the creation of CAEM.

The Center and its partners are developing a team to respond to animal incidents and working to link the top potential agro-security threats in Maryland to appropriate federal resources. CAEM helped to provide agricultural resources to producers in Southern Maryland whose operations were damaged during recent hurricanes. Finally, the Center is distributing a farm security checklist to producers around the state, assisting agencies and producers with emergency planning and training and participating in statewide exercises for emergency events that could impact agricultural production.

ALERT MEMBERS TRAINED TO PROTECT FOOD SUPPLY

Training of ALERT members throughout the state is an ongoing process. These state employee volunteers agree to maintain vigilance and help in an emergency. By building working relationships with local emergency managers, learning to use new equipment and participating in exercises to test and improve their skills, ALERT members share their agricultural expertise to help better protect our food supply.





DEFENDING AGAINST CATASTROPHIC THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH IS A MAJOR PRIORITY IN MARYLAND

Maryland has developed a nationally recognized project to develop collaborative regional response planning among first responders and receivers. This approach helps hospitals, health centers, health care providers and emergency medical personnel with planning, training and equipment for public health emergencies, most notably bioterrorism-type incidents. The program also helps to deal with a surge in patient load, integration of efforts throughout the public and private sectors and the ability of the system to quickly recognize significant spikes in the numbers of patients coming to hospitals with unusual symptoms or highly contagious conditions.

FACT

In 2005, Maryland increased its capacity to over 5,000 equipped surge hospital beds, purchased over 30,000 sets of Personal Protective Equipment and conducted over 300 training courses for health system personnel.

ness (including numbers and types of beds available for patient surge, staffing, pre-positioning of medication and equipment and training programs), meet federally-man-

The United States Health Resources Services Administration's Bioterrorism and Hospital Preparedness Program was developed to prepare the health care system for a bioterrorism incident or other public health emergency. Funding from this program has helped Maryland hospitals acquire redundant communications systems, achieve basic levels of readi-



Dr. Michelle Gourdine, Deputy Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene for Public Health Preparedness, receives a "vaccination" during a health exercise at the Worcester County Health Department on August 17, 2005.

dated critical benchmarks and develop regional memoranda of understanding across the health system from EMS to inpatient services.

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene works to improve planning and coordination between health-related agencies to upgrade preparedness for a potential emergency based on guidelines and benchmarks from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Newly purchased equipment enables the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture to better track animal health issues that could affect humans. The agency also deployed 165 professional volunteers and recruited over 700 to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast, developing a system to immunize Gulf-bound responders and ship emergency vaccine supplies to the region.



A team from the Maryland Department of Agriculture responds to a threat of avian flu on the Delmarva Peninsula.

MARYLAND TAKES AVIAN FLU THREAT SERIOUSLY

Events overseas involving avian (or bird) flu serve as a wake up call that the threat of another flu pandemic is very real, underscoring the importance of advance planning. Maryland has been preparing since 1999 and has developed an avian flu response plan. The State continues to monitor for signs of a possible pandemic flu outbreak in a variety of ways. Maryland has set up a new website for flu information, <http://flu.Maryland.gov>, and convened a statewide summit to discuss preparations. Last year, an avian flu threat in a chicken hatchery on the Delmarva Peninsula prompted a coordinated response by the Maryland Department of Agriculture and other agencies.



SAFEGUARDING MARYLAND'S MOST VALUABLE ASSETS

Protecting our critical infrastructure – important public buildings, roads, bridges and utilities – is a necessary part of any homeland security strategy in the post 9-11 era. Sitting next to our Nation's Capital with numerous governmental facilities, transportation lines and historical buildings, Maryland houses a substantial amount of critical infrastructure. The Critical Infrastructure Protection Program assesses the vulnerability of critical infrastructure and key assets within the state and devises cost-effective strategies to protect it. To help in the process, the State has consolidated multiple lists of critical infrastructure from various sources into one master list of nearly 1,400 sites.

FACT

Maryland received \$3.2 million under the Buffer Zone Protection Program to strengthen security at key sites.

In order to most efficiently protect our critical infrastructure, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. has overseen the creation of a collaborative partnership with the University of Maryland to develop a program that prioritizes risk to infrastructure in all public and private facilities around the state. In 2006, Maryland will become just the second state to integrate its critical infrastructure assessment database with that of the United States Department of Homeland Security.

Maryland has 60 trained state and local employees who assess protection plans for critical infra-



The Bay Bridge is a key backbone of Maryland's critical infrastructure.

structure. In addition, \$1.55 million has been allocated for the purchase and installation of early warning systems at important raw water and intake locations, which will enhance the safety of our public drinking water supply.

Because over 85% of Maryland's critical infrastructure is privately owned, the State convened a Private Sector Workgroup to protect these privately controlled facilities. The State, along with private sector partners, develops vulnerability assessments for key sites. Additionally, Maryland recently became the first state to become certified under a federal program aimed at protecting sensitive private sector information gathered from threat assessments by preventing access through public disclosure laws by competitors or potential terrorists. Other states are now beginning to follow suit.

Finally, a software program, Anti-Terrorism Information Exchange (ATIX), is being implemented to facilitate communications of potentially sensitive information to private sector partners, providing necessary intelligence information to private sector personnel responsible for planning and implementing actions to prevent, mitigate and recover from terrorist incidents.



PROTECTING OUR HISTORIC STATE CAPITOL

The Capitol Campus Security Initiative helps to ensure the security of all state government buildings in Annapolis through the development of coordinated plans and exercises between the Department of General Services (DGS) Police, Maryland State Police and other area first responders. Additionally, DGS has implemented a new security card system for access to state-owned facilities.



IMPROVING EMERGENCY RESPONSE OPERATIONS THROUGH ENHANCED COMMUNICATIONS



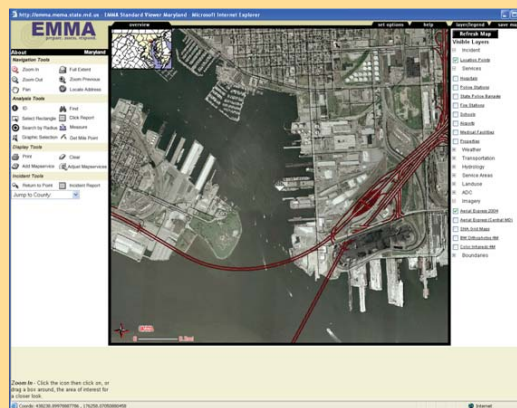
Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. speaks at a demonstration of the Maryland Eastern Shore Interoperability Network on May 17, 2005 as MEMA Deputy Director Warren Campbell (far left, seated), State Interoperability Executive Committee Co-chair Teresa Owens (center) and MEMA Director John Droneburg (right) look on.

the Maryland Eastern Shore Interoperability Network and the Central Maryland Area Regional Communications System, have already been constructed to serve the Eastern Shore and Central Maryland, respectively.

The State of Maryland utilizes WebEOC, an internet-based incident coordination system, which it provides free of charge to first-responder agencies statewide. WebEOC links to the Emergency Management Mapping Application (EMMA), which was developed in conjunction with Towson University and allows first responders and emergency operations centers (EOC) around the state to view and update incident logs, share resources, delegate tasks and communicate with real-time chat programs. Continued development of the statewide microwave infrastructure and protocols for secure networks will enhance the ability of first responders in the field to share data with each other and EOC personnel.

MARYLAND EMERGENCY PERSONNEL SHARE MAPPING TECHNOLOGY

Mapping technology empowers emergency management personnel with the ability to more efficiently deploy resources by better predicting the area affected by a given incident to get people outside the zone of danger. The State of Maryland, in partnership with the Center for Geographic Information Sciences (CGIS) at Towson University, delivered this capability with the Emergency Management Mapping Application (EMMA). EMMA gives first responders and emergency management personnel from every Maryland jurisdiction the ability to identify incident locations, create map-based reports of the affected area and coordinate resources in real-time. EMMA is just one example of how enhanced interoperability is making Maryland citizens safer.



EMMA is available to emergency personnel across the state via a secure web portal.



A REGIONAL APPROACH FOR SHARING BEST PRACTICES

The Mid-Atlantic Region, from New Jersey to North Carolina, is susceptible to a vast array of hazards. Two of the biggest potential terrorist targets – Washington, DC and New York – are in or adjacent to the region. Key highways, tunnels, bridges and other critical infrastructure (both public and private) are located throughout the region. The area is prone to a variety of severe weather occurrences, including snowstorms, floods, hurricanes and tropical storms.

This region was primed for an event that would allow emergency management and homeland security specialists from all levels of government and the private sector to network, discuss lessons learned and share best practices. The ‘Mid-Atlantic All Hazards Forum’ was instituted in association with E.J. Krause & Associates, Inc., a leader in conference management, to help address emergency management and homeland security issues at the state and local levels across the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

The All Hazards Forum is dedicated to ensuring the continued safety, preparedness and growth of the Mid-Atlantic region and was developed to connect, educate, equip, train and motivate state and local homeland security planners and practitioners to better preserve our freedoms and protect our region. Over 1,000 leaders in homeland security and emergency management attended the three-day event at the Baltimore Convention Center and heard remarks from several notable figures including Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. and Brigadier General Simon Perry, a commander of the Israeli security forces. Topics discussed during breakout sessions included federal grants, evacuation planning, interoperability, port security, lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina, transit security, and recovering from a biohazard event.

The Forum was developed by the ‘All Hazards Consortium,’ a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization working to foster state, local, private sector and educational partnerships for homeland security and emergency management collaboration. Maryland is a national leader in fostering this type of regional partnership to help solve homeland security issues.



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. addresses the closing session of the 2nd Annual All Hazards Forum at the Baltimore Convention Center on October 27, 2005.



NEW MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS VEHICLE UNVEILED AT THE ALL HAZARDS FORUM

Visitors to the All Hazards Forum last October had the opportunity to tour Anne Arundel County's new mobile command and communications unit (pictured at left). This state-of-the-art unit is an “emergency operations center” on wheels. In September, it was deployed to the Gulf Coast to assist in efforts related to Hurricane Katrina.



UASIs EXEMPLIFY EMPHASIS ON REGIONAL COLLABORATION IN MARYLAND HOMELAND SECURITY

CENTRAL MARYLAND UASI



Strengthening regional collaboration is a core part of Maryland's Homeland Security Strategy. The Central Maryland Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) continues to improve security through a variety of collaborative efforts and innovative projects. In 2005, member jurisdictions comprised of the cities of Annapolis and Baltimore, along with Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties, worked together and in coordination with various state agencies to protect the region's infrastructure, conducted joint exercises and training, developed integrated response plans and implemented enhanced, interoperable equipment systems.

The Urban Area Workgroup, which oversees the Central Maryland UASI, recently updated its homeland security strategy to include an integrated, multi-jurisdictional plan for coordinating response to catastrophic events. The Central Maryland UASI also implemented systems for law enforcement response and emergency power generation in addition to expanding its network of closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras to protect critical infrastructure.

During 2005, emergency personnel from multiple disciplines and jurisdictions participated in Operation Rescue Below and other drills to test regional response systems. Joint incident command training played a major role in the region's effort to implement the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Last year, Central Maryland Task Force 2, an Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Team, became operational. This team was part of the 145-person regional contingent deployed to Louisiana to participate in relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, marking yet another example of effective regional collaboration.

NCR UASI

The National Capital Region (NCR)

consists of 19 local jurisdictions from Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. The NCR



leadership is comprised of representatives from these jurisdictions and the federal government. Over the past year, the NCR has continued to strengthen the coordination necessary for effective planning, training and exercises.

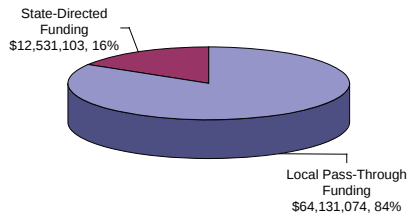
In 2005, the NCR produced a number of tangible homeland security outcomes. Thanks to the purchase of 1,250 radios for emergency field personnel, first responders within the NCR will now be entirely interoperable during an emergency event. These radios, stored in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia, can be distributed throughout the region in less than two hours. They are programmed to enable first responders to talk to one other regardless of jurisdiction or location within the region.

In addition, each NCR UASI jurisdiction participates in a citizen notification system to alert the public of an emergency event through text alerts. These systems can be coordinated with each other, allowing citizens to receive alerts of incidents that occur throughout the region.

The NCR UASI is another prime example of how effective regional collaboration is making Maryland citizens safer.

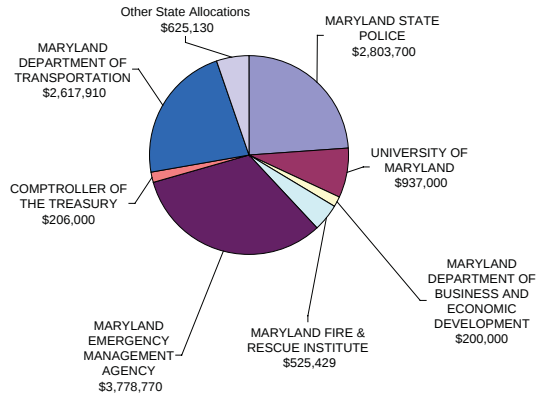
HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDING

FIGURE 1: OVERALL HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT ALLOCATION



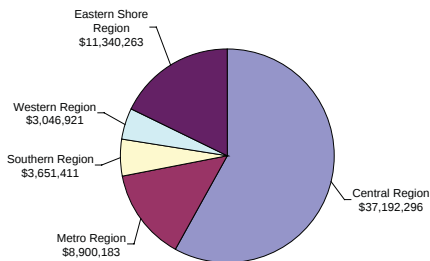
Note: The total amount of homeland security grant funding in 2005 was \$76,662,177.

FIGURE 2: STATE-DIRECTED HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDING ALLOCATED FOR STATEWIDE NEEDS



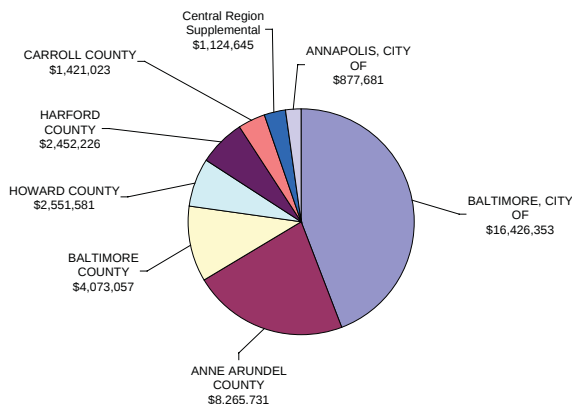
Note: State-directed homeland security grant funding represented 16.35% of the total allocation in 2005.

FIGURE 3: LOCAL PASS-THROUGH HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDING ALLOCATION BY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REGION



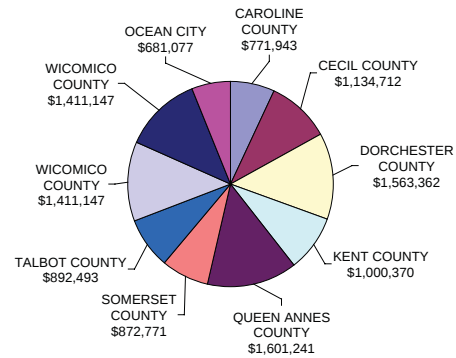
Note: The total local pass-through homeland security grant funding represented 83.65% of the total allocation in 2005. Figures 4 through 8 show detailed funding information for each of the 5 emergency management jurisdictions in Maryland.

FIGURE 4: CENTRAL REGION



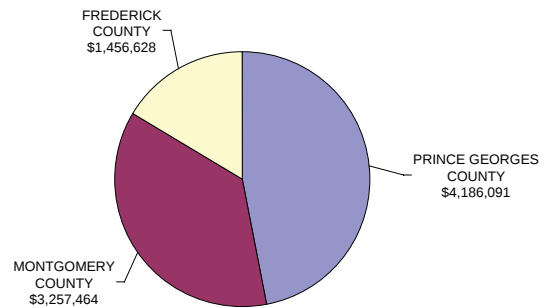
Total Funding Central Region: \$37,192,296
Regional Percentage of Total Local Allocation: 57.93%

FIGURE 5: EASTERN SHORE REGION



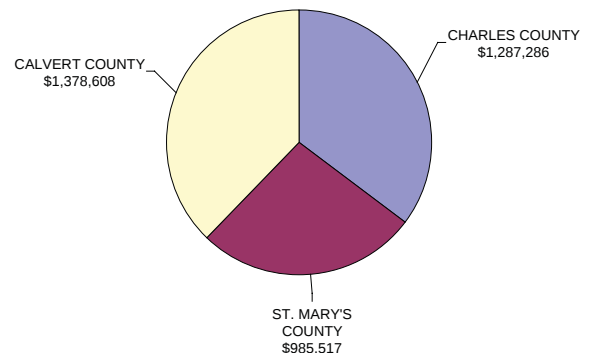
Total Funding Metro Region: \$11,277,805
Regional Percentage of Total Local Allocation: 17.71%

FIGURE 6: METRO REGION



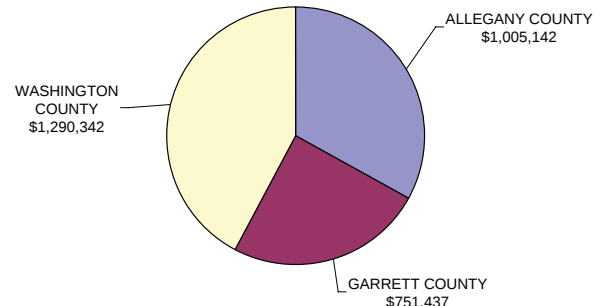
Total Funding Metro Region: \$8,900,183
Regional Percentage of Total Local Allocation: 13.90%

FIGURE 7: SOUTHERN REGION



Total Funding Southern Region: \$3,651,411
Regional Percentage of Total Local Allocation: 5.70%

FIGURE 8: WESTERN REGION



Total Funding Western Region: \$3,046,921
Regional Percentage of Total Local Allocation: 4.76%

MARYLAND HOMELAND SECURITY TEAMMATES

FEDERAL-STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP



Maryland Coordination
& Analysis Center

HOMELAND SECURITY SENIOR POLICY GROUP



Maryland
State
Police



Maryland
National
Guard



Maryland
Emergency
Management
Agency



Maryland
Department of
the Environment



Maryland
Department of
Health &
Mental Hygiene



Maryland Institute for
Emergency Medical
Services Systems



Maryland
Department of
Transportation

STATE AGENCY TEAMMATES



Maryland
Department of
General Services
Police



Maryland
Transit
Administration
Police



Maryland
Transportation
Authority
Police



Maryland
Natural Resources
Police



Governor's
Office of Crime
Control &
Prevention



Maryland
Department of
Public Safety &
Correctional Services



Maryland Fire & Rescue
Institute



Maryland
Police and
Correctional Training
Commissions



Governor's
Office of Service &
Volunteerism



Maryland
Department of
Agriculture



Maryland
Department of
Budget &
Management



Maryland
Department of
Disabilities



Maryland
Department of
General Services



Maryland
Department of
Housing & Community
Development



Maryland
Department of
Human
Resources



Maryland
Department
of Planning

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND HIGHER EDUCATION TEAMMATES



Maryland
Technology Development
Corporation



Johns Hopkins
University



Towson
University



University of
Maryland, Baltimore



University of
Maryland, College Park

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS



Maryland
Association of
Counties



Maryland Chiefs of
Police Association



Maryland
Emergency
Management
Association



Maryland
Fire Chiefs
A



Maryland Municipal
League



Maryland Sheriff's
Association



Maryland State
Firemen's
Association



Maryland
Voluntary
Organizations
Active in Disaster



Metro
Fire Chiefs

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor
Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor

