

MARYLAND

Governor's Annual Report on Homeland Security



2006

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



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 promote emergency preparedness and 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 in the areas of emergency management, law enforcement, fire and EMS, public health, transportation, and communications.

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December 31, 2006

My Fellow Marylanders:

Over the past four years, I have always made having a secure Maryland one of my highest priorities. Shortly after becoming your governor, I signed an executive order creating one of the nation's first cabinet-level homeland security offices in order to develop the strategic partnerships that are the foundation of a successful homeland security strategy. Since that time, Maryland has risen to the cutting edge of every fundamental area of homeland security with initiatives and response capabilities that are receiving national acclaim as model best practices.

Our first-of-its-kind intelligence fusion center, the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC), demonstrates vastly improved information collection, analysis and dissemination capabilities, with a shared governance structure including federal, state and local representation. Over the past year, we have added even more information sharing tools at MCAC to ensure that it remains a leading fusion center. MCAC continues to be a magnet for visits from federal, state and local officials from around the country as they turn to Maryland to gain insight on building fusion centers.

Maryland has become a recognized national leader in partnering with non-governmental organizations and the private sector for critical infrastructure protection. We have allocated more than \$2.8 million in homeland security grant funds to protect religious, cultural and educational institutions – an initiative now duplicated nationwide. Our critical infrastructure protection private sector work group, which has expanded dramatically over the past year, is facilitating efficient protection of Maryland's crucial privately-owned infrastructure through the deployment of secure systems to share access to critical homeland security information.

Our extensive homeland security and emergency management partnerships have enabled us to respond quickly and efficiently in the wake of disaster. Last year, we helped more than 5,000 Hurricane Katrina evacuees who came to Maryland to receive shelter and assistance. This year, we took a leadership role in receiving and providing assistance to more than 4,000 evacuees from Lebanon.

These are a just a few of our many cutting-edge homeland security initiatives. This report presents many of our significant homeland security accomplishments of the past year. With the end of my term approaching, I hope that the tremendous progress we have made together will continue, so that Maryland will always be a strong and safe place to live, learn, work, and thrive. Thank you for your 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



GOVERNOR HONORS FIRST RESPONDERS ON FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

On September 11, 2006, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. led a Maryland Freedom Walk and ceremony in memory of the victims of the terrible events five years before, while honoring America's first responders, service men and women and veterans.

"Although the terrorists attacked our nation, they did not and cannot damage our spirit," said Governor Ehrlich. In his remarks, the Governor recognized the American heroes who dedicated themselves to rescue and recovery efforts that horrific day



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. honors first responders during a service at the Maryland Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Annapolis on the fifth anniversary of 9/11.



Participants in the Maryland Freedom Walk attend the memorial service on September 11, 2006. About 500 people participated in the Walk.

and for the many months that followed. Governor Ehrlich continued, "We will never forget those who risked their lives to help people in need five years ago, and today, we thank our veterans and service members who continue to protect our freedom."

The Maryland Freedom Walk, led by the Annapolis City Color Guard, began at the Navy Marine Corps stadium and ended at the Maryland Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Annapolis, where the ceremony was held. Several hundred people participated in the Walk.

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Maryland Emergency Management Agency
1-877-MEMA-USA • help@mema.state.md.us

COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: A Maryland Army National Guard member assists evacuees from Lebanon during the Repatriation in July 2006; **Top Middle:** Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. encourages the passage of a bill to make Maryland roads safer by increasing penalties for teenaged drinking and driving during an event in Bethesda on February 6, 2006; **Top Right:** A moulaged patient is carried to a treatment area during a Washington County mass casualty exercise in September 2006; **Bottom Left:** Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. hosts a pandemic flu planning conference on February 24, 2006; **Bottom Middle:** Maryland commemorates the fifth anniversary of 9/11 with a memorial service on September 11, 2006 at the Maryland Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Annapolis; **Bottom Right:** Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. examines security measures at the Port of Baltimore on February 21, 2006.

2006 GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL REPORT ON HOMELAND SECURITY

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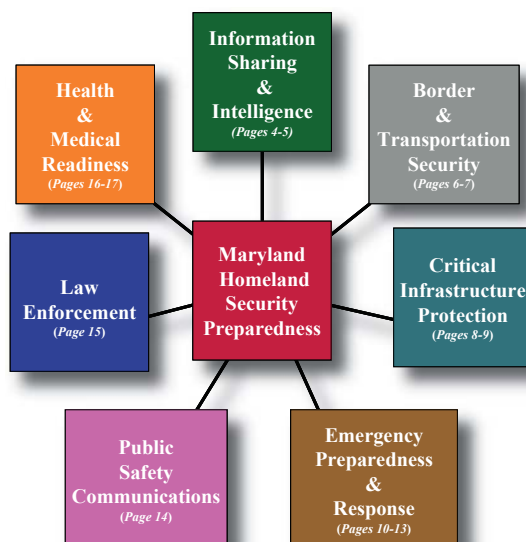
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THE SEVEN FUNDAMENTALS OF MARYLAND HOMELAND SECURITY



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TECHNOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS KEEP MCAC ON THE LEADING EDGE



Since its inception in 2003, the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) has been at the leading edge of intelligence fusion centers around the country. Now, MCAC continues to lead the way with major technology upgrades that will facilitate the Center's ability to more efficiently carry out its mission into the future.

Among these technological enhancements is an advanced audio/visual system that will enable MCAC's Watch Center to better monitor public sources. The system consists of a wall with eight independent screens with the ability to display individual channels, show large pictures across multiple screens and display one large image across all eight screens. In addition, the screens are capable of displaying images from any of the Watch Center computers, enabling multiple officers to see information being reported at any one time, making it easier to ascertain when multiple tips are being received about a similar event.

The new audio/visual system gives Watch Center staff the ability to monitor and communicate through the State's online emergency management network, WebEOC, and the Capital Wireless Information Net (CAPWIN), which links to mobile data computers in law enforcement patrol vehicles. Through these networks, MCAC personnel can engage in two-way communication directly with field units. With its ability to quickly research information in a number of different databases, the ability of MCAC's Watch Center to



The new audio/visual wall at MCAC provides increased information sharing capabilities and is another tool that helps the Watch Center collect the most-up-to date information.

communicate with these units is extremely valuable in law enforcement operations.

MCAC also has added a system to increase the efficiency of searching the numerous databases to which it has access. The new Digital Information Gateway enables MCAC personnel to enter information and query all available databases simultaneously, eliminating the need to perform multiple successive searches in different databases, resulting in a faster response. This can be critical when MCAC is performing a search at the request of a law enforcement officer who has stopped a potential terrorist and needs an almost instantaneous response. Furthermore, in the coming year, the new Digital Information Gateway will be connected to additional systems outside of MCAC extending the rapid search capability to an even broader range of databases.

With new systems that enable MCAC to communicate directly with field personnel and perform more rapid searches, MCAC has more tools to help keep Maryland residents safe and reinforces its reputation as one of the leading fusion centers in the country.

MCAC HELPS TROOPER IDENTIFY SUSPECTED TERRORIST

The Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) is enabling law enforcement officers around the state to better assist national counterterrorism efforts in the course of their ordinary duties. This was exemplified during a recent routine traffic stop by a Maryland State Police Trooper.

During traffic stops, law enforcement officers routinely request and receive information from the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) in order to determine whether the person or persons encountered are subject to arrest for prior acts, on whether the vehicle has been listed as being stolen or subject to other possible violations. Now, the Terrorist Screening Center in Washington, which is responsible for the maintenance of various terrorist watch lists, inputs information into NCIC that provides an alert to law enforcement officers. The MSP Trooper in this event received information from NCIC that the subject he encountered was on a terrorist watch list. Pursuant to protocol, the Trooper contacted MCAC to confirm that the person he stopped was on a terrorist watch list. In this case, MCAC was able to verify that the subject was indeed on a terrorism watch list and the Trooper was told to collect as much relevant information as possible without alerting the individual, doing so during the normal course of the traffic stop. The Trooper was able to gather valuable information and relay it to MCAC, which, in turn, relayed it to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force for appropriate follow-up action.



GOVERNOR'S GANG INITIATIVE PROMOTES INFORMATION SHARING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announces elements of his Statewide Gang Initiative to provide information sharing tools to help law enforcement combat the gang threat.

Information sharing, at all levels of government, is essential to protecting our state from criminal gangs that increase the rate of violent crime and reduce the quality of life for everyone. Recent studies have even shown that terrorists might try to use gangs to wage attacks. To guard against this threat, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. has launched an initiative to enhance information sharing and reduce the presence and impact of criminal gangs in Maryland.

On June 1, 2006, at the Maryland Gang Summit held in Columbia, Maryland, Governor Ehrlich

announced major elements of his Statewide Gang Initiative. It includes bridging the information gap about criminal gangs by establishing a statewide intelligence database to be maintained at the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area office and supported by the Maryland State Police. The database, which will utilize the commercially-available GangNet software package, will be made available to all participating criminal justice agencies in Maryland. This valuable tool, which links to existing systems at other federal, state and local entities, including the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center, will significantly enhance the ability to share information, plan and coordinate law enforcement efforts to suppress gang activity.

The Governor also established a website, www.mdgangs.info, to provide the public with increased information about gangs including how to identify and report suspected gang activity. The website also has been translated into Spanish to make it accessible to a wider segment of the population.

MARYLAND'S MODEL JOINT MILITARY-CIVILIAN WATCH CENTER

The State of Maryland has established one of the first joint military-civilian watch centers in the country. The Maryland Joint Operations Center (MJOC) was created by consolidating the formerly separate watch centers of the Maryland National Guard and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency.

MJOC has promoted information sharing and increased the State's ability to deliver resources quickly and efficiently during an emergency. It monitors conditions across Maryland 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and facilitates deployment of state resources to local jurisdictions when an emergency occurs.

MJOC maintains communications with agencies at all levels of government and non-governmental organizations. It provides up-to-date information on serious events to senior state officials and is responsible for coordinating a system deployed earlier this year to facilitate communications among such officials during emergencies when standard systems may not be operational.

DHS ASSIGNS ANALYST TO MCAC

In July, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced a plan to place a full-time intelligence analyst at the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) to coordinate with state and local analysts at the Center. This plan improves information sharing about terrorist-related threats and disaster response at MCAC, while increasing MCAC's ability to quickly assess possible threats and determine appropriate follow-up action.

While the plan calls for eventually placing DHS analysts at each of the 38 fusion centers across the country, MCAC is one of only four centers nationwide to receive the first assigned analysts. With this plan, DHS can be more responsive to local law enforcement agencies that need sufficient information about suspected terrorist threats, while improving coordination of tactical and strategic analysis to support operational investigations at the local level.



LEADING STRATEGY FOR MARITIME SECURITY HELPS MARYLAND SECURE MAJOR FEDERAL GRANTS



Maryland has developed a pioneering plan for preventing and responding to incidents on its extensive network of waterways.

Maryland's waterways, which extend over 18,000 miles, are a critical part of the economy and way of life across the state. Without proper security, they also would be a prime target for those who wish to do harm. For this reason, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. has made maritime security a major priority.

Last year, Governor Ehrlich created the Maryland Maritime Security Task Force to develop a strategy to manage maritime incidents in the Maryland Chesapeake Bay Region. On July 1, 2006, this Task Force reported its findings in a concept of operations and strategic security plan. The plan sets forth procedures for preventing and managing incidents on Maryland waterways and facilitates the development of maritime security initiatives.

Armed with the plan, the State of Maryland was able to develop proposals for five security initiatives and apply to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for funding under the Port Security Grant Program with great success. Of the five proposed projects, DHS awarded more than \$6 million in grant funding for four of them.

The highest amount of federal funding (more than \$3 million) was awarded to help establish a new statewide Joint Maritime Operations Center. The Maryland

Natural Resources Police (MNRP), as the lead state agency responsible for maritime security under the Task Force's plan, will staff the center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Center will include personnel from multiple state and federal agencies with an interest in maritime security. It will be equipped with state-of-the-art technology that will, among other things, provide the ability to monitor maritime systems maintained by the federal government. One of these, HAWKEYE, which is maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard, provides electronic alerts when a vessel approaches a sensitive site. This will enable center staff to immediately know of threats to sensitive sites. The funding also will be utilized to procure a modern Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management System that will greatly enhance the ability of those working at the center to track resources and manage incidents on Maryland waterways.

Federal funds were also awarded to enable the State to purchase underwater sonar equipment that will facilitate response to incidents involving potential underwater explosive devices and be useful in underwater body recovery. MNRP has also received funding for five new high-speed vessels that will enable a faster response time to all types of maritime incidents. In addition, the agency will receive tactical equipment (including outboard vessels) for use by its Special Operations Division in homeland security missions. The equipment, which will be deployed regionally, will also have dedicated platforms for use in underwater operations. An additional \$200,000 was awarded to the National Capital Region to purchase a similar outboard vessel for operations in the Potomac River near Washington.

TASK FORCE STUDIES REAL ID IMPLEMENTATION IN MARYLAND

The State of Maryland is evaluating the requirements of the federal Real ID Act which will impact the delivery of driver license services for Maryland residents. The federal legislation requires states to certify that they are in compliance with the new guidelines. Residents of states that comply can use their licenses to enter federal facilities and for other purposes, such as boarding a plane.

In order to determine the most practical and cost-effective approach, while maintaining customer service, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. convened the Real ID Act Task Force in September 2006. This task force provides a forum for stakeholders to assess the requirements of Real ID.

The Task Force includes representatives from across Maryland State government. It will play a key role in providing leadership and direction as guidance is received from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the State moves towards implementation.



CANINE PROGRAM HELPS MAINTAIN AIRPORT SECURITY



A canine team at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport examines a piece of luggage for explosives.

The ability to effectively detect explosives is vital to maintaining security at any airport. That is why the Maryland Aviation Administration and the Maryland Transportation Authority (MdTA) Police have partnered with the U.S. Transportation Security Administration to utilize explosives detection canine teams at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI).

The highly-trained officers and dogs are an important part of security at the airport. The canine teams search aircraft, luggage, the airport terminal, cargo facilities, and vehicles to protect BWI and the traveling public from a broad range of explosives.

There are several MdTA canine teams assigned to BWI. Before the dogs are assigned to the Airport, canine teams complete an intensive training program sponsored by TSA.

MARYLAND NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS GO SOUTH TO HELP PROTECT THE BORDER

It's a place where the sun-bleached bones of horses, cattle, and occasionally humans can be found amongst the sand, scrub grass and mesquite, and where early September temperatures can still soar to more than 100 degrees in the daytime. In the deserts of southern Arizona on the United States-Mexican border, illegal immigrants, drug traffickers and possibly terrorists routinely attempt to covertly enter the country. To combat this threat, 120 members of the Maryland Army National Guard were deployed for a 60-day mission in August in support of Operation Jump Start, part of President Bush's plan to increase security along our southern border with Mexico by using National Guard Soldiers and Airmen to help civilian authorities until they can increase their own capabilities.

The soldiers, from the 58th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, composed of Army National Guard units, were volunteers. They served in support of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. While on the border, soldiers worked 24-hour shifts in four-person "entry identification teams" to man seven designated observation points along a 372-mile sector between Arizona and Mexico. They scanned the desert with binoculars, night vision goggles and thermal sensors for suspicious vehicles or groups of people.

While not directly involved in appre-



Specialist Brad Crossland, a member of the Maryland National Guard, monitors the Arizona desert near the Mexican border from a hilltop observation post on August 24, 2006.

hension activities or other law enforcement operations during this mission, the Maryland National Guardsmen supported the efforts of CBP agents. "The Border Patrol sees an incredible number of people coming across and they don't have the personnel," said Captain Brian Perez, a troop commander on the mission. "Us being down here allow[ed] them to be in more places and do their job better," he added. When they spotted something suspicious, the soldiers immediately notified nearby CBP agents and summoned them to investigate the target.

In all, the Maryland National Guard reported more than 1,300 undocumented immigrants, resulting in more than 750 arrests and the seizure of more than 230 pounds of narcotics. The Guardsmen carried out their mission with tremendous support from the local population and law enforcement. "We [got] a lot of waves and smiles from the kids," Perez said.

CLOSED CIRCUIT CAMERAS HEIGHTEN TRANSIT SECURITY

To increase security on its public transit systems, the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) is installing a new Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) security system that utilizes sophisticated software to provide automatic notification of intrusions or unattended packages at MTA facilities. This technology has already been proven successful for similar applications in Europe. The system is currently being deployed to fourteen Metro subway stations, four Light Rail stations and two MARC stations. It has the capacity to be expanded to all MTA facilities in the future. In addition, a central police monitoring facility will be equipped with operator and supervisor consoles with display screens and all necessary data storage systems.



MARYLAND EMPHASIZES PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCY

The ability to protect the critical infrastructure and key resources of our state is vital to our security, economic vitality and way of life. That is why Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. has sought to strengthen critical infrastructure resiliency and ensure that elements of this infrastructure are not exploited for use as weapons of mass destruction against the people of our state or its institutions.

Realizing that over 85% of critical infrastructure lies in the hands of the private sector, Governor Ehrlich launched an initiative to build a strong partnership with the business community for critical infrastructure protection. Under the umbrella of the State's broad-based Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council, the Governor established the Critical Infrastructure Protection Private Sector Work Group (PSWG) whose mission is to *"bring together private and public sector organizations in partnership to cooperatively develop a framework and process to make and keep the State of Maryland and the nation optimally secure and disaster-resilient."*

This work group now



Maryland has worked hard to build partnerships that promote the resiliency of privately-held infrastructure such as the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant.

meets regularly and includes more than sixty executives and the security directors of private critical infrastructure owners across the state. It also includes representation from all levels of government. Since its inception, the PSWG has been instrumental in bringing together broad-based groups to tackle important issues related to critical infrastructure resiliency.

The PSWG has been a key player in the State's efforts to develop a first-of-its-kind statewide strategy for protecting cyber assets in all sectors across Maryland. The Work Group helped organize work sessions that brought together stakeholders from the public, private and academic sectors.

In October, it helped organize and sponsor the Blue Chesapeake Critical Infrastructure Interdependencies Workshop. This event brought together over 200 security, emergency management, operations, and other personnel to identify and prioritize the complex, multi-layered interconnections among critical infrastructure within the State and the organizations that underpin our economy, public health and safety. The Infrastructure Security Partnership (TISP), a non-profit organization recognized for promoting collaboration to improve the resilience of the nation's critical infrastructure, also supported this workshop with its *Regional Disaster Resilience Guide*. The Guide is available at the TISP website,



www.tisp.org.

The Interdependencies Workshop marks only the first phase of an initiative for the PSWG to address mutual concerns and needs related to infrastructure interdependencies. Within the next year, the PSWG will collaborate with organizations in the National Capital Region to develop a full-scale interdependencies exercise based upon lessons learned at the October event.

Strong communication between homeland security personnel and the private sector is vital to public-private partnership. For this reason, the PSWG has championed efforts to increase the flow of information between government and the business community. The Regional Information Sharing System Anti-Terrorism Exchange (RISS-ATIX) is now available to all workgroup members. This system, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, enables private sector partners access to critical homeland security information that will facilitate their infrastructure protection efforts.

MARYLAND DEVELOPS TOOL TO ASSESS CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

To promote cost-effective resource allocation in critical infrastructure protection, the State, through a partnership with the University of Maryland, College Park, has developed a program to help identify protection priorities across sectors and jurisdictions. The Critical Asset & Portfolio Risk Analysis Program is a practical methodology that analyzes, assesses and reports risks associated with critical infrastructure.



DHS SELECTS MARYLAND AS SECOND STATE FOR PILOT SYSTEM

During 2006, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) selected Maryland as only the second state to be included in an important pilot program aiming to develop a secure system for housing critical asset data.

Originally developed as part of a cooperative effort between DHS and the Los Angeles Police Department, the Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS) is a database that is used to inventory critical assets and make information accessible through a web-based server to first responders and incident commanders in the field.

The information available through ACAMS can dramatically increase the ability of emergency personnel to efficiently respond to an incident at a particular site by making critical information about the location (such as floor plans) accessible. This information is relevant to incidents related to terrorism and other emergencies and special events.

Law enforcement and emergency management personnel from across the state have received training on this system and are currently using it to inventory critical assets in Maryland.

MARYLAND BUILDS SYSTEM TO PROTECT DRINKING WATER

Enhancing the security of the water supply for all Marylanders is a priority for the Governor. The Maryland Water Supply Program, managed by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), aims to protect Maryland's water supply.

One of the largest sources of water in Maryland is the Potomac River. Stretching the length of the State, it is a reliable source of water for the many drinking water facilities serving millions of people in Maryland and across the National Capital Region. This presents a major security challenge that requires unique protection from the possible threat of intentional contamination.

An act of terrorism to compromise the Potomac could potentially affect the lives of millions of people, interrupt business activities and result in severe economic losses. To address this threat, MDE has worked in collaboration with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security to identify ways to enhance the security of the Potomac and preserve a safe water supply for all Marylanders.

MDE initiated the Joint Maryland Committee on Water Security and invited local, state and federal partners to participate. The Committee represents staff from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Maryland State Police, Maryland Emergency Management Agency, US Geological Survey, utilities and the non-profit foundation Safe Waterways in Maryland.

In April 2006, MDE received an Urban



Reservoirs provide the drinking water for millions of people. The Maryland Water Security Program seeks to protect the water supply from intentional contamination and other hazards.

Area Security Initiative grant in the amount of \$1.55 million to develop and install an early warning system (EWS) along the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers. The goal of the EWS is to effectively and rapidly detect major changes in water quality which may be due to toxic conditions in the Rivers and to expediently formulate response needs.

The first phase of the EWS project is underway and construction will be complete in early 2007. The EWS is made up of two parts: chemical monitors and sentinel species biomonitors (fish). Each type of monitor will transmit data to a control center where the data will be analyzed, stored, and if contamination is detected, "trigger" an auto sampler to take additional samples for detailed laboratory analysis. The EWS helps protect public health and works as an evidence collection tool in the event that the raw water has been intentionally contaminated.

MARYLAND RELEASES STRATEGY FOR PROTECTING CYBER ASSETS



Cyber infrastructure is what stands behind the essential services on which we have all grown to depend. The internet, financial markets, telecommunications and electrical power all rely on cyber infrastructure. With his commitment to implementing pioneer homeland security measures to keep Maryland safe, in November, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. released a first-of-its-kind strategy for protecting this vital cyber infrastructure. The strategy, published as

the *Maryland Cyber Security White Paper*, is the product of a series of work sessions that brought together cyber security stakeholders from all levels of government as well as the private and academic sectors. The strategy and additional information on this initiative is available at the State's new cyber security website, www.mdcyber.info.



MARYLAND RECEIVES EVACUEES FROM LEBANON IN A HIGHLY COORDINATED REPATRIATION EFFORT

When the Israeli-Lebanese conflict broke out last summer, the U.S. Government made arrangements to repatriate stranded American citizens from Lebanon. Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI) was selected as a major port of entry. Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. quickly answered the call and implemented the State's repatriation plan. "I am proud to pledge Maryland's assistance and hospitality to those who have been abruptly displaced from their homes and schools," said Governor Ehrlich. "We are fully prepared to provide any and all aid required by these temporary evacuees."

From July 20th through July 28th, BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport served as a primary repatriation site for American citizens evacuated from Lebanon. During this period, 19 flights carrying 4,492 repatriates arrived at the airport. Upon each arrival – many of which occurred in the middle of the



Evacuees arriving from Lebanon received a wide variety of services at the reception center for the repatriation inside the international terminal at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport.

night and on very short notice – the repatriates were greeted with warm welcomes and robust applause from those waiting to help them with whatever needs they might have.

A wide variety of services were provided from a number of different government agencies and non-governmental organizations. Assistance obtaining flights and locating places to stay was available, and the American Red Cross provided the new arrivals with a fresh meal. Child care and medical assistance were available to those who needed it. The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems coordinated fire and EMS personnel from all over the state who transported those evacuees in need of more serious care to local hospitals. Volunteers from the Maryland Department of Human Resources and the Maryland National Guard were on hand to escort evacuees to other parts of the airport. Many businesses donated their services to help the needy arrivals by providing free or discounted transportation and lodging.

The Maryland Department of Human Resources served as the lead agency for the effort and coordinated with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Maryland Aviation Administration to successfully implement Maryland's repatriation plan. Numerous other federal, state and local agencies and non-governmental organizations were also deeply involved.

The overall coordination between all the entities involved demonstrates Maryland's strength in implementing its state emergency operations plan. Not only is Maryland a great place to live, work and grow – but it is also a wonderful shelter in any storm.

FACT

More than 1,000 people from over 20 agencies and organizations participated in the repatriation.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Deputy Secretary Alex M. Azar, II thanks staff and volunteers from the repatriation effort.

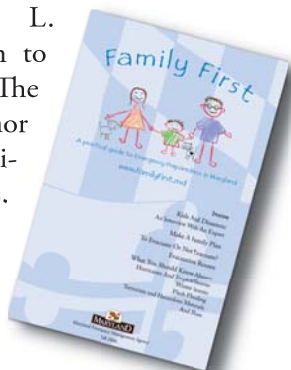
REPATRIATION STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED AT OCTOBER EVENT

On October 3, 2006, the State of Maryland held a recognition event to applaud the tireless efforts of the hundreds of staff and volunteers who worked to make the Lebanese American repatriation effort so successful. Attendees from numerous government agencies and non-governmental organizations participated in the event at the Rose Restaurant in Linthicum. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Deputy Secretary Alex M. Azar, II thanked Governor Ehrlich and the repatriation staff and volunteers for the successful effort.



GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES PREPAREDNESS CAMPAIGN AIMED AT FAMILIES

On September 25, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announced a new campaign to promote emergency preparedness for families. The Family First campaign was created by Governor Ehrlich to provide practical information to families – and to all Marylanders about preparedness. The centerpiece of the campaign is a new comprehensive guide on family preparedness and an emergency checklist. Inside the guide is information on topics such as kids and disasters, making a family emergency plan, evacuation routes, hurricanes, tropical storms, winter storms, flash flooding, terrorism, hazardous materials, pandemic flu, and much more.



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. announces his “Family First” campaign to educate families on emergency preparedness.

The website, www.familyfirst.md, offers information, drawn from state and national sources, that can help families prepare themselves for an emergency. The checklist and guide may be downloaded from the website. For a printed copy or for more information about this or other emergency preparedness issues, please contact the Maryland Emergency Management Agency at (410) 517-3600.

MARYLAND STRESSES PREPARING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS

The Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDOD) continued to work diligently throughout the year to encourage people with disabilities to be prepared for any natural or man-made disaster or emergency, with adequate resources to handle basic needs for a minimum of 72 hours without formal emergency management assistance. To promote this message, MDOD created public service announcements for both radio and television to explain succinctly what is needed to be prepared.

During the past year, MDOD spearheaded a project that resulted in 30 residential providers for individuals with disabilities developing or revising emergency plans for their constituents and organizations. MDOD also led a pilot project directed to Spanish speakers and migrant workers to begin to address preparedness issues for non-English speakers statewide.

In November, MDOD organized a first-ever statewide conference to provide more individualized planning and training to specific groups and agencies that serve people with disabilities and other special needs in Maryland.

MARYLAND HOLDS FIRST STATEWIDE SUMMIT OF CITIZEN CORPS COUNCILS

Maryland hosted its first statewide Citizen Corps Summit this year during Maryland Preparedness Month in September bringing together leaders from Citizen Corps and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) from across the state. This day-long event was held at the Maryland Emergency Management Agency inside the State Emergency Operations Center. Citizen Corps members were able to share best practices, information, programs, and ideas to help prepare Maryland for disasters of all kinds.

Greeted by state and federal homeland security and emergency management officials, the attendees heard a wide range of presentations including an afternoon panel addressing training and exercise. Along with the interactive sharing of information, panelists presented on such topics as “working with people with disabilities,” State Animal Response Teams, pandemic flu, and the Medical Reserve Corps.



Citizen Corps leaders from across the state listen to a presentation during the first-ever statewide summit at the State Emergency Operations Center in September.



MARYLAND PIONEERS SERIES TO PREPARE SENIOR GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVES



One lesson that is clear from recent disasters in our country, such as Hurricane Katrina, is that preparedness is the only effective strategy. Being prepared helps ensure an efficient response in any emergency and ultimately saves lives. Implementing a successful strategy to enhance preparedness must begin with educating those who make the decisions should an emergency occur. As rehearsing a scenario is the best way to learn about what to do should it actually occur, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. launched a pioneer seminar and exercise series to prepare senior state and local government executives for various types of emergencies.

This series included six educational seminars and emergency response exercises between November 2005 and October 2006. The first was a tabletop avian influenza exercise, in which the Governor's cabinet and senior staff discussed preparedness and response to disasters involving pandemic flu. The second, an emergency communications drill held in February, tested a system through which the Governor's cabinet and senior staff can communicate during a disaster in which standard means of communication are unavailable.

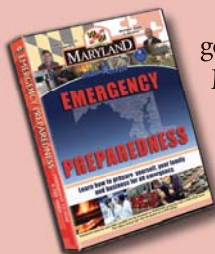
In May, the Governor's cabinet and se-

nior staff participated in a functional hurricane exercise at the State Emergency Operations Center in Reisterstown. This exercise strengthened understanding of how state agencies and departments execute their respective responsibilities at the State Emergency Operations Center during a natural disaster.

Last July, the Governor hosted an emergency management seminar for senior local elected officials from around Maryland. This seminar helped strengthen the vital communication system between state and local elected officials who must work seamlessly together whenever emergencies strike. Participants in this event had the opportunity to hear from Robert Latham, the retired Executive Director of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, about Mississippi's response to Hurricane Katrina. Latham summed up effective local response in just three words: coordination, cooperation and communication.

The final two parts of the series were decision-making exercises with the Maryland Homeland Security Senior Policy Group (one simulated a hurricane and the other an explosion on the rail transit system in the National Capital Region). This series has enhanced the skills of senior government executives all over Maryland in leading an effective response in various emergency situations.

MARYLAND RELEASES INTERACTIVE DVD TO EDUCATE CITIZENS ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



The State of Maryland released its own interactive DVD/CD on emergency preparedness for individuals, families and businesses. The State of Maryland, Citizen Corps and Frederick Community College collaborated to develop this interactive product. The disc can be played as a DVD and information is provided as a standard video or it can be placed in a computer for a more interactive format. The DVD is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act to provide this information to all citizens as we make Maryland safer, stronger and better-prepared for disasters of all kinds. For a free copy of the DVD, please contact the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism at 1-800-321-VOLS.

WMD EXERCISE CONDUCTED IN GARRETT COUNTY



Emergency personnel conduct a drill involving Weapons of Mass Destruction in Garrett County.

Garrett County is among the local jurisdictions dedicating efforts and resources to improving its disaster response capabilities. These efforts included a recent exercise involving weapons of mass destruction.

The drill scenario involved a commercial airliner flying over Garrett County that had to make an emergency landing because of a suspected terrorist on board making threats. The pilot had to make a hard landing, which caused a small fire in the wheel area that extended into the cabin.

Garrett County fire departments with the capability to decontaminate anyone who was exposed to the terrorist's purportedly "bio-hazardous" material were involved in the exercise. Fire and EMS personnel from across the county as well as the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems and the Maryland State Police also participated.



MARYLAND EXERCISES PLAN FOR RECEIVING MASS CASUALTIES

The ability to efficiently transport and place victims of disaster saves countless lives during an incident. Maryland sought answers to where victims go in mass casualty events during a May 20, 2006 drill of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS). In existence since the early 1980s, NDMS arranges the use of civilian medical resources by the military during a mass casualty event. This drill demonstrated what might occur after military health services and veterans' hospitals reach capacity.



A patient arriving from overseas is transported to an ambulance for transport to a local hospital during an exercise of the National Disaster Medical System at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport on May 20, 2006.

During the exercise, the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS), the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the fire and rescue department at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI) tested their newly revised plan to accept overflow patients flying to the airport and transport them to the 37 Maryland NDMS hospitals. Civil Air Patrol cadets were made to look like injured soldiers transported by a Maryland Air National Guard C-130 plane from Martin State Airport to BWI.

Military and civilian triage teams unloaded these simulated victims of an overseas bombing incident and determined which NDMS hospitals would receive them. Ambulances representing fire and rescue companies from across Maryland provided transportation for patients. A military service member monitored the patients' movement from BWI to the hospitals, and the ability of military and civilian physicians to effectively communicate about medical conditions was closely scrutinized.

GOVERNOR SECURES FEDERAL FUNDING FOR FLOOD VICTIMS ON THE EASTERN SHORE

After severe storms caused serious flooding on the Eastern Shore last summer, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. responded quickly to ensure all appropriate assistance was made available to families, farmers and others affected by the flooding. After touring the affected areas and meeting with first responders and flood victims in Caroline and Dorchester counties, the Governor applied for a federal disaster declaration from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to secure federal assistance for those impacted by the floods.

DHS subsequently declared the affected areas a disaster providing funding for expediting the repair of roads, bridges and other government infrastructure. It also enabled funding for other long-term projects to help mitigate the impact of flooding in the future.

STATE SUPPORTS LOCAL EMS RESPONSE IN MAJOR INCIDENTS

During 2006, the State assisted emergency medical personnel in responding to more than 15 major incidents. The Regional Administrators and Field Operations Support Team at the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) responded to major emergencies such as a bus crash on Interstate 95 in Baltimore County where nearly 30 deaf children had to be transported to multiple hospitals. MIEMSS assisted local emergency management in documenting the locations of the children and reuniting them with their families. An overturned bus crash in Harford County resulted in nearly 40 children being transported to the hospital. MIEMSS personnel stood side-by-side with EMS personnel to assist in coordinating transportation and finding hospitals to accept patients.

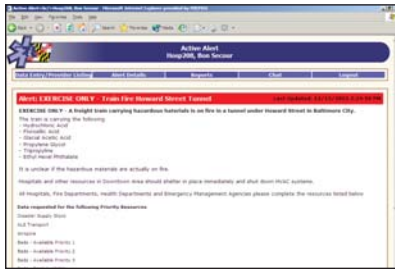
MIEMSS personnel were also called to help local EMS during a food poisoning event involving 50 patients, a suspected biological outbreak in an apartment building and the evacuation of a flooded senior housing complex.



The State was called to assist local EMS personnel with this bus crash in Harford County.



MARYLAND EXPANDS SYSTEM FOR REQUESTING MEDICAL RESOURCES



The Facility Resource Emergency Database notifies resource providers in the event of an emergency. Field personnel can utilize the system to request available resources.

During 2006, Maryland continued to expand access to a system for requesting medical resources during a disaster. First established by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) in 2002, the Facility Resource Emergency Database (FRED) has dramatically improved the ability of emergency management personnel to coordinate medical resources during a crisis. FRED is a secure web-based system that enables EMS personnel throughout the state to request medical resources. The system is constantly monitored by a wide array of resource providers including hospitals, 9-1-1 centers, specialty referral centers and law enforcement agencies.

When an incident occurs, field EMS personnel notify MIEMSS about the incident and need for resources. MIEMSS enters details about the incident into FRED, which alerts the resource providers about the need for specific resources. This system makes it possible to quickly find available resources promoting efficient response.

FACT

In 2006, FRED was activated over 20 times and used in 15 exercises.

The system has enhanced Maryland's regional collaboration capabilities because it is also used in other states, so that hospitals and other resource providers can obtain information about incidents in multiple jurisdictions. For example, Pennsylvania also uses the FRED system. Other jurisdictions are also considering implementation, including the District of Columbia and West Virginia.

Recent enhancements to the system include making it interoperable with other emergency management applications used in the state so that data in the system is accessible to an increased number of resource providers. In 2006, MIEMSS, along with the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and other partners worked to bring additional resource providers such as nursing homes and assisted living facilities onto the FRED system. There are now 260 of these additional resource providers within Maryland that receive alerts through FRED.

UASI FUNDS HELP DELIVER NEW COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

In 2006, significant strides were made in achieving total interoperability within the National Capital Region (NCR). Prince George's County has received over \$5 million in NCR Urban Area Security Initiative grant funding to construct an 800 MHz radio system that will enhance the County's interoperable communications capabilities. Motorola has been awarded a contract to build the system and construction is scheduled to begin in March 2007.

GOVERNOR ENGAGES AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY IN EMERGENCY PLANNING

Recognizing the significant role that the amateur radio community can play during a disaster, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. has sought to increase the community's involvement in Maryland's emergency management structure. As a result, on October 24, members of the Governor's staff met with representatives of the American Radio Relay League and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) to discuss possible roles for ARES in the State's emergency planning and response processes.

ARES members receive extensive practice opportunities, through course work, drills and public service events. They have been commended for their exemplary performance in recent events from 9/11 to Hurricane Katrina. The 11,000 radio operators in Maryland and the additional 43,000 in the surrounding states working through ARES represent a valuable resource in times of crisis. For this reason, the Governor has expressed a strong desire to find a way for the State of Maryland to be able to use the resources of ARES and to integrate ARES into the State's emergency management plans.

As a result of the October 24 meeting, a working group with representation from ARES, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism was formed to define a role for ARES and a mechanism by which that role could be formally implemented.



ID MARYLAND DELIVERS ENHANCED IDENTIFICATION CAPABILITIES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

Recognizing that access to the latest technology is a cornerstone in effective law enforcement and public safety, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. launched his 2005 Homeland Security and Public Safety Initiative ("ID Maryland") to provide law enforcement with state-of-the-art technology that increases their ability to perform fast and accurate identifications. As a result, this year, deployment of Network Livescan machines, which enable fingerprints to be captured electronically, was completed at designated criminal intake facilities across the state. Now, a subject's fingerprints can be cross-referenced against those in federal and state criminal justice databases, with a response in as little as 20 minutes. Previously, that response could take hours or days. Livescan technology is now also being used to register sex offenders at selected law enforcement locations across Maryland. Deployment of the technology to Motor Vehicle Administration offices and other facilities has resulted in its use for applicants for professional licensure, including firearms licenses and com-



Livescan technology is now being used at criminal intake facilities and applicant fingerprinting locations across the state, enabling law enforcement to make faster identifications.

mercial driver's licenses with hazardous materials designations. The technology has significantly reduced the processing time for such applications.

Governor Ehrlich budgeted more than \$12 million for a new state-of-the-art Maryland Automated Fingerprint Identification System, which will improve the accuracy and speed of identification processing of offenders by 100%. An exciting feature called Fast ID will enable police officers in their

patrol vehicle to use a portable device to capture fingerprints from a subject, transmit the images and receive identification results. A contract signed in 2006 calls for Fast ID technology to be available to law enforcement agencies in Maryland within the upcoming year.

As part of ID Maryland, Governor Ehrlich has made expansion of Maryland's DNA database a priority. Under the Governor's leadership, the Maryland State Police opened a new crime lab with state-of-the-art DNA technology. Together, these exciting technological enhancements are making it easier for law enforcement to engage in effective policing.

ATAC PLAYS KEY ROLE IN ALLOCATING GRANTS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

In June, a subcommittee of the State's Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council, a body representing more than 250 organizations, met to make recommendations to Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. for allocating the more than \$4.7 million in federal grant money that the State received under the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program. The meeting included representatives from key law enforcement organizations including the Maryland Sheriffs' Association and the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association.

The group made recommendations to fund 18 local law enforcement projects benefiting over 60 different agencies. The group also proposed using funds to help local law enforcement agencies provide a representative to the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center.

PROJECT HELPS MARYLAND STATE POLICE BECOME A "CONNECTED FORCE"

Law enforcement officials and officers working in the field know how crucial technology is to their day-to-day operations. In some circumstances, having the right tool can mean the difference between life and death. With the help of homeland security grant funding, the Maryland State Police initiated a project to install mobile computing technology in patrol vehicles. This technology increases coordination with public safety and transportation agencies and marks an evolution from police cruisers with no information technology to ones with computers, in-car cameras and other critical components. To date, over 300 Maryland State Police vehicles have been equipped with all of these technological enhancements.

This will inevitably enable the implementation of Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management Systems that enhance interoperability and facilitate increased efficient use of emergency resources and better tracking. With this project, the Maryland State Police is truly becoming a "connected force."



MARYLAND MAKES PANDEMIC FLU PREPAREDNESS A PRIORITY



Public health officials from across the state participate in a pandemic flu exercise in August.

Over the past year, the State of Maryland has made tremendous progress in improving statewide plans and expanding public and private partnerships to enhance its preparedness capabilities for pandemic flu. Under the leadership of Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Maryland has expanded and updated its pandemic influenza plan to reflect national strategy and guidelines. This plan will continue to be refined as new information emerges. On August 21, 2006, Maryland conducted a statewide exercise to test its pandemic influenza plan with both tabletop and full-scale activities. The exercise included nearly 550 participants from 11 state agencies and 24 local health departments. As part of this exercise, there was a simulated deployment of the Strategic National Stockpile to regional points of dispensing sites.

Through an executive order earlier this year, Governor Ehrlich established a Pandemic Influenza Coordinating Committee (PICC) to oversee planning for a pandemic and to ensure that planning is integrated and coordinated across a variety of sectors. The PICC is a multi-disciplinary body with broad representation, indicating that the Governor recognizes that an influenza pandemic is not only a health and medical issue but a sociological one.

Effective risk communication planning is critical to pandemic influenza preparedness and response. To this end, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) has embarked on a statewide

educational outreach effort to enhance public and private sector understanding about pandemic influenza. As of October 1, 2006, DHMH provided over 30 presentations to school systems, universities, businesses, the health care sector, state government agencies, the general public, the emergency management sector, the public health community, agriculture officials, veterinarians, attorneys, legislators, finance officials, judiciary officials, military personnel, and others. Information about a pandemic and individual planning has also been provided at several town hall meetings. Maryland has established a website, flu.maryland.gov, with a wealth of information on influenza.

Recognizing that the challenge of a pandemic is two-fold—not only to manage the disease outbreak, but also to maintain continuity of operations during a pandemic, Maryland has assembled the Pandemic Influenza Continuity of Operations (COOP) Task Force. This task force promotes partnership between government and private sector businesses, including critical infrastructure sectors such as energy, telecommunications, transportation, emergency services and water in planning for a pandemic. A severe pandemic will require plans that anticipate a long-term catastrophe. By engaging the private sector, Maryland is ensuring that planning is not only coordinated and integrated, but also addresses the continuity of essential services and operations.

GOVERNOR HOSTS SUMMIT ON PANDEMIC FLU



Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. introduces U.S. Health & Human Services Secretary Michael O. Leavitt at the Pandemic Flu Summit in February.

On February 24, 2006, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. hosted a Pandemic Influenza Summit with U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Michael O. Leavitt and leaders from the private and public sector. The Summit provided official and high-level recognition of the importance of preparing for an influenza pandemic, and reinforced that responsibility for preparing spans all levels of government and all sectors of society. This summit has helped Maryland move forward on several fronts to be prepared for a pandemic.

PROGRAM HELPS IDENTIFY INDIVIDUAL MAKING ANTHRAX THREATS

Anthrax, used in bioterrorism attacks through the mail just after 9/11, remains high on the list of threats to Americans. The deadly disease could be spread through a variety of means, including letters mailed through the postal system. To maintain a high state of readiness in the event of an anthrax attack in Maryland, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene maintains a 24/7 physician on-call program. This program demonstrated success in identifying an individual, who was sending threats through the mail to Maryland and several other states. This individual was subsequently arrested and prosecuted for these incidents.



MARYLAND IMPLEMENTS CITIES READINESS INITIATIVE

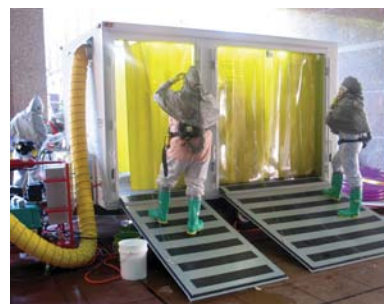
In addition to implementing a revised plan for the Strategic National Stockpile, the State of Maryland is participating in the federally-sponsored Cities Readiness Initiative. This initiative involves a pilot program to aid cities in increasing their capacity to deliver medicines and medical supplies to neighborhoods and individual residents during a large-scale public health emergency.

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and local jurisdictions are developing comprehensive plans for mass prophylaxis distribution as part of the Cities Readiness Initiative. Future efforts under this initiative will incorporate formal volunteer groups such as Community Emergency Response Teams and the Medical Reserve Corps to assist with the distribution of medicines and supplies to neighborhoods and communities.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT HELPS ENSURE PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS

Preparation is critical and a key element for quick and effective response in the event of a public health emergency. The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) serves as the lead agency for health and medical response. Within DHMH, the Office of Preparedness and Response coordinates federal grants to support preparedness programs for the State of Maryland. In addition, the Office of Preparedness and Response provides technical expertise for preparedness and emergency response and coordinates preparedness programs and activities for our 24 local jurisdictions.

During this past year, DHMH has revised and written several plans designed to protect the public and the infrastructure of the State. DHMH incorporates state, private and community entities to work as a team in these plans. The statewide plans for the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and Pandemic Flu have been completed. Additional plans are in



In this mass casualty exercise at the Baltimore VA Medical Center on October 3, 2006, volunteer "victims" were decontaminated prior to being seen by hospital personnel. DHMH administers federal grants that help hospitals develop plans for these types of incidents.

the development stage including the Isolation and Quarantine Plan, the Facilities Evacuations Templates and the Medical Surge Plan. In addition, DHMH partners with the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems and the Maryland Hospital Association to improve preparedness capabilities and disaster planning for all of the acute care hospitals across the state.

REVISED PLAN GETS MARYLAND HIGHER RATING ON THE STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE

The State of Maryland has developed a revised statewide plan for the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). The revised plan already has resulted in the State receiving an improved rating for the SNS from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The plan provides for receiving, staging, storing, and distributing large quantities of medicine and medical supplies in the event of a widespread flu outbreak, terrorist attack, earthquake, or any other public health emergency that depletes local medical resources. In August 2006, the plan was successfully executed during a statewide exercise demonstrating the effectiveness of the expanded federal, state, local, and private partnerships that form a foundation for the plan.



The Strategic National Stockpile plan includes deployment of Chempack, which contains antidotes for various toxins. Maryland was the first state in the region to complete Chempack deployment around the state.



BUILDING A NATIONAL MODEL FOR REGIONAL COLLABORATION IN HOMELAND SECURITY

In October 2006, the All Hazards Consortium (www.ahcusa.org) was officially launched during the 3rd Annual All Hazards Forum in Baltimore. The Consortium is comprised of member jurisdictions including Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia and is overseen by a Board of Governors comprised of representatives from member jurisdictions as well as universities and the private sector.

The Consortium will focus on regional, multi-state collaboration efforts. Working closely with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, member states and partners, the Consortium will focus on strengthening each fundamental area of homeland security across the region.

To accomplish these goals, the Consortium hosts a year-round program of activities aimed at assembling stakeholders, gaining common agreement, making recommendations, and implementing projects.

Culminating the year's activities is the sponsorship of an annual confer-



Maryland Homeland Security Director Dennis R. Schrader (3rd from right) receives an award on December 18, 2006 from the Mid-Atlantic All Hazards Consortium for his instrumental role in creating the organization.

ence in the fall. In 2006, the third annual Mid-Atlantic Regional All Hazards Forum (www.allhazardsforum.com) attracted over 1,000 participants from more than 27 states and included representatives from federal, state, and local government, the private sector, universities, non-profits, and other non-governmental organizations. The Forum is becoming the platform to host many organizational meetings from affiliated government and non-governmental organizations. This enriches the collaboration and understanding of homeland security and emergency management issues confronted by member states and how best to address them. With its 26 regional panel discussions and the subsequent report, the Forum represents a unique model for addressing multi-state issues and is a nationally recognized best practice for regional state collaboration.

Maryland is a founding sponsor of the All Hazards Forum and has hosted the conference for the last three years. The Forum has facilitated the sharing of experience and established relationships with peers beyond our state borders.



Lt. Governor Michael S. Steele speaks about the importance of emergency preparedness during the 3rd Annual All Hazards Forum at the Baltimore Convention Center on October 12, 2006.

GOVERNOR DEVELOPS MODEL PROGRAM TO PROVIDE SECURITY GRANTS TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Under the leadership of Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Maryland became the first state in the nation to allocate homeland security funding to protect non-governmental organizations (NGOs). After an incident in which a Saudi national was caught videotaping a private Jewish school in Baltimore County, Governor Ehrlich called for the protection of at-risk NGOs such as the Jewish school. He then requested and obtained additional flexibility from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the use of grant funds.

Over the past three years, the State has allocated more than \$1.8 million in homeland security grants to NGOs in the Baltimore and Washington areas. To ensure the most efficient allocation among individual facilities, the State partnered with organizations such as the Baltimore Jewish Council and the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington to work with local law enforcement and emergency management professionals in evaluating and prioritizing specific NGOs.

This initiative is another example of the strong partnerships that Governor Ehrlich has fostered as part of his homeland security program. After observing Maryland's success with this initiative, other states have followed suit and instituted similar programs of their own.



STATE SEEKS LOCAL INPUT IN GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

With more than 80% of homeland security grants directed to programs at the local level, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. realizes the importance of including local jurisdictions in the grant application and distribution process. For that reason, in 2006, the Governor made an unprecedented effort to ensure that local needs and priorities were incorporated into the State's homeland security grant application. In addition, Governor Ehrlich ensured that local jurisdictions had input into and were informed about the decision-making process for the distribution of the homeland security grant funds.

At Governor Ehrlich's direction, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency organized a series of regional meetings to bring together local stakeholders in the first responder community from various regions across Maryland and ascertain their top priority needs to increase targeted capabilities. The products of these five regional meetings (Central Maryland, Western Maryland, Southern Maryland, the Eastern Shore, and the National Capital Region) were incorporated into the statewide 2006 homeland security grant application. These priorities also were used to produce a long-term plan for enhancing Maryland's homeland security program.

Before the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced Maryland's allocation, Governor Ehrlich deployed his homeland security director, Dennis R. Schrader, to meet with local elected officials in each jurisdiction about the grants process. During these meetings, Director Schrader answered questions and received substantial input from county elected officials.

With its engagement of local jurisdictions, the State of Maryland has earned a place at the forefront in the homeland security grant application and distribution process through strong regional collaboration. As DHS changes the Homeland Security Grant Program rules to promote increased regionalization, other states will soon look to Maryland as a model with regard to handling homeland security grants.

MARYLAND OFFICIALS VISIT ISRAEL IN HOMELAND SECURITY EXCHANGE

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. has adopted best practices in homeland security to protect our state against terrorists and others wishing to do harm. In mid-2003, the Governor visited Israel and fostered a partnership that facilitates learning best practices and bringing them to Maryland from a country that has long experienced and responded to terrorist attacks. In 2006, Homeland Security Director Dennis R. Schrader and other senior Maryland officials traveled to Israel to participate in a conference, entitled "Countering Terrorism - Sharing Experience and Expertise," at which approximately 120 people, including homeland security advisors from across the nation and Canada, met with security personnel from various Israeli government agencies including the Israel Police's airport security, bomb disposal and emergency planning divisions. Several Israeli ministries participated in the program. Director Schrader recounted that "there was a lot of value in exchanging information with other states, local jurisdictions



The visiting officials attend a function at the U.S. Ambassador's residence. Pictured from left to right are Paul E. Schurick, the Governor's Communications Director; General Simon Perry from the Israeli National Police; Dennis R. Schrader, Homeland Security Director; and Clay B. Stamp, from the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems.

and the Israeli experts." The visiting homeland security leaders toured various critical infrastructure sites including airports, rail stations and hospitals.

This was the third time in the past three years that Maryland officials have traveled to Israel to share information about homeland security. The first was in July 2004, when Director Schrader first visited Israel, and the second was in April 2005 and included Maryland State Police Superintendent Colonel Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins.

GOVERNOR CREATES REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

To improve customer service and facilitate effective emergency response and integrated communication, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. established a regional program at the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). With this program, six regional administrators serve as the primary liaison between MEMA and local government officials.

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDING

FIGURE 1: FEDERAL HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS BY AMOUNT
(All Amounts in Millions of Dollars)

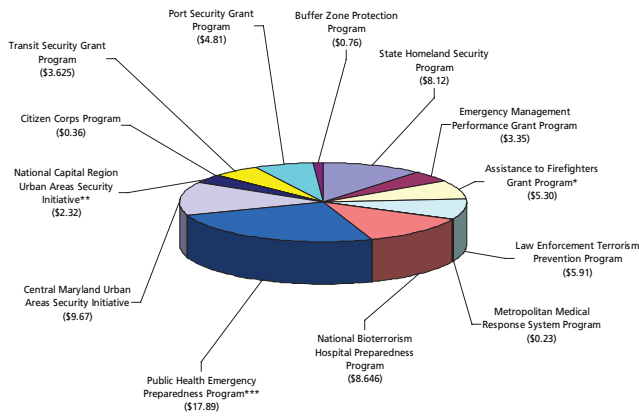
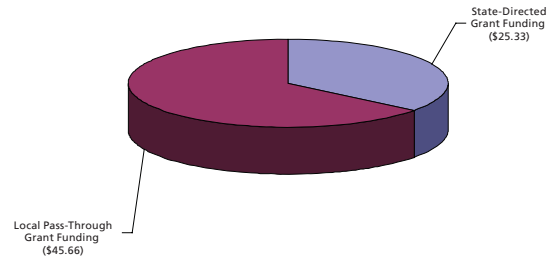


FIGURE 2: APPROXIMATE OVERALL HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT ALLOCATION
(All Amounts in Millions of Dollars)



NOTES

The total amount of homeland security grant funding in award year 2006 was approximately \$70.99 million, excluding funds received through the U.S. Department of Justice's Byrne and PATRIOT Grant Programs. As shown in figure 2, approximately \$45.66 million of this amount was passed directly through to local jurisdictions while approximately \$25.33 million was state-directed.

* This amount also includes funds directly awarded to fire departments under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Program.

** This represents the State of Maryland's approximate portion of the total National Capital Region Urban Area Security Initiative award, which was approximately \$46.47 million. In Maryland, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties received additional funding directly from the National Capital Region Urban Area Security Initiative that is not reflected in the charts above.

***This amount includes \$4.1 million received from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention exclusively for pandemic influenza planning.

FEDERAL HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS RECEIVED IN MARYLAND

State Homeland Security Program (SHSP)

SHSP is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as part of the Homeland Security Grant Program. It is designed to fund homeland security strategy implementation activities that build capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events. Under program guidelines, at least 80% of all SHSP funds are passed directly through to local jurisdictions. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency serves as the State Administrative Agent for SHSP in Maryland.

Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)

EMPG is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. It funds activities to sustain and enhance the effectiveness of the State's emergency management programs. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency serves as the State Administrative Agent for EMPG in Maryland.

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP)

AFGP is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. It provides funding directly to local fire departments to enhance their ability to protect the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel, with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. Because the grants are awarded directly, there is no State Administrative Agent for AFGP.

Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP)

LETPP is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as part of the Homeland Security Grant Program. It is designed to promote law enforcement and public safety activities to prevent terrorist attacks. It funds projects that enhance intelligence gathering, information sharing and target hardening capabilities. Under the program guidelines, at least 80% of all LETPP funds are passed directly through to local jurisdictions. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency serves as the State Administrative Agent for LETPP in Maryland.

Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)

MMRS is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as part of the Homeland Security Grant Program. It funds projects to develop plans and prepare for large-scale medical responses to catastrophic events. The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene serves as the State Administrative Agent for MMRS in Maryland.

National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program (NBHPP)

NBHPP is funded by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It provides funding to hospitals and health care systems to enhance their ability to prepare for and respond to bioterrorism and other public health emergencies. The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene serves as the State Administrative Agent for NBHPP in Maryland.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program (PHEPP)

PHEPP is funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It provides funding for activities that enhance preparedness and the ability to respond to public health emergencies caused by terrorism, pandemic influenza and other disasters. PHEPP funds the State's efforts related to the Strategic National Stockpile. The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene serves as the State Administrative Agent for PHEPP in Maryland.

Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)

UASI is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as part of the Homeland Security Grant Program. It funds designated projects in high-threat, high-density Urban Areas to defend against acts of terrorism and catastrophic events. There is one UASI wholly in Maryland. Prince George's County and Montgomery County also receive funding from the National Capital Region UASI. Program guidelines require at least 80% of UASI funds to be passed through to local jurisdictions. The Greater Baltimore Metropolitan Council serves as the State Administrative Agent for the Central Maryland UASI. The District of Columbia administers the NCR UASI.

Citizen Corps Program (CCP)

CCP is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as part of the Homeland Security Grant Program. It funds activities to promote citizen preparedness and engage citizens in all hazards prevention, protection, response, and recovery efforts. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency serves as the State Administrative Agent for CCP in Maryland.

Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP)

TSGP is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. It provides funding to enhance security of public transit systems such as the Baltimore Metro and Light Rail. The Maryland Department of Transportation serves the State Administrative Agent for TSGP in Maryland.

Port Security Grant Program (PSGP)

PSGP is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. It provides funding for projects that enhance port and maritime security. The Maryland Department of Transportation serves as the primary State Administrative Agent for PSGP in Maryland; however, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources is also responsible for administering PSGP for projects that enhance security of Maryland waterways.

Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP)

BZPP is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. It provides funding to strengthen security and enhance risk-management capabilities at designated critical infrastructure sites including chemical facilities, nuclear and electric power plants, dams, and stadiums. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency serves as the State Administrative Agent for BZPP in Maryland.

MARYLAND HOMELAND SECURITY TEAMMATES

FEDERAL-STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP



Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council
of Maryland



Maryland Coordination
& Analysis Center

HOMELAND SECURITY SENIOR POLICY GROUP



Governor's
Office of
Homeland Security



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



Mid-Atlantic
All Hazards
Consortium



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 Association



Maryland
Municipal League



Maryland
Sheriffs' Association



Maryland
State Firemen's
Association



Maryland
Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster



Metro
Fire Chiefs



The Infrastructure
Security Partnership

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

