

SPECIAL NOTICE

NIMS COMPLIANCE

FEDERAL GRANT ELIGIBILITY

Homeland Security Presidential Directive #5 requires the adoption of NIMS (National Incident Management System) by all state, local, and tribal jurisdictions. NIMS Compliance is required in order for these entities to receive federal preparedness grants. This requirement begins with federal fiscal year 2006 funds going forward. Beginning September 1, 2006, all VFD's applying for state grants which include matching federal funds will need to certify that they are "NIMS Compliant".

The Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) is the designated repository for NIMS Compliance certification records. GDEM requires that a VFD submit the following documents in order to certify NIMS compliance:

- 1) A copy of the meeting Minutes where a VFD formally adopts NIMS.
or
- 2) A letter signed by the Fire Chief verifying that the department is NIMS compliant.
or
- 3) Where a VFD is employed by a City or County, a copy of the proclamation or action of the governing body which officially declares the adoption of NIMS.

The contact person at GDEM is Ms. Amanda Hood. The mailing address is:

Governor's Division of Emergency Management
Policy and Plans Unit
Texas Department of Public Safety
P.O. Box 4087
Austin, Texas 78773-0220
512-424-5059

The GDEM website is:

www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/pages/index.htm

WHAT IS REQUIRED TO BECOME NIMS COMPLIANT?

Information regarding NIMS compliance may be found at this website:

www.fema.gov/emergency/nims

Click-on NIMS Compliance.

Volunteer Fire Departments are governed by the section entitled "Tribal and Local Jurisdictions." In order to be NIMS Compliant, VFD's must do the following:

- 1) Formally adopt NIMS at the community level through proclamation, resolution, meeting minutes, or other written documentation.
- 2) Manage all incidents using the Incident Command System (ICS) using organizational structures and procedures as defined by NIMS.

- 3) Participate in interagency mutual aid agreements.
- 4) Participate in all- hazard exercises based upon NIMS that involves first responders from multiple disciplines and multiple jurisdictions.
- 5) Process VFD members through the following training:

Required Training—Entry Level Personnel

FEMA IS-700 **NIMS, An Introduction**
ICS-100 **Introduction to ICS or equivalent**

Required Training—First Line Personnel (Firefighters and Engine Operators), Single Resource, Field Supervisors (Officers, Lieutenants, Captains)

All of the courses described above.
ICS-200 **Basic ICS or equivalent**

Required Training—Middle Management Personnel (Lieutenants, Captains, Shift Commanders, Battalion Chiefs), Strike Team Leader, Division Supervisor

All of the courses described above.
FEMA IS-800 **National Response Plan, An Introduction**
ICS-300 **Intermediate ICS or equivalent**

Additional information regarding NIMS training may be found on the NIMS homepage:

www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/index.shtm