

**D 011 04**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER  
NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order concerning the designation of the National Incident Management System (“NIMS”) as the basis for all incident management in the State of Colorado.

1. Background and Need

The President of the United States, in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5, directed the Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a national incident management system, which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. In addition, the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks (9-11 Commission) recommended adoption of a standardized Incident Command System.

The collective input and guidance from all Federal, State, local, and tribal homeland security partners has been, and will continue to be, vital to the development, effective implementation and utilization of a comprehensive NIMS. It is necessary and desirable that all Federal, State, local, and tribal emergency agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management. In order to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management it is critical that Federal, State, local, and tribal organizations utilize standardized terminology, standardized organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training, and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters.

The NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities and resources will improve Colorado’s ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local and state agency readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management processes. Furthermore, the Incident Command System components of NIMS are already an integral part of various incident management activities throughout the State, including current emergency management training programs.

2. Directive

I hereby establish the National Incident Management System as the State standard for incident management.

3. Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in effect until further modification or rescission by Executive Order.

GIVEN under my hand and the  
Executive Seal of the State  
of Colorado, this 6<sup>th</sup>  
day of December, 2004.

Bill Owens  
Governor