

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.

WHEREAS,; and,

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi do hereby create and establish the Office of Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Council.

I. ESTABLISHMENT

I hereby establish within the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency an Office of Homeland Security (the “Office”) to be headed by the Director for Homeland Security.

II. MISSION

The mission of the Office shall be to develop and coordinate the implementation of a comprehensive state strategy to secure the State of Mississippi from terrorist threats or attacks. The Office shall perform the functions necessary to carry out this mission, including the functions specified in Section 3 of this order.

III. FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Office shall be to coordinate the State of Mississippi’s efforts to detect, prepare for, prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks within the State of Mississippi.

(A) State Strategy – The Office shall work with executive departments and agencies, local governments, and private entities to ensure the adequacy of the State strategy for detecting, preparing for, preventing, protecting against, responding to, and recovering from terrorist threats or attacks within the State of Mississippi and shall periodically review and coordinate revisions to that strategy as necessary.

(B) Detection – The Office shall identify priorities and coordinate efforts for collection and analysis of information within the State of Mississippi regarding threats of terrorism against the State of Mississippi and activities of terrorists or terrorist groups within the State of Mississippi. The Office shall identify, in coordination with the Department of Public Safety, priorities for collection of intelligence inside the State of Mississippi regarding threats of terrorism.

(1) In performing these functions, the Office shall work with Federal, State, and local Agencies, as appropriate, to:

(a) facilitate collection from local governments and private entities of information pertaining to terrorist threats or activities within the State of Mississippi;

(b) coordinate development of monitoring protocols and equipment for use in detecting the release of biological, chemical, and radiological hazards; and

(c) ensure that, to the extent permitted by the law, all appropriate and necessary intelligence and law enforcement information relating to homeland security is disseminated to and exchanged among appropriate executive departments and agencies responsible for homeland security and, where appropriate for reasons of homeland security, promote exchange of such information with and among the State of Mississippi, local governments, and private entities.

(2) Executive departments and agencies shall, to the extent permitted by law, make available to the Office all information relating to terrorist threats and activities within the State of Mississippi.

(C) Preparedness – The Mississippi Office of Homeland Security shall coordinate state efforts to prepare for and mitigate the consequences of terrorist threats or attacks within the State of Mississippi. In performing this function, the Office shall work with Federal, State, local agencies and private entities, as appropriate, to:

(1) review and assess the adequacy of the portions of all State emergency response plans that pertain to terrorist threats or attacks within the State of Mississippi;

(2) coordinate domestic exercises and simulations designed to assess and practice systems that would be called upon to respond to a terrorist threat or attack within the State of Mississippi and coordinate programs and activities for training State and local employees who would be called upon to respond to such a threat of attack;

(3) coordinate state efforts to ensure public health preparedness for a terrorist attack, including reviewing vaccination policies and reviewing the adequacy of vaccine and pharmaceutical stockpiles and hospital capacity;

(4) coordinate state assistance to local authorities and nongovernmental organizations to prepare for and respond to terrorist threats or attacks within the State of Mississippi;

(5) ensure that state preparedness programs and activities for terrorist threats or attacks are developed and are regularly evaluated under appropriate standards and that resources are allocated to improving and sustaining preparedness based on such evaluations; and

(6) ensure the readiness and coordinated deployment of State and Regional response teams to respond to terrorist threats or attacks, working with the other state agencies and local government, when appropriate.

(D) Prevention – The Office shall coordinate efforts to prevent terrorist attacks within the State of Mississippi. In performing this function, the Office shall work with Federal, State Agencies, local agencies and private entities, as appropriate, to:

(1) facilitate the exchange of information among such agencies relating to immigration, visa matters, and shipments of cargo; and, working with the Mississippi Attorney General's Office and the Department of Public Safety, ensure coordination among such agencies to prevent the entry of terrorists and terrorist materials and supplies into the State of Mississippi and facilitate removal of such terrorists from the State of Mississippi, when appropriate; and,

(2) coordinate efforts to improve the security of the State of Mississippi borders, territorial waters, and airspace in order to prevent acts of terrorism within the State of Mississippi, working with other state agencies, when appropriate.

(E) Protection – The Office shall coordinate efforts to protect the State of Mississippi and its critical infrastructure from the consequences of terrorist attacks. In performing this function, the Office shall work with State and local agencies, and private entities, as appropriate, to:

(1) strengthen measures for protecting energy production, transmission, and distribution services, and critical facilities; other utilities; telecommunications; facilities that produce, use, store, or dispose of nuclear material; and other critical infrastructure services and critical facilities within the State of Mississippi from terrorist attacks;

(2) coordinate efforts to protect critical public and privately owned information systems within the State of Mississippi from terrorist attack;

(3) develop criteria for reviewing whether appropriate security measures are in place at major public and privately owned facilities within the State of Mississippi;

(4) coordinate state and local efforts to ensure that special events determined by appropriate senior officials to have state or national significance are protected from terrorist attack;

(5) coordinate efforts to protect transportation systems within the State of Mississippi, including railways, highways, shipping, ports, waterways, airports, and civilian aircraft, from terrorist attacks; and

(6) coordinate efforts to protect State of Mississippi livestock, agriculture, and systems for the provision of water and food for human use and consumption from terrorist attacks; and

(7) coordinate efforts to prevent unauthorized access to, development of, and unlawful importation into the State of Mississippi of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosive, or other related materials that have the potential to be used in terrorist attacks.

(F) Response and Recovery – The office shall coordinate efforts to respond to and promote recovery from terrorist threats or attacks within the State of Mississippi. In performing this function, the Office shall work with Federal and State agencies, local agencies, and private entities, as appropriate, to:

(1) coordinate efforts to ensure rapid restoration of transportation systems, energy production, transmission, and distribution systems; telecommunications; other utilities; and other critical infrastructure facilities after disruption by a terrorist threat or attack;

(2) coordinate efforts to ensure rapid restoration of public and private critical information systems after disruption by a terrorist threat or attack;

(3) coordinate State plans and programs to provide medical, financial, and other assistance to victims of terrorist attacks and their families; and

(4) coordinate containment and removal of biological, chemical, radiological, explosive, or other hazardous materials in the event of a terrorist threat or attack involving such hazards and coordinate efforts to mitigate the effects of such an attack.

(G) Incident Management – The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency shall be the agency primarily responsible for coordinating the state response efforts of all departments and agencies in the event of an imminent terrorist threat and during and in the immediate aftermath of a terrorist attack within the State of Mississippi in accordance to the State Comprehensive Operations Plan.

(H) Continuity of Government – The Office of Homeland Security, in coordination with other executive, legislative, and judicial offices, shall review plans and preparations for ensuring the continuity of the State Government in the event of a terrorist attacks that threatens the safety and security of the State of Mississippi Government or its leadership.

(I) Public Affairs – The Office shall coordinate the strategy of the executive branch for communication with the public in the event of a terrorist threat or attack within the State of Mississippi. The Office also shall coordinate the development of programs for educating the public about the nature of terrorist threats and appropriate precautions and responses.

(J) Cooperation with Local Governments and Private Entities – The Office shall encourage and invite the participation of local governments and private entities, as appropriate, in carrying out the Office's functions.

(K) Review of Legal Authorities and Development of Legislative Proposals – the Office shall coordinate a periodic review and assessment of the legal authorities available to executive departments and agencies to permit them to perform the functions described in this order. When the Office determines that such legal authorities are inadequate, the Office shall develop, in consultation with executive departments and agencies, proposals to support State and local governments in accessing of their legal authorities to permit them to detect, prepare for, prevent, protect against, and recover from terrorist threats and attacks.

IV. ADMINISTRATION

(A) The Office of Homeland Security shall be directed by the Executive Director of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.

(B) The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency is authorized to support the Office of Homeland Security with such personnel, funding, and administrative support to the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriation to carry out the provision of this order.

V. ESTABLISHMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY COUNCIL

(A) I hereby establish a Homeland Security Council (the "Council"), which shall be responsible for advising and assisting the

Governor with respect to all aspects of homeland security. The Council shall serve as the mechanism for ensuring coordination of homeland security-related activities of executive department and agencies and effective development and implementation of homeland security policies.

(B) The Council shall have as its members:

- 1.) The Governor
- 2.) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
- 3.) The Attorney General of Mississippi
- 4.) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
- 5.) The State Health Officer, Miss

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol, in the City of Jackson, this the 11th day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand and one, and of the two hundred and twenty-fifth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE