



September 30, 2012

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Secretary, Department of Homeland Security
U. S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D. C. 20528

Dear Madam Secretary:

The All-Hazards Incident Management Teams Association was established in 2010 as an organization with the purpose of advancing national efforts to improve our national preparedness posture through the development of a network of incident management professionals that, consistent with the tenets of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), will form the backbone of a comprehensive capability to prepare for, protect from, respond to, mitigate, and recover from any incident that may occur in our country. Our membership is composed of those individuals who currently are, or who aspire to be, active members of the various local and regional all-hazards incident management teams throughout the country. Since the inception of this association, we have attempted to promote the goals of the NIMS through the promulgation of national standards relative to the performance expectations and competencies of the personnel and teams comprising this network.

For the past several years we have eagerly awaited the release of several documents that will provide the necessary guidance and direction for incident management personnel and teams. To date, that guidance has remained unpublished within the confines of the National Integration Center (NIC). For that reason, the Board of Directors of this Association feels the time has come for directly addressing this critical shortcoming.

Accompanying this letter is a Resolution unanimously approved by the Board of Directors of the All-Hazards Incident Management Teams Association calling on you to act in the best interests of our nation and to direct the National Integration Center within the Federal Emergency Management Agency to take immediate steps to finalize the guidance currently prepared but withheld from publication within the NIC.

On behalf of all of our members, we enthusiastically seek the opportunity to implement these critical national standards for training and credentialing incident management professionals and teams. To that end, we offer our collective support for a single national standard and ask that this document be published as quickly as possible whereupon we will actively promote the promulgation and implementation nationally.

We thank you for your consideration and hope to have the opportunity to work with you and FEMA Administrator Fugate to achieve this critical undertaking immediately.

Respectfully,

Stephen E. Grainer,
President



ALL HAZARD INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS ASSOCIATION TYPING AND CREDENTIALING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the All Hazard Incident Management Teams Association was established to provide leadership and education to incident management teams and their members in order to promote, support, improve and enhance the profession of emergency management based on the incident management team approach.

WHEREAS, the All Hazard Incident Management Teams Association will meet its mission statement by providing educational opportunities, setting standards and promoting the cooperation of federal, state, local and tribal/territorial agencies as well as non-governmental organizations in all phases of incident management.

WHEREAS, the All Hazard Incident Management Teams Association recognizes the need for national guidance on the organization, typing and credentialing of incident management positions and that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through the National Integration Center (NIC) has not issued a national guidance document in order to further the adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) at all levels.

WHEREAS, the NIC formed an Incident Management Working Group now named the Incident Management Support Team consisting of Subject Matter Experts from local, state, federal and tribal agencies and organizations who have spent the last five years revising the initial typing and credentialing guidance issued by FEMA using best practices from all local, state, federal and tribal organizations.

WHEREAS, the revised typing and credentialing guidance will provide the basis for establishing national benchmarks for response thus facilitating interstate mutual aid and response which is in concert with the Whole Community Approach for response developed and supported by FEMA and its stakeholder groups.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the All Hazards Incident Management Teams Association calls upon the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, to require FEMA to expedite the internal review process of all documents developed by the Incident Management Support Team, rapid adjudication of public review comments and at a minimum, release of electronic versions of all documents following the review and public comment process.

AND, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the All Hazard Incident Management Teams Association Board of Directors and membership intend to bring this issue to the attention of our elected officials so that they may further engage the Department of Homeland Security to rapidly resolve this issue which is impeding the implementation of the National Incident Management System.

IN WITNESS WHEREFORE, upon unanimous consent of members present, we hereto sign our names on behalf of the All Hazards Incident Management Teams Association at the monthly board meeting of the Board of Directors, All Hazards Incident Management Team Association this 24th day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

Stephen E. Grainer
President

ATTEST:

William H. Austin
Secretary



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September 30, 2012

Mr. Craig Fugate
Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20472

Re: All-Hazards Incident Management Teams Association Resolution

Dear Administrator Fugate,

Attached is a resolution from the All-Hazards Incident Management Teams Association (AHIMTA). The Board of Directors of the AHIMTA unanimously passed the resolution during the August 24, 2012 meeting. The resolution addresses the implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the inaction of the National Integration Center (NIC) as the lead in NIMS implementation efforts.

Although the resolution is intended for delivery and action by the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the AHIMTA wished to deliver this first to you as a courtesy advisement and for action as you may deem appropriate. The resolution will be communicated to the Secretary, DHS on October 8, 2012.

As you know, the development of the capability of a national all-hazard IMT program was a key outcome of the 9/11 event. The AHIMTA greatly appreciates your consideration of this matter and anxiously awaits response. Additionally, as a key stakeholder, the AHIMTA is available to assist in any effort to bring this critically important matter to successful resolution.

Sincerely,

Stephen E. Grainer
President

Cc: AHIMTA Board of Directors



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