

STATE OF VERMONT
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 04-13

[Governor's Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council]

WHEREAS, the tragic events of September 11, 2001, will exist forever in the hearts and memories of our nation; and

WHEREAS, federal, state, and local governments reacted quickly with tighter security and additional resources; the military boosted readiness and training; first responders expanded training and coordinated communications; law enforcement augmented protection in the State and along the borders; emergency managers developed new plans to address new threats; and public health officials and organizations improved and broadened education on bio-terrorism and family safety; and

WHEREAS, the devastation of Tropical Storm Irene on August 28, 2011, demonstrated that natural disasters also present a strong threat to Vermont;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this state, as set forth in 20 V.S.A. § 1, that the Governor coordinate, to the maximum extent, the protection of the public health and safety as threats remain compelling; and

WHEREAS, to attain the greatest benefit of this protection, it is imperative that there be improved coordination and communication between federal, state, and local governments, the Vermont National Guard, first responders, law enforcement, emergency managers, public health officials, and private community organizations; and

WHEREAS, these key groups should remain in regular contact with the Governor and provide advice and counsel on approaches to strengthen and improve our homeland security preparedness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Peter Shumlin, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of Vermont, do hereby order and direct that:

The "Governor's Homeland Security Advisory Council" is renamed the "Governor's Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council" and is reconstituted as set forth below.

I. Composition and Appointments

The Council shall include members from the following communities, appointed by the Governor: volunteer firefighters; EMTs; professional firefighters; career fire chiefs; Vermont State Police; municipal police; sheriffs; federal government; municipal government; private community organizations; the Vermont utility industry; and health care workers, including representatives from Vermont's hospitals.

The Council shall include the following members or their designees: The Adjutant General; Director of the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security; Secretary of Administration; Speaker of the House; Lieutenant Governor, and a member of the Senate appointed by the Committee on Committees.

The Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs, the Commissioner of Health, the Commissioner of Public Safety, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Transportation, the Commissioner of Information and Innovation and the E-911 Director shall be ex officio members of the Council.

The Governor may request participation of other public or private persons, including agency or department heads, the Attorney General, and the State's Attorneys as needs dictate.

The Governor shall appoint the Chair of the Council.

II. Charge

The mission of the Council shall be to assess the State's overall homeland security preparedness, policies, and communications and to advise on strategies to improve our current system.

Further, the Council shall carefully consider the interdependencies between federal, state, and local governments, the Vermont National Guard, first responders, law enforcement, emergency managers, public health officials, and private community organizations and the programs these groups administer and advise on strategies to strengthen and bolster those relationships. The Council shall be mindful of available financial resources and advise on strategies that are consistent with existing fiscal realities.

III. Council Process

The Council shall meet at the call of the Chair and shall advise the Governor as needed on the State's overall homeland security preparedness, policies, and communications.

Administrative and staff support shall be provided by the Department of Public Safety.

IV. Effective Date

This Executive Order shall take effect upon signing and shall expire on July 15, 2019.

This Executive Order supersedes and replaces Executive Order # 01-03 (codified as No. 20-29).

Dated April 4, 2013.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

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