



# Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management

*Working to Protect, Ready to Respond*





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## ***Vision***

*A world-class team committed to a safe, secure, and sustainable Iowa.*

## ***Mission***

*Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.*

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To the Citizens of Iowa:

This annual report highlights the many programs and initiatives with which the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division is involved. The Division collaborates with many partners from all levels of government and the private sector, including businesses, volunteer and faith-based organizations, and citizens. These partnerships form an integrated web of protection, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery, and reinforce the feeling of community which has long defined Iowa and Iowans.

Prior to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, we were known as the Emergency Management Division and our focus was natural, human-made, and technological disasters. Following the attacks, Governor Vilsack assigned to the Division the state homeland security mission, which utilized our existing capabilities and expertise, but also expanded our focus to include terrorism. While we have faced many challenges, and I am certain we have many more to overcome, we have also had many successes. These successes are the result of working together, as a community, to ensure our citizens, our cities and towns, our state, and our nation are safe and sustainable in the face of any threat.

It seems, at times, that we have been asked to perform an impossible task, securing our homeland. Something I know for certain, and I hope this report will demonstrate, is none of us can accomplish this task alone. To succeed, we must continue to work together, within our communities and as a community, dedicating our resources and our skills to the task at hand.

This report is intended to provide an overview of the Division's activities. To learn more about homeland security and emergency management in Iowa, I urge you to visit our Web site at [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org).

David L. Miller  
Administrator  
Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division

# Working to Protect, Ready to Respond

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Making our nation, state, and citizens safe are priorities of the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HLSEM). As the result of a partnership between citizens, volunteer and faith-based organizations, the private sector, and state, local, and federal governments, Iowa is more secure and better prepared to prevent, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters, natural or human-made.

The Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division has been working to make Iowa more prepared for disasters since it began as the State Civil Defense Agency in 1965. The focus of emergency management and the hazards faced by Iowans may have changed in some ways since that time, but what hasn't changed is our commitment to making our state more prepared for any emergency or disaster.

Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Division was directed by the Governor to coordinate Iowa's homeland security efforts. While this broadened our mission, our underlying priority of ensuring Iowa is prepared and ready to respond to any disaster drives all we do. While the likelihood of a terrorist act being committed in Iowa is unknown, we will continue to be affected by floods, tornadoes, plane crashes, and other natural and human-caused disasters. HLSEM approaches these and other emergency situations with an emphasis on maximizing resources by using and expanding upon current capacities, and building core capabilities that ensure we are prepared for all hazards.

## HLSEM at a Glance

A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense, HLSEM is currently comprised of 60 full-time employees. David Miller, the administrator of the Division, is appointed by the Governor. A chief of staff, a homeland security coordinator, and four bureau chiefs comprise the management team.



## Division History

The Division has seen many changes since its inception in 1965 when Governor Harold Hughes created the State Civil Defense Agency, whose ten staff members focused on the threat of nuclear war. In the 1970s, the agency became the Office of Disaster Services to reflect its focus on management of naturally-caused emergencies and disasters. The 1980s saw the office expand its focus from fallout shelters and natural disasters to an all-hazards approach that included radiological and hazardous materials incidents.

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In 1992, the office became the Emergency Management Division. The focus of the Division became one of protecting people, property, and the environment from the effects of all types of disasters, and to speeding the recovery from disasters whenever they occurred.

The terrorist attacks in 2001 re-defined the state's emergency management focus. Following September 11th, homeland security responsibilities were integrated into the duties and responsibilities of the Emergency Management Division and in 2003, the Division's name was formally changed to Homeland Security and Emergency Management to reflect its new duties and responsibilities. The Division's duties and responsibilities are defined and governed through a variety of state and federal laws, rules, and regulations (for more information, visit [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org)).

The Division developed, and is provided direction through, *The Iowa Strategy for Homeland Security and Emergency Management*, which is an overarching plan to secure our state from all hazards. The Strategy not only provides direction for HLSEM, but also sets a course of action for the many partners who comprise the homeland security and emergency management community throughout the state. (More on the Strategy on pages 14 and 15.)

## **When Disasters Strike**

Iowa received 29 Presidential Disaster Declarations between 1965 and 2004. The Presidential Declarations made federal assistance available, primarily for flooding, severe storms, and tornadoes. However, two defining incidents for the Division were not included under a Presidential Disaster Declaration: the crash of United Airlines flight 232 in Sioux City on July 19, 1989 in which there were 112 fatalities; and the explosion of the Terra Chemical Plant near Sergeant Bluff in 1994 that resulted in the death of four employees and injury to 18 employees and one emergency worker. At the time of the incident, the Terra Chemical Plant explosion was the nation's largest chemical release.

While the United Flight 232 crash and the Terra Chemical Plant explosion were significant disasters, perhaps the most defining natural disaster in Iowa was the extensive flooding in 1993. As a result of this widespread flooding, 17 people died and damages totaled more than \$2 billion. During these disasters and other large and small emergencies, HLSEM assisted local governments and coordinated the state's response activities, including interaction with federal government, non-profit, faith-based, volunteer, and private-sector partners.

HLSEM's response activities range from full activation of the State Emergency Operations Center, where the Division and other government and private sector partners coordinate state and local response and recovery efforts, to monitoring of local incidents by the Division's operations officers. In state fiscal year (SFY) 2005, the HLSEM operations officers fielded calls on topics ranging from hazardous materials spills to rail accidents, missing persons, and severe weather incidents. Some calls were for notification purposes only, while many required HLSEM to coordinate assistance with local and state government agencies. The operations officer is on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

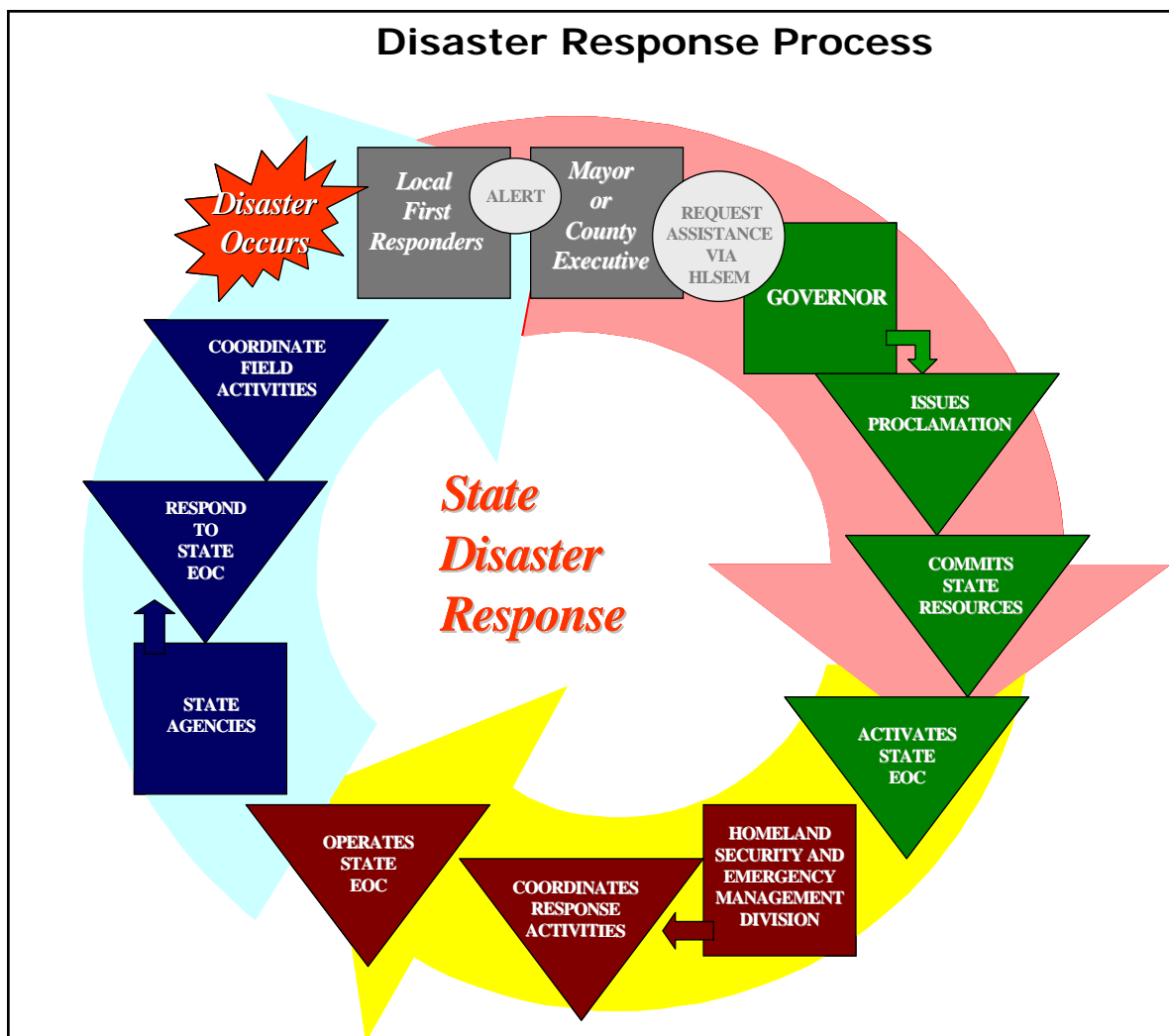
## **Disaster Response and Recovery**

Disasters have touched the lives of many Iowans. When disasters strike, the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division is prepared to provide assistance to local first responders and our citizens.

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Disaster response starts in the affected community or communities. Each county in Iowa has a county emergency management coordinator who facilitates local government and volunteer response operations such as sandbagging, cleanup efforts, and sheltering for families affected by the disaster. When a community's ability to respond to a disaster exceeds its capabilities, the county emergency management coordinator will work with local officials and HLSEM to request a Governor's State of Emergency Disaster Proclamation, which will enable state resources to be used. State resources include equipment, personnel, technical guidance, supplies, and assistance in the form of debris removal, traffic control, levee patrol, security, and transportation. Over 200 Governor's State of Emergency Disaster Proclamations have been issued since 1983.

When a disaster goes beyond the capabilities of the State, the Governor may request federal assistance through a Presidential Disaster Declaration. When a Presidential Disaster Declaration is granted, HLSEM works with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal agencies to coordinate and deliver aid to affected Iowans, beginning the recovery process.





# Accomplishments

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Homeland security is not only about terrorism—it is about making our nation, our state, and our citizens more secure and better prepared to prevent, respond to, and recover from all emergencies and disasters. In Iowa, we know we must be prepared to respond to many hazards, including tornadoes, floods, hazardous materials spills, or intentional attacks on our food supply or critical assets. To be prepared for any type of emergency or disaster, HLSEM takes an all-hazards approach to all we do. The all-hazards approach ensures Iowa has the capability to coordinate an effective response no matter the type of disaster.

Following are some examples that illustrate how HLSEM is working to make Iowa and Iowans more secure and better prepared for all hazards. Information on additional projects and initiatives is available at [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org).

## Securing Our Communities

### *First Responders—Better Prepared for All Hazards*

First responders are on the front line in any emergency, whether it is a tornado or a terrorism incident. More than \$100 million in homeland security funding has been allocated to Iowa since September 11, 2001, ensuring our state's first responders are well exercised, trained, and equipped to respond to any disaster or emergency.

A three-year plan for exercises was initiated by HLSEM in August 2003 and will extend through 2006. These terrorism-based exercises are being held statewide and are designed to test the ability of participants to respond to terrorism incidents, use equipment, and test skills learned through training. In the past four years, approximately 317 exercises involving nearly 48,000 responders have been conducted throughout the state. During SFY 2005, HLSEM sponsored 152 terrorism-based exercises with nearly 17,000 participants. An additional 57 exercises were conducted on a variety of hazards, including tornadoes, floods, and hazardous materials.

Beginning with the federal government's 2003 homeland security grant program, more than \$40 million has been devoted to the purchase of equipment for Iowa's first responders and includes a wide assortment of items, from protective suits for responders to communication equipment that will ensure response efforts are properly coordinated. This equipment has enhanced the ability of first responders to respond to all disasters and emergencies and provides for increased safety.

Since September 11, 2001, HLSEM has delivered training courses to more than 14,000 responders. These courses included terrorism awareness, terrorism response, incident command, basic public information, and exercise design. In SFY 2005, HLSEM and partners that include the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Fire Service Training Bureau, and Iowa Central Community College, delivered training to over 7,500 participants. Although terrorism-related, many of these courses also prepare responders for dealing with other hazards.

***Since Sept. 11  
more than 14,000  
responders have  
received training.***

HLSEM worked in partnership with educational institutions, including Kirkwood Community College, Upper Iowa University, and Western Iowa Tech Community College to develop degree programs in the evolving fields of homeland security and emergency management. HLSEM staff and other professionals in the field took advantage of national educational opportunities such as the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD, and the Naval Post-Graduate School in Monterey, CA. With the advent of these types of educational



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opportunities, HLSEM will continue to not only participate, but also to help shape the discipline.

#### *Communities Helping Each Other*

The Iowa Mutual Aid Compact (IMAC), signed into law in 2002, is a voluntary, intrastate program that allows for one political subdivision to assist another political subdivision in a disaster that has been declared either by the local member political subdivision or the Governor. The Compact increases each member's level of emergency preparedness, allowing them to work as a team when disasters are beyond local capabilities or resources. By April of 2006, more than 90 counties and nearly 400 communities were signatories to IMAC.

#### *Volunteers are Vital*

Volunteers play a crucial role in disaster response, supplementing the efforts of emergency responders who provide immediate relief and care to individuals and communities following a disaster.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program trains people in neighborhoods, the workplace, and schools in basic disaster response skills such as fire suppression and medical operations. CERT members become an important part of a community's emergency response team in the aftermath of a major disaster, when emergency services may not be immediately available to every neighborhood. There are 16 CERTs throughout Iowa ready to assist local first responders. HLSEM administers the federal Citizen Corps grant that funds this valuable community resource.



**State Employee CERT training**

Communities aren't the only ones who benefit from CERT. Beginning in May 2003, HLSEM offered State Capitol Complex employees in Des Moines the opportunity to participate in CERT training, making them ready to take action in an event where first responder resources may be stretched or delayed. In SFY 2005, HLSEM conducted five CERT courses and trained 70 state employees to respond to a Capitol Complex emergency. In addition, 21 state employees participated in train-the-trainer courses so they could help deliver training to other state workers. These teams are valuable resources and highlight the importance of volunteering to help your community and your workplace.

The Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council (IDHRC) encourages organization and identification of volunteers before a disaster occurs. Once identified, these volunteers are able to provide needed assistance in response and recovery efforts. The IDHRC is comprised of faith-based and volunteer agency representatives from throughout the state as well as representatives from key government agencies. HLSEM developed the council at the request of local emergency management coordinators to identify and address the unmet needs of Iowa's citizens impacted by disaster events. In addition, group members will assist with the coordination of volunteers and donations during activation of the State Emergency Operations Center as requested, and continue to promote cooperation among all voluntary and faith-based organizations. The Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council also functions as the statewide Citizen Corps Council. The work of the IDHRC and Citizen Corps complement one another as both have a mission to identify and organize volunteers prior to an event. The IDHRC encourages the formation of similar groups at the local level.

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### *Working with Our Local Emergency Management Partners*

Because disasters start locally, county emergency management coordinators have a vital role in the preparation for, response to, and recovery from disasters. County emergency management agencies are the backbone of the state's emergency management system. They provide coordination of local resources as well as work in partnership with HLSEM to ensure the emergency management and response communities have adequately planned and are well equipped, trained, and exercised.

Although there were no major disasters during SFY 2005, HLSEM assisted local emergency management in a variety of potential and actual emergency situations. An important mechanism to provide this assistance is HLSEM's 24-hour operations officer, whose task is to respond to requests for assistance, coordinate state resources, and ensure the quickest and most complete assistance is given during actual and potential emergencies.

In SFY 2005, HLSEM operations officers responded to nearly 100 incident reports, ranging from hazardous materials spills to rail accidents, missing persons, and severe weather.

While some calls were for notification purposes only, many required HLSEM to coordinate assistance with local and state government agencies. For example, in May 2005 severe weather produced significant rainfall in Crawford and Emmet Counties, causing basement flooding in many homes. Although no state resources were requested, HLSEM worked with county emergency management coordinators to request the use of the Iowa Concern Hotline to gather damage information from affected residents. HLSEM also worked with the Red Cross to facilitate delivery of clean-up kits to residents.



**State Emergency Operations Center**

In June 2005, following flash flooding from severe storms, local disasters were declared in Calhoun, Humboldt, and Webster Counties, and the cities of Manson, Pomeroy, and Eagle Grove. While no formal state disaster assistance was requested, state agencies, including HLSEM, did lend a hand to coordinate clean up efforts. The Department of Corrections sent a crew to Manson to assist with debris removal. The Department of Public Health provided information on mold and other public health concerns to local public health and emergency management agencies for distribution to residents in the impacted counties. These examples illustrate the variety of incidents HLSEM monitors and coordinates in conjunction with our local and state government and private-sector partners.

### *Hazard Mitigation*

No matter how prepared we are for disasters, they can and do occur. Hazard mitigation is the ongoing effort to lessen the impact disasters have on people and property. Iowa has a strong and proactive hazard mitigation program with many successes, especially as it relates to flooding, a frequent cause of Iowa disasters. HLSEM assists citizens and communities in lessening the impact of flooding through programs that will help reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of damage to buildings and other structures. In SFY 2005, HLSEM completed updating of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan, ensuring Iowa will be eligible for all available federal disaster assistance. The Division also assisted in the development of 145 local hazard mitigation plans, bringing to 700 the total of communities that have developed

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these plans ensuring they will be eligible for federal hazard mitigation funds. Additionally, in SFY 2005, HLSEM assisted 64 communities in obtaining more than \$1.8 million to implement hazard mitigation activities to reduce overall risks to population and structures. The Division awarded just over \$2 million, part of Iowa's federal disaster aid for flooding in 2004, to communities to acquire flood-damaged properties.

Safe rooms are another effort designed to lessen the impact of disasters. The Safe Room Initiative through HLSEM supports the construction of community, public, and residential safe rooms for severe weather protection. Two community shelters were completed in the cities of Duncombe and Ventura. These two shelters serve over 900 citizens. Construction on a community shelter in Clear Lake began in SFY 2005 and will offer 700 citizens protection from severe weather. A storm shelter at the Iowa State Fair Campgrounds in Des Moines, a partnership between the Iowa State Fair, HLSEM, and FEMA, holds up to 400 people. The shelter, another Safe Room Initiative project, has been in use since 2003.

## Securing our State

### *Developing Statewide Capabilities*

HLSEM is working with government and private-sector partners to develop statewide capabilities that may be used for the benefit of all Iowans. Most notable is the development of a state Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) team. The US&R team, Iowa Task Force 1, is trained and equipped to locate, rescue and provide initial medical stabilization to victims in confined spaces, including collapsed structures, transportation accidents, mines, and collapsed trenches. Development of the team has been funded with federal homeland security grants through HLSEM. The team, built on existing capabilities and resources, is primarily comprised of the Sioux City and Cedar Rapids fire departments, and draws additional membership from fire and rescue professionals from across Iowa. In SFY 2005, Task Force 1 added 35 additional personnel to bring total membership to 70. This addition of personnel will enable the team to operate around-the-clock at an incident. During the coming year, the Task Force will be working to develop a second team of 70 highly-trained members to back up the first team.



Iowa's Urban Search & Rescue Team

HLSEM and partner agencies are working to develop additional statewide resources, including Veterinary Rapid Response, Special Weapons and Tactics, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams.

### *Agriculture Security*

Iowa has long been known as a leader in agriculture. According to statistics from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, in 2003 Iowa led the nation in the production of pork, corn, and eggs, and was second in soybean production. An attack on any component of our food supply system could have devastating economic impacts on Iowa and the nation.

Iowa is a key member of the Multi-State Partnership for Security in Agriculture, comprised of agriculture, homeland security, and emergency management officials from 12 states. HLSEM, along with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, are leading

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the effort and working in close collaboration with partner states on issues that cross state lines. The Partnership has addressed response to agriculture emergencies, communications, and surveillance issues that may cross state borders and have wide-reaching impacts.

***HLSEM is leading the multi-state effort to lessen the impact of an attack on our nation's food supply system.***

The Iowa Veterinary Rapid Response Team (IVRRT) is comprised of volunteers who have come together to protect Iowa's animal industry. The team has over 280 licensed professionals from 82 Iowa counties and five surrounding states and will provide assistance to communities and producers should an animal disease emergency occur. The IVRRT members include small and large animal veterinarians, animal technicians, inspectors, biologists, and epidemiologists who will respond to animal health emergencies. The team was formed under the leadership of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and has utilized homeland security funding through HLSEM to provide training for members.

To educate responders, local public health agencies, veterinarians and agricultural producers on infectious animal disease response, six one-day training sessions were held throughout Iowa in March 2004 and November 2005. More than 400 people attended this training, called Agroville, which was a cooperative endeavor between HLSEM, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. HLSEM reached out to educate law enforcement personnel on agriculture emergency response by providing training to students at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy.

#### *Communications Interoperability*

Emergencies often involve responders from multiple agencies and even from neighboring jurisdictions. In order to effectively and safely do their jobs, they must be able to communicate. To address this challenge, in May of 2004 Governor Vilsack convened the Communications Interoperability Task Force. The Task Force studied the status of Iowa's public safety and first responder telecommunications systems, made recommendations on the direction the state should take, and developed a plan to implement those recommendations. The Task Force was chaired by HLSEM Administrator David Miller and was comprised of public and private telecommunications system owners and operators. As the result of the work of the task force, progress has been made toward creating an interoperability solution for Iowa's responders.

Legislation approved during the 2005 session of the Iowa General Assembly extends the definition of authorized users of the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) to include disaster response agencies. This legislation allows responders to use ICN infrastructure to link their voice, data, and video communication equipment and essentially create a communications network that can cover the entire state. Local responders will be able to use the ICN to link to the State Emergency Operations Center for real-time voice, data, and video transmission during disasters and emergencies.

The state has installed communication equipment on the Department of Public Safety's command vehicle, which can be taken to a disaster scene. This equipment, called a communications gateway, will link radio frequencies to ensure on-scene commanders can talk not only to other response agencies in their jurisdiction, but also to neighboring responders who have come to assist. The



FEMA Photo



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communication gateway units are available through other state resources, including the Urban Search and Rescue Team and the National Guard's Civil Support Team.

#### *Improving Response*

In 2004, the Secretary of Homeland Security, at the request of the President, provided direction to the nation's first responders and emergency managers through the release of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The NIMS establishes a common management system that will be used at all disaster scenes and will ensure all responders at a scene know their roles and responsibilities.

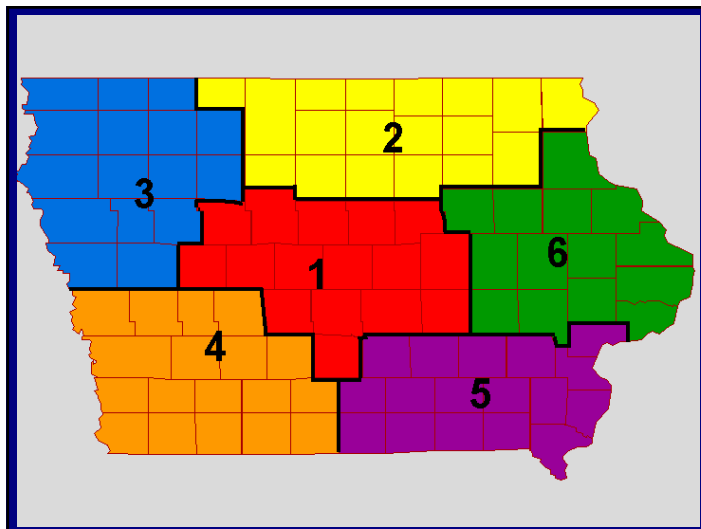
In order to continue to receive federal preparedness funding, organizations are required to become NIMS compliant by September 30, 2006. It is HLSEM's mission to ensure that responders in all state agencies, every county emergency management coordinator, every county government, and the majority of the cities and towns in Iowa, reach compliant status by that date. To do so, HLSEM established a NIMS implementation plan for the state and has provided local jurisdictions with a variety of assistance, including planning templates, training, and a tool to assess current capabilities. More information about NIMS compliance is available on the HLSEM Web site or by contacting the Division's main office.

#### *Government Continuity*

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, both the state and private holders of critical assets were forced to accept the very real possibility of the total loss of buildings or structures. The attack demonstrated the need for organizations to develop plans for the protection of these structures, protection of the people within them, and the continuation of operations in the event of the asset's destruction. HLSEM has led Iowa's state government efforts to ensure Continuity of Government and Continuity of Operations plans are in place to sustain critical services and programs in the event of an emergency.

#### *Regionalization*

In August of 2004, in an effort to improve our state's overall preparedness, and to meet the federal requirements associated with grant funding, the decision was made to address homeland security with a regional approach. Regionalization acts as a mechanism to administer grant funding in an efficient and effective way utilizing partnerships between all counties, cities, and government agencies within a region. This gives our partners the opportunity to join together to discuss issues of common interest and build a response system that can meet the needs of the people of Iowa beyond county boundaries. Beginning in 2005, the State of Iowa began using six homeland security regions as its local jurisdictions rather than 99 counties for distribution of funding. Homeland security funding flowing into Iowa has decreased significantly in the past two years. As the result of regionalization, decisions on the use of available grant funds are being made through regional boards and funding is being focused toward projects that offer benefits to a wide spectrum of citizens in that region.



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### *Protecting Critical Assets*

In October 2001, Governor Vilsack tasked HLSEM with compiling a list of Iowa's critical assets. By January 2002, a list of approximately 11,600 assets had been compiled in the sectors of agribusiness, communication, energy and water, military, government, transportation, tourism, and cyber infrastructure. This was a "first cut" at identifying critical infrastructure and Iowa was one of the leading states in performing such work. In SFY 2005, HLSEM and state agency partners worked to refine the state critical asset list to approximately 1,400 assets in 17 sectors. The new list is flexible and can be updated as assets and sectors change.

The critical asset list is a tool that can be used to organize activities, such as pre-identifying assets and sectors that may need to take additional protective actions given specific intelligence threat information. By preplanning and identifying potential systems and assets, HLSEM and public and private sector partners can act to prepare, prevent, and respond to potential or actual attacks. The list highlights the interdependencies of the assets and how the loss of one could have a major impact on other assets within and outside that system. Because over two-thirds of the assets on the list are privately owned, the work done by HLSEM and other state partners has opened a valuable dialogue with private sector partners and reinforced the need to work together.

### *Information Sharing*

Information sharing is a priority at national, state, and local levels of government. In Iowa, HLSEM, the Department of Public Safety, and partners in the private sector have created a fusion system to process and analyze information and intelligence from a variety of sources. This information fusion system is extremely important because it will help ensure the State of Iowa is better able to receive, analyze, and process information and intelligence from all branches of federal, state, and local government, and private sector resources in order to create an actual threat assessment for Iowa.

The fusion system, implemented in 2005, is based on a regional concept and utilizes the state's six Law Enforcement Intelligence Network districts as regional centers with a central state fusion center. The regional approach allows the fusion system to utilize current personnel and technology systems and to build upon relationships already in place within the regions. HLSEM and its partners will continue to move toward the creation of a system that will serve as a "clearing-house" for information from traditional law enforcement, as well as information from non-traditional sources, such as agriculture and transportation.

## **Securing our Citizens**

### *NOAA Weather Radio*

On December 29, 2005, the final stage of Iowa's statewide expansion of NOAA Weather Radio was completed with the installation of the last of 23 transmitters. Completion of the project provides nearly all Iowans the capability to receive National Weather Service weather warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day via NOAA Weather Radio. The system can also be used to broadcast Amber Alert messages that may help to locate missing children. Much hard work, by many public and private partners throughout the state, went into this project since it began in 1997. In SFY 2005, 73,646 NOAA Weather Radio receivers were distributed throughout Iowa through a hazard mitigation grant administered by HLSEM.

***More than 73,000  
NOAA Weather Radios  
were distributed to  
Iowans through a  
grant administered  
by HLSEM.***

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### *Educating Iowans*

An important component of emergency preparedness is making certain citizens are ready to take care of themselves during emergencies. HLSEM's *Be Ready Iowa!* initiative focuses on providing tools to Iowans so they may be more prepared to protect and care for themselves and their families during disasters and emergencies. A Web site, [www.bereadyiowa.org](http://www.bereadyiowa.org), provides information on Iowa's hazards and how to prepare for them.

HLSEM promotes emergency preparedness during two public awareness campaigns each year. Emergency Preparedness Month, held in September, is an opportunity to encourage citizens to learn how they can be more prepared for any type of emergency or disaster. Each spring, HLSEM, along with the National Weather Service, participates in Severe Weather Awareness Week activities to promote understanding of, and preparation for, Iowa's severe weather. The Division also partners with the National Weather Service each year to promote Winter Weather Awareness Week. Other HLSEM public education efforts include providing materials on emergency preparedness for the Iowa State Fair, a Web site that provides an overview of the state's homeland security and emergency management activities, and a newsletter that highlights the Division's efforts and activities.



### *E911*

Another important safety tool for Iowans is Enhanced 911. HLSEM has responsibility for the administration of the program, which provides service to traditional (wireline) and wireless telephone customers. In 1996, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) put forth a mandate that requires wireless E911 service be put in place and function similarly to wireline E911. As of December 31, 2002, all 99 counties in Iowa had all wireless service providers providing Phase 1 service, which provides emergency personnel an approximate location for the caller. By the end of 2006, all 99 counties will have in place the technology that will allow emergency personnel the ability to pinpoint a wireless caller's location. This means first responders will be able to more quickly locate wireless phone callers, even when they do not know their location.

## **Beyond State Borders**

The Division's responsibilities extend beyond state boundaries. HLSEM works with other states to provide a mutual benefit through the multi-state Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). Since Iowa became a member of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact in 1997, it has deployed many state employees to other states, including the Gulf Coast following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in September 2005. HLSEM assisted EMAC in the national deployment of nearly 70,000 people to the states affected by the hurricanes. Even though it wasn't "our" disaster, September 2005's Hurricanes Katrina and Rita were a demonstration of how Iowans worked together, shared expertise, and used their experience and skill to help citizens of other states.

HLSEM is involved in many state-to-state, regional, and national collaborations for important initiatives including catastrophic and special needs populations planning and agroterrorism emergency response planning.



# Future Focus

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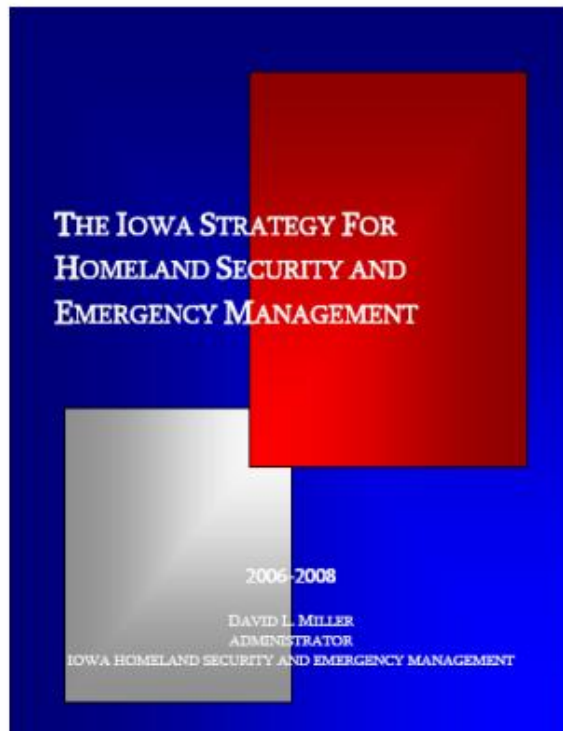
The *Iowa Strategy for Homeland Security and Emergency Management* outlines three goals that define our commitment to prevention, protection, response, and recovery.

**Goal 1: Ensure that Iowa is prepared for disasters and terrorist attacks.**

While we invest funding and effort into prevention and deterrence capabilities and capacities, we must also invest to have the necessary pieces in place in case the worst does occur, whether it is a natural or human-caused incident. Through this goal, by 2008 Iowa shall have met all of the annual requirements released by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and shall have implemented the seven national priorities found in the National Preparedness Goal. We have not forgotten our first responders; we shall continue to provide training, exercise and equipment dollars as necessary to ensure our first responders are ready and able to respond to any natural or human-caused disaster or terrorist attack.

**Goal 2: Minimize the impact, loss of life, loss of property and suffering caused by disasters and terrorist attacks.**

We live in a world where disasters happen naturally; no amount of effort on our part will stop them from occurring. We recognize this fact; while we will do everything in our power to prevent incidents from happening, we will ensure we have the mechanisms in place to respond to naturally occurring or human-caused incidents if and when they occur. We will also do everything in our power to facilitate a strong recovery and leave affected areas stronger than before. Under this goal, we will facilitate continuity of government and continuity of operations planning, and provide this information to our local partners in template format for their own use.



**Goal 3: Ensure the statewide homeland security and emergency management team provides a world-class service to the State of Iowa that meets the needs of its citizens.**

Homeland security and emergency management are concepts that are bigger than any one agency can handle. We see the concepts as a team effort, and across the state we strive to strengthen the partnerships we already have and build new ones as appropriate. It is only by coordinating as a team with our public and private-sector partners that we will be successful. Under this goal, we will ensure communications interoperability to provide a mechanism for first responders of all disciplines to communicate with each other. We will strengthen information sharing between state and local partners and the private sector.

The *Iowa Strategy for Homeland Security and Emergency Management* represents a strategic vision for the strengthening of Iowa's capabilities for the prevention of, protec-

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tion from, response to, and recovery from natural and human-caused disasters and serves as the strategic plan for HLSEM. The *Strategy* supports the Governor's Strategic Plan for the State of Iowa by offering initiatives and programs that provide for the safety and security of Iowa's communities and citizens. Also, importantly, completion of the *Strategy* ensures Iowa remains eligible for federal homeland security funding through inclusion of seven national priorities:

- ◆ Expanded Regional Collaboration and Mutual Aid
- ◆ Implementation of the National Incident Management System and the National Response Plan
- ◆ Implementation of the National Infrastructure Protection Plan
- ◆ Strengthen Information Sharing and Collaboration
- ◆ Communications Interoperability
- ◆ Strengthen CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive) Detection, Response, and Decontamination Capabilities
- ◆ Medical Surge and Mass Prophylaxis

In addition to the national priorities, the *Strategy* identifies and provides implementation steps for Iowa's priorities:

- ◆ Critical Infrastructure Protection
- ◆ Food and Agriculture Safety and Defense
- ◆ Critical Resource Logistics and Distribution
- ◆ Animal Health Emergency Support
- ◆ Economic and Community Recovery

As detailed in this report, Iowa has made significant progress in both national and state priorities. It is only through the spirit of cooperation and collaboration between state and local government and the private sector that the state has proven to be successful in its homeland security efforts. We continue to recognize that homeland security is everyone's responsibility, and we continue to build partnerships that make our state homeland security strategy successful. While much work has been done to carry out our strategy, more work is still to come. The State of Iowa and its public and private-sector partners have laid the groundwork to success on all the objectives defined in this strategy. It is imperative that we continue the work needed to fulfill the homeland security needs of our state.

To read the *Iowa Strategy for Homeland Security and Emergency Management*, visit the HLSEM Web site at [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org).

# HLSEM Funding

In SFY 2005, HLSEM total revenues were \$41 million from federal, state, and the four nuclear power plants located within or adjacent to Iowa. Of those revenues, \$38.7 million, or 95 percent, is from federal sources. HLSEM's return on investment of the state's approximately \$1.2 million in SFY 2005 was 33 to 1.

The graph at right illustrates how vital federal funding is to HLSEM's operations and programs. These dollars fund a major portion of the planning, training and exercise programs, major equipment procurements, day-to-day operations, and local emergency management response capabilities. Federal funding received by HLSEM has tremendous economic impact to the State of Iowa and local communities.

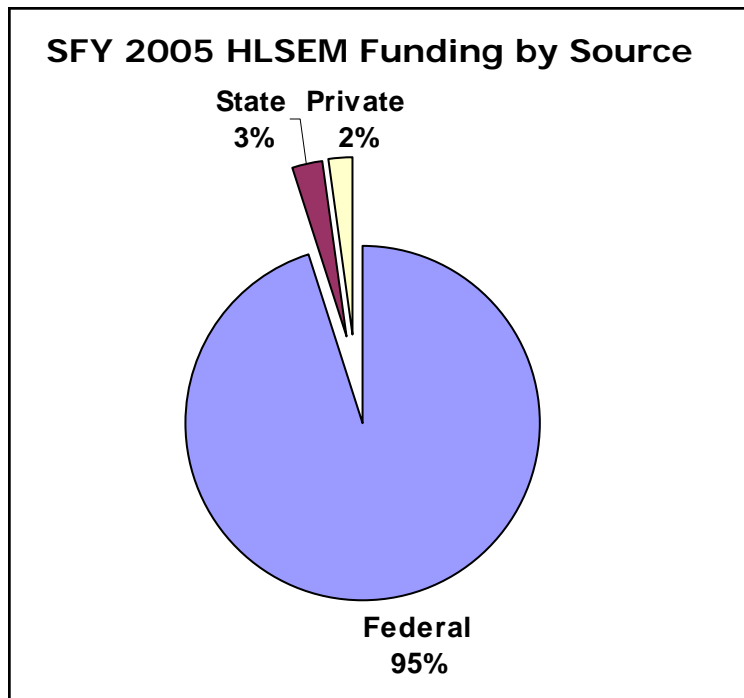
*Federal Homeland Security Funding*  
When HLSEM was directed by the Governor to coordinate Iowa's homeland security efforts, the Division's duties and responsibilities were expanded. To carry out this expanded mission, increased funding from the federal government became essential.

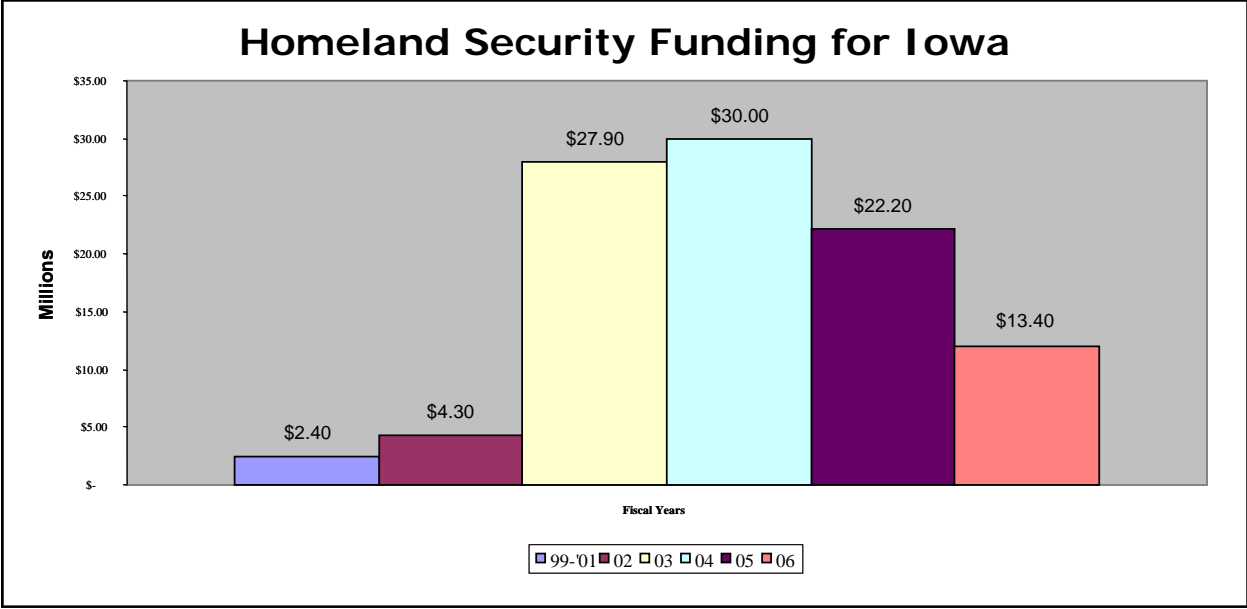
Homeland security funding actually began with a 1999 to 2001 Department of Justice (DOJ) terrorism grant. Although that money was awarded for terrorism preparedness pre-9-11, the multi-year grant enabled states and local first responders to immediately begin building capacity to respond to the new threat environment post-9-11. Since that time, Iowa has been allocated more than \$100 million in homeland security funding, which has been used to improve our capabilities to prevent, protect, respond to, and recover from not just acts of terrorism, but also from the natural and human-made disasters that affect Iowans each year.

Beginning in 2002, Congress began appropriating homeland security funding to states with the intent of building overall system capacity. As illustrated in the graph on the following page, federal homeland security funding for Iowa has decreased sharply, making it difficult to sustain important programs and initiatives that not only make Iowa more prepared for a terrorism incident, but for any emergency or disaster.

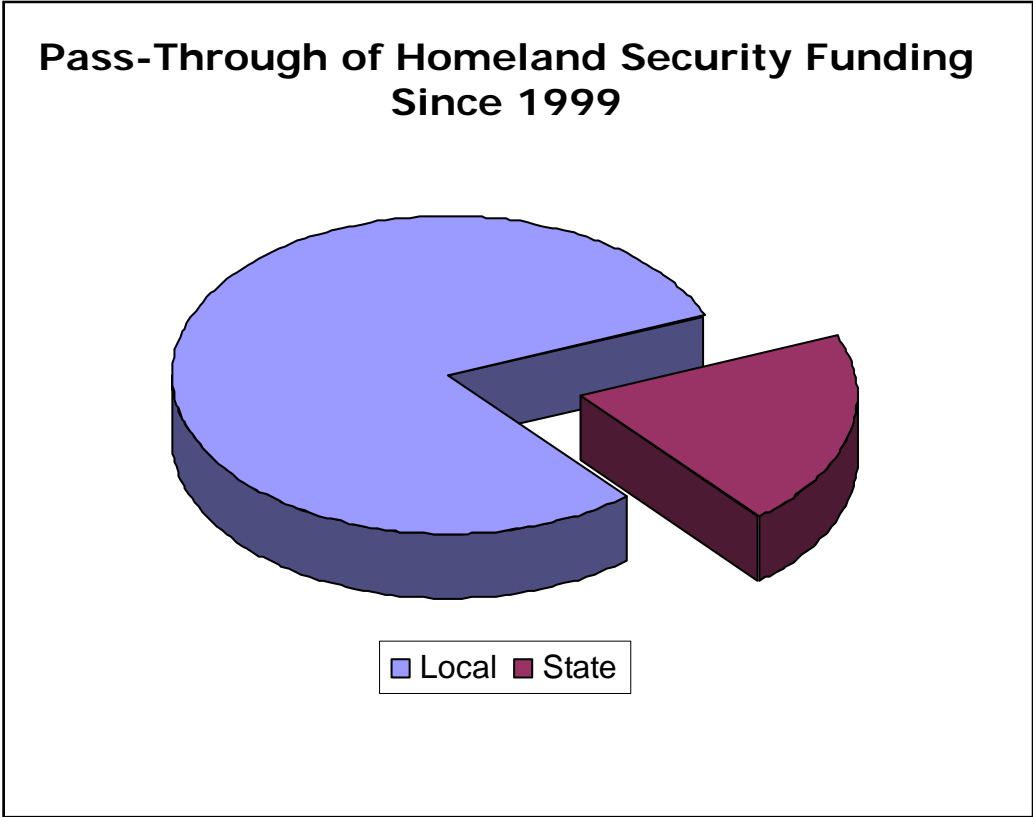
### *Homeland Security Funding Benefits Our Communities and Our State*

More than 80 percent of homeland security funds that have come to Iowa have been passed through to local responders, starting with the DOJ grant when there was no pass-through requirement. These funds have been used to purchase equipment, deliver training to and conduct exercises with their area first responders, and update emergency plans.





The 20 percent state share of homeland security funds has been used to enhance the overall state emergency management system and directly support local responders. Major projects and initiatives undertaken by the State of Iowa include development and implementation of the statewide first responder exercise program, delivery of training, assistance with planning, development of statewide teams such as Urban Search and Rescue, and establishing a communication interoperability network using the Iowa Communications Network.



For more information on homeland security and emergency management activities in Iowa, visit [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org).



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