



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia recognizes the importance of safeguarding the citizens of this State against the possibility of a threat or act of terrorism as well as the need for emergency management in the case of natural disasters; and

WHEREAS: The coordination and control of the State's response to such events falls under the immediate authority and leadership of the Director of Homeland Security ("the Director"); and

WHEREAS: It is essential that a central command be established to coordinate law enforcement and safety operations in response to such events among the various participating units of state government to ensure that the State fulfills its appropriate role in a manner consistent with the best interests of the citizens of the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS: No existing organizational unit of state government is presently charged with the responsibility of such a central command operation;

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That there is hereby created and established the Homeland Security Central Command, which shall be attached to the Office of Planning and Budget for administrative purposes only as defined in O.C.G.A. § 50-4-3, and which shall operate as the central state governmental office for the protection of public safety, facilitation of law enforcement and coordination of state personnel which will be allocated and dispatched as necessary in response to such an event;

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Homeland Security Central Command report to the Governor, and be directed by the following six individuals: The Director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, the Director of the Georgia Emergency Management

Agency, the Adjutant General, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Human Resources Director of Public Health who shall comprise the Homeland Security Central Command. The Central Command shall report to the Governor through the Executive Commander for all command decisions with the Governor having the final authority;

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Executive Commander of the Homeland Security Central Command shall be the Governor's Director of Homeland Security. The Executive Commander may appoint such additional staff as may be required, upon the approval of the Governor. Such additional staff who are not personnel provided to the office by other state agencies or departments in accordance with the Order shall be in the unclassified service of the State Merit System.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That all State Boards, Departments, Agencies, Associations, Institutions, and Authorities shall cooperate fully with the Homeland Security Central Command and the Executive Commander by providing any personnel, equipment, information, or any other assistance that may be requested by the Governor, the Executive Commander, or the Central Command in order to coordinate public safety and law enforcement operations consistent with this Order and pursuant to further direction of the Governor.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Homeland Security Central Command, by and through its Executive Commander, may enter into those agreements and memoranda of understanding as are necessary and proper to effectuate the actions called for pursuant to this Order.

This 25 day of August, 2004.

  
GOVERNOR