

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Fact Sheet

NIMS was developed by the federal government so emergency responders from different jurisdictions and disciplines can work together better to respond to natural disasters and emergencies, including acts of terrorism. NIMS provides a unified approach to incident management; standard command and management structures; and emphasis on preparedness, mutual aid and resource management.

The Department of Homeland Security released the National Incident Management System as required by Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5 – Management of Domestic Incidents and HSPD-8 – Preparedness, and designated the National Integration Center (NIC) Incident Management Systems Division as the lead federal entity to coordinate NIMS compliance.

One important function of NIMS is training for emergency responders and others who would work with emergency response agencies during emergencies and disasters. These include fire, emergency medical services, and law enforcement personnel, as well as municipality chief elected officials, schools, hospitals, volunteer agencies and others.

In Oswego County, EMO Director Patricia Egan is point-of-contact for NIMS compliance. EMO offers the following courses periodically:

- IS-100 – Introduction to the Incident Command System
- IS-200 – Basic ICS
- IS-700 – National Incident Management System – an Introduction

Information on these and other ICS courses is available from the Oswego County Emergency Management Office.

More information on NIMS is available at the New York State Emergency Management Office Website, www.semo.state.ny.us; the National Integration Center, www.fema.gov/emergency/nims, and the Department of Homeland Security, www.dhs.gov.