

# Michigan's Homeland Security Advancements

## 10 Years after the Attacks on September 11, 2001

As our nation remembers the nearly 3,000 individuals who died in the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, Michigan citizens can take solace in knowing our nation and state are stronger and more resilient against threats of terrorism. Over the past decade, Michigan has taken significant strides towards bolstering the state's overall readiness, response, and recovery capabilities for both natural and man-made emergencies. This report highlights a wide-array of advancements Michigan has made in bolstering homeland security efforts since 9/11, which does not necessarily capture all of the advancements Michigan has implemented.

### Highlighted Areas

- Enhancing Michigan's Homeland Security Framework
- Bolstering Michigan's Prevention, Detection and Response Capabilities
- Expanding Information Sharing and Collaboration
- Protecting Michigan's Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources
- Securing Michigan's Northern Border
- Building Resilience to Disasters



Compiled by the Michigan State Police,  
Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division

## Enhancing Michigan's Homeland Security Framework

The risks posed by all types of hazards, including the threat of terrorist attacks, requires the state of Michigan to implement programs and procedures designed to protect the public, prevent loss of property, and preserve quality of life. In accordance with national guidelines, Michigan has put in place an extensive homeland security structure to ensure the necessary plans, procedures, systems, and protocols are established before an incident occurs. Michigan's homeland security framework is a collaborative effort among all state departments, local jurisdictions, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and citizens.

### Building a Sound Homeland Security Structure

#### Role of the Michigan State Police

- **Domestic Preparedness:** The Michigan State Police (MSP) has focused on domestic preparedness since the Oklahoma City Bombing in 1995 ensuring Michigan has the necessary plans in place to prevent, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all hazards, both natural and man-made.
- **[State Response and Coordination:](#)** Since 2002, the Michigan State Police (MSP) Director also serves as the State Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security with the responsibility of directing the state's homeland security response activities and initiatives. The commander of the MSP Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division serves as the Deputy State Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security with the responsibility of coordinating the state's activities for all emergencies and disasters.
- **Homeland Security Advisor:** Since 2011, the MSP Director also serves as the Governor's Homeland Security Advisor responsible for providing the governor with homeland security briefings during significant terrorist incidents, as well as coordinating the strategic homeland security planning of state departments.
- **Homeland Security Focus:** In 2002, the MSP formed a Homeland Security Section in the Emergency Management Division (EMD) with personnel dedicated to coordinating and implementing homeland security efforts statewide. In 2006, the MSP's focus on homeland security was further expanded by renaming the EMD to the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (EMHSD).
- **[Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division:](#)** Since the attacks on 9/11, the MSP has significantly bolstered the number of employees working in EMHSD from 45 members in 2001 to more than 100 members today. The MSP/EMHSD focuses on a number of areas including strategic planning, citizen preparedness, intelligence gathering, information sharing, critical infrastructure protection, and federal homeland security grant programs. Under the authority of the [Michigan Emergency Management Act](#) (Public Act 390 of 1976, as amended), the MSP/EMHSD is responsible for maintaining an effective emergency management system in the State of Michigan.

#### Collaborative Responsibilities

- **[Michigan Homeland Protection Board:](#)** The Michigan Homeland Protection Board (MHPB) serves as an advisory body to the governor with the responsibility to develop, implement, and revise an effective and coordinated homeland security strategy for the state. Per Executive Order 2009-52, the director of the MSP serves as the chairperson of the MHPB, which is comprised of personnel from various state departments.
- **[Homeland Security Advisory Council:](#)** The Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) provides input, advice, and recommendations to the MHPB as deemed necessary. Per Executive Order 2009-52, the deputy state director of emergency management and homeland security

serves as the chairperson of the HSAC, which is comprised of the personnel with state agencies and local homeland security and first responder organizations.

- **Homeland Security Preparedness Committee:** The Homeland Security Preparedness Committee (HSPC) serves as an advisory group to the HSAC to solicit input, receive recommendations, and assist in the development of plans and strategies on various homeland security issues. The HSPC consists of various government officials and members of the public.
- **Coordinating Citizen and Community Emergency Response:** The Michigan Citizen-Community Emergency Response Coordinating Council (MCCERCC) provides the coordination necessary to bring together the various interrelated programs and activities that enhance Michigan's emergency response and volunteer coordination capabilities. Established by [Executive Order 2007-18](#), the MCCERCC is chaired by the MSP/EMHSD and is comprised of representatives from local and state government and the private sector.

### Coordinating Efforts Statewide

- **Regionalization:** To strengthen coordination of homeland security efforts statewide, Michigan moved to a regional homeland security approach in 2006. This structure includes seven homeland security regions, based on geographic location, which is in alignment with the national homeland security priority to expand regional collaboration in each state. Through regionalization, Michigan achieves a balanced level of preparedness and response capabilities across all regions by coordinating planning efforts, promoting the sharing of resources, and leveraging mutual aid agreements.
- **MSP District Coordinators:** To ensure consistency and coordination at all levels, a lieutenant with the MSP/EMHSD is assigned to each of the seven regions serving as a district coordinator and liaison between the state and the regions.
- **Regional Homeland Security Planning Boards:** To promote coordination, each region has a Regional Homeland Security Planning Board comprised of representatives from local jurisdictions in the respective region. The regional boards are responsible for ensuring all homeland security efforts in the region are integrated, consistent, and non-duplicative.

### Planning for All Hazards

- **Statewide Homeland Security Strategy:** In 2009, the state of Michigan completed an enhanced five-year Statewide Homeland Security Strategy (SHSS) integrating the state's collective efforts to ensure the health, safety, and welfare for our citizens. To ensure a standardized approach, each of the seven regions in Michigan developed a Regional Homeland Security Strategy (RHSS) specific to the risks and hazards in the region. The Statewide Homeland Security Strategy focuses on supporting local communities with strategic goals and objectives that are based upon the goals and objectives developed in each of the regional strategies.
- **Michigan Emergency Management Plan:** In 2005, the Michigan Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) was expanded to focus on all types of hazards that could pose the greatest risk to Michigan and to address the necessary resources required to prevent, respond to, and recover from all types of hazards. The MEMP coordinates the emergency management and homeland security activities of Michigan state government. The MEMP is in alignment with national standards requiring an all hazards emergency plan, which includes hazards such as chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives (CBRNE). The MEMP is currently in the process of being updated to enhance the state's emergency preparedness efforts.
- **Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan:** In 2005, the Michigan Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP) was developed with a primary focus on reducing injuries, loss of life, and property damage due to natural hazards. In 2011, the MHMP was updated with an expanded focus on human related and

technological hazards and the strategies for minimizing the risk associated with them. These hazards include civil disturbances, nuclear attacks, public health emergencies, catastrophic incidents, and terrorism and similar criminal activities.

- **Michigan Continuity of Government Plan:** In 2010, the Michigan Continuity of Government Plan was developed with the necessary procedures to ensure state government can continue to function as well as provide essential services to the public during an emergency or disaster.
- **[Citizen and Community Emergency Response Coordination Plan:](#)** The Michigan Community Emergency Response and Citizen Corps Coordination Plan, developed by the MCCERCC, supports and enhances Michigan's homeland security, community health, public safety, and all hazard preparedness with responsible leadership and planning. The plan is designed to coordinate the use of volunteer resources in Michigan, capture best practices in citizen-based emergency response activities, and identify opportunities for local, state, tribal, and federal organizations to collaborate to accomplish the shared goals of Citizen Corps and other citizen-based community emergency response efforts.
- **[Michigan Emergency Management Act:](#)** In 2002, the Michigan Emergency Management Act (Public Act 390 of 1976, as amended) was enhanced to incorporate an emphasis on the state's response to a potential terrorist attack and to provide the governor with the authority to declare a "[heightened state of alert.](#)" The Michigan Emergency Management Act designates the responsibilities and authorities for planning, mitigation, response, and recovery from natural and human made disasters within and outside of Michigan.

## **Bolstering Michigan's Prevention, Detection, and Response Capabilities**

Since 9/11, Michigan's capabilities to detect and respond to a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) incident have significantly increased by assessing capabilities, training first responders, acquiring essential resources, and building collaborative partnerships.

### **Enhancing Michigan's Homeland Security Efforts**

- **Federal Homeland Security Funding:** Since the attacks on 9/11, Michigan has been awarded more than \$471 million in preparedness grant funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Federal preparedness grants help further enable Michigan's emergency responders to protect citizens against threats to our homeland by enhancing security of our borders, critical infrastructures, and nonprofit organizations. Since all emergencies begin at the local level, more than 80 percent of Michigan's total award is allocated to local and tribal governments. The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) serves as the State Administrative Agency (SAA) responsible for overseeing spending of various federal grants.
- **Urban Areas Security Initiative:** Since 2003, Southeast Michigan has been awarded federal funding as a part of the DHS Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) designed to assist in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism. In 2006, the Michigan UASI area was expanded encompassing the City of Detroit and the counties of Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne; the UASI area initially included the City of Detroit and Wayne County.

### **Assessing Michigan's Capabilities**

- **Capability Assessment:** Beginning in 2007, Michigan was one of only two states to participate in a national pilot program to appraise the capabilities at the state and regional levels in preparing for and responding to 12 core areas identified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Following completion of the pilot program, Michigan took the initiative to assess the capabilities of all seven regions and every state agency in all 37 target capabilities identified by DHS. Completed in 2010, this initiative further enabled Michigan to strategically focus resources to enhance the state's overall capabilities in homeland security efforts.

### **Expanding Responder Knowledge and Capabilities**

- **Emergency Management and Homeland Security Training Center:** Since 9/11, the Emergency Management and Homeland Security (EMHS) Training Center, housed under the MSP/EMHSD, has provided training to more than 23,300 public safety officials and encompassing nearly 1,300 courses. The Training Center provides courses in areas such as hazardous materials response, Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) awareness, radiological emergency preparedness, and the incident command system. The EMHS Training Center, initially called the Hazardous Materials Training Center, has been in operation for 20 years.
- **Explosive Recognition and Awareness Training:** The ability of Michigan first responders to recognize potential explosive devices is greatly enhanced as a result of training provided by the MSP Bomb Squad. Each year, the MSP Bomb Squad provides a variety of explosive recognition and awareness training to approximately 4,000 first responders. Already this year, the MSP Bomb Squad has trained more than 4,100 first responders. Training programs include a bomb threat assessment tool for schools, a bomb making materials awareness program, and an explosive recognition guide.
- **Exercising Emergency Plans:** Since 9/11, Michigan has instituted an extensive drill and exercise program to test emergency plans ensuring all first responders are prepared before an emergency strikes. Over the past decade, approximately 3,000 drills and exercises have been

conducted throughout Michigan on a wide-array of scenarios with participating from all levels of government and the private sector.

- **Enhancing Radiological Emergency Preparedness:** Following the attacks on 9/11, Michigan bolstered planning for terrorist type incidents into the state's Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) program designed to protect public, health, and safety in the event of an incident at one of the three nuclear plants located in Michigan (DC Cook, Fermi 2, and Palisades). Since 9/11, nearly 50 radiological exercises have been conducted to enhance the capabilities of Michigan first responders and nuclear plants to prevent, detect, and respond to all types of hazards that may occur.
- **Great Lakes Homeland Security Training Conference & Expo:** Since 1999, Michigan has hosted the "Great Lakes Homeland Security Training Conference & Expo," offering the latest information and training on terrorism and various homeland security initiatives. Following the attacks on 9/11, attendance significantly increased from roughly 100 participants to now nearly 1,500 attendees from across Michigan, surrounding states, and Canada. This conference is hosted by the MSP/EMHSD, in partnership with the Michigan Department of Community Health, Office of Public Health Preparedness and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Detroit Office.
- **Summit Emergency Management Conference:** For more than 15 years, Michigan has held the "Summit Emergency Management Conference" bringing together more than 600 participants each year, including emergency managers, law enforcement, fire, and EMS personnel throughout the state. Following 9/11, the conference curriculum was expanded to offer courses on terrorism and the emergency management field. The Summit is hosted by the MSP/EMHSD and the Michigan Emergency Management Association (MEMA).

## Building Response Measures

- **Mobile Command Vehicle:** In 2005, the Michigan State Police acquired a second Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV) with federal funding to enhance the state's ability to respond and provide support to incidents and major events occurring anywhere in Michigan. The MCV is fully equipped with communications and computer technology to make the unit a self-sufficient emergency command post. The MCV has been used at various emergencies and major events, including the State Fair, Super Bowl XL, and the Rothbury Festival.
- **Urban Search and Rescue:** The Michigan Urban and Search (USAR) organization was established to provide enhanced capabilities in responding to structural collapse emergencies and incidents requiring specialized training in search and rescue techniques. Regions statewide continue enhancing search and rescue capabilities, most notably having a fully functioning Type II USAR team in Southeast Michigan capable of sustaining rescue operations for up to 72 hours.
- **Regional Response Team Network:** In 2001, the Michigan Regional Response Team Network (RRTN) was established to rapidly respond to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) incidents. The RRTN consists of 16 teams statewide, which are each equipped with specialized tools and an emergency response vehicle that serves as a mobile command center. The teams are also capable of responding to a technological and/or natural incident where their training, equipment, and experience may be valuable.
- **MSP Bomb Squad:** In 2004, a full-time Bomb Squad was created within the Michigan State Police capable of statewide response to explosive devices and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) incidents. The MSP Bomb Squad consists of 15 members assigned to seven regional bomb teams. Squad members are "Certified Bomb Technicians" and "HAZMAT" Technician Level trained. Squad members complete at least 60 hours of training every month to keep up to date on the latest explosive devices, this is a significant increase compared to training 16 hours a month prior to 2004. The MSP Bomb Squad also serves as an integral part of the RRTN and partnership with the Michigan National Guard 51<sup>st</sup> Civil Support Team.



- **WMD Civil Support Team:** In November 2001, Michigan was selected to receive a WMD Civil Support Team, known as the Michigan National Guard 51<sup>st</sup> Civil Support Team (51<sup>st</sup> CST), which is comprised of 22 full-time Army and Air National Guard members. The 51<sup>st</sup> CST is trained to respond to potential or actual domestic CBRNE incidents to identify the CBRNE substance or agent, assess the dangers, advise on response measures, and assist with requests for additional state or federal resources.
- **Responding to WMD Incidents:** Since 2003, the MSP Bomb Squad and the 51<sup>st</sup> CST have the first partnership in the nation for responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) incidents. The 51<sup>st</sup> CST has the advanced ability to analyze the device and monitor conditions like air quality, while the MSP Bomb Squad has the capability to render safe an explosive device. The MSP Bomb Squad and the 51<sup>st</sup> CST train together on regular basis.
- **Multi-Agency Response Capabilities:** The MSP Emergency Support Team and Bomb Squad regularly train with the 51<sup>st</sup> CST as part of the "TRIAD" multi-threat response concept. By training together on a monthly basis, Michigan's response capabilities are significantly bolstered to prevent, detect, prepare for, and respond to all potential threats.
- **Detecting a Biological Threat:** Concerns about acts of bioterrorism and infectious disease epidemics significantly escalated after the attacks on 9/11 and the threat of anthrax in letters. To detect biological threats as quickly as possible, jurisdictions in Southeast Michigan actively participate in the federal BioWatch Program since it was established in 2003. The BioWatch Program is the nation's first network of air sensors intended to speed the detection of biological agents that could be released in the air during a biological attack. BioWatch air sampling devices are deployed in more than 30 major U.S. cities.
- **Joint Terrorism Task Force:** Members of the MSP participate in the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The JTTF enhances communication, coordination, and cooperation among agencies at all levels of government representing intelligence, law enforcement, defense, diplomatic, public safety, and homeland security disciplines by providing a point of fusion for terrorism intelligence.

## Expanding Information Sharing and Collaboration

In order to protect Michigan citizens, resources, and critical assets, the state of Michigan has worked extensively to develop a culture of sharing information among all government agencies, law enforcement, private sector members, and the public. Michigan promotes the importance of sharing information as everyone plays a critical role in protecting our state from all types of hazards.

### Creating an Environment of Information Sharing

- **Michigan Intelligence Operations Center:** In 2007, the Michigan Intelligence Operations Center for Homeland Security, known as the MIOC, was established to serve as the state's primary fusion center to build-upon existing information sharing practices and to enhance relationships between law enforcement agencies. Located in the Michigan State Police, the MIOC operates 24/7 providing a critical link to all government and law enforcement agencies, as well as the private sector in sharing critical information as it pertains to all crimes, all threats, and all hazards. The MIOC is one of 72 federally recognized fusion centers nationwide to effectively exchange information and intelligence, and improve the ability to fight crime and terrorism by maximizing resources and streamlining operations. The MIOC is a cooperative effort among all levels of government and the private sector.
- **MSP Operations Section:** The MSP Operations Desk serves as the 24-hour command center for the MSP and maintains a communications network with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. One of the key functions of the Operations Desk is deploying and coordinating MSP resources statewide, such as requests for canine teams, aviation support, and emergency mobilizations. The Operations Desk also serves as an emergency point of contact for local law enforcement agencies, including requests for issuing Amber Alerts.
- **Michigan Information Sharing Environment Base Plan:** Underscoring the importance of collaboration, Michigan created an Information Sharing Environment (ISE) Base Plan in 2010 to provide and facilitate the means for sharing terrorism information among all appropriate Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as private sector entities. The ISE Base Plan formalizes the process of sharing information among all partners enhancing Michigan's intelligence capabilities.
- **Fusion Liaison Officers:** As a part of the ISE Base Plan, Michigan recently implemented a Fusion Liaison Officer (FLO) Program, which is an expansive statewide network of trained personnel designed to maximize resources and improve the state's ability to support criminal investigations and identify terrorist threats. Currently, more than 200 individuals from law enforcement agencies and the private sector have been trained in the FLO Program to assist the MIOC in coordinating the sharing of information pertaining to terrorism or other criminal threats.
- **Reporting Suspicious Activity:** The MIOC is a partner in promoting the national campaign, "If You See Something, Say Something™", to educate citizens on the indicators of suspicious activity and importance of notifying law enforcement officials. To enhance the safety and security of Michigan residents, the MIOC maintains a tipline and online tool for citizens to report suspicious activity to law enforcement officials. For all emergencies, citizens should call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies, citizens are encouraged to submit a tip by calling 1-855-MICHTIP (855-642-4847), or submit a tip online at [www.michigan.gov/michtip](http://www.michigan.gov/michtip).



## Protecting Michigan's Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources

Since the 9/11 attacks, the State of Michigan has worked diligently to advance the protection of our state's critical infrastructure and key resources (CIKR) and is recognized as a leader nationwide for establishing a collaborative effort and sharing of information between all partners. With more than 85 percent of our nation's critical infrastructure being owned and operated by the private sector, Michigan has built a strong partnership between the public and private sectors to protect our state's assets.

### Building a Framework of Partnerships

- **Critical Infrastructure Protection Section:** Since 2007, the Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Section within the MSP/EMHSD provides the unifying structure for enhancing and protecting the resiliency of Michigan's CIKR by building and maintaining strong working relationships between the public and private sectors. The CIP Section serves as a valuable resource for owners and operators of CIKR by assisting with site assessments to identify potential risks, providing training to enhance security measures, and sharing critical information statewide.
- **Critical Infrastructure Protection Desk:** In 2008, a Critical Infrastructure Protection Desk was incorporated into the MIOC to serve as a conduit for sharing information between the public and private sectors. One of the primary functions includes monitoring incidents related to CIKR and providing partners with alert notifications for situational awareness. The CIP Desk routinely shares information with more than 500 partners via an email subscriber service and provides alert notifications to approximately 1,600 partners statewide. The success of Michigan's CIP Desk has been used as a model by other states while developing their own CIP program.
- **Michigan Infrastructure Coordinating Committee:** In 2008, the Michigan Infrastructure Coordinating Committee (MICC) was formed to help strengthen the partnership between the public and private sectors by directly involving input from representatives of both sectors. The MICC consists of members from the public and private sectors, as well as representatives from all [19 CIKR sectors](#) recognized in Michigan. As a result of this collaborative partnership, the MICC was recognized as a national "best practice" by DHS for effectively implementing the [National Infrastructure Protection Plan](#) (NIPP).
- **Great Lakes Hazards Coalition:** Michigan is an active member of the Great Lakes Hazards Coalition (GLHC) formed in 2009, which is an association of public and private sector stakeholders in the Great Lakes region from both the U.S. and Canada. The GLHC enhances the protection, response, recovery, and resilience of CIKR located in the Great Lakes region by improving information sharing and communications region wide, providing the foundation for regional cross-sector collaboration, and enhancing the education and awareness of regional critical infrastructure interdependencies and critical nodes.

### Training Public Safety and Security Officials

- **Focus on Critical Infrastructure Protection Training:** Since 2006, Michigan has held three Critical Infrastructure Protection Workshops bringing together members of the public and private sector to discuss initiatives and best practices for securing Michigan's critical infrastructure and key resources. In 2011, Michigan significantly expanded the focus of providing a wide-array of CIP training by offering an extensive track of CIP workshops at the annual Great Lakes Homeland Security Training Conference and Expo.
- **Counterterrorism Training for Private Sector:** In 2008, a Private Sector Counterterrorism Awareness Workshop was held in Michigan to educate nearly 300 private security managers and directors statewide in homeland security trends and issues. One of the largest gatherings of private sector security officials in Michigan, the workshop provided an opportunity for participants to gain insight into the objectives and techniques of terrorists, learn how to recognize potential indicators and warning signs of terrorist activity, and understand efforts underway to address

potential threats. The workshop was hosted by the MSP/EMHSD in partnership with DHS and local agencies.

## Securing Michigan's Critical Infrastructure

- **Michigan Infrastructure Protection Plan:** In 2011, the Michigan Infrastructure Protection Plan (MIPP) was developed to provide a unifying framework for advancing a viable CIKR protection program for the state of Michigan that is in alignment with the NIPP. The MIPP outlines the priorities and objectives of all [19 CIKR sectors](#) identified in Michigan to strengthen the state's preparedness, timely response, and rapid recovery affecting CIKR in the event of an attack, natural disaster, or other emergency.
- **Critical Asset Management System:** Since 2008, Michigan has utilized the national [Automated Critical Asset Management System](#) (ACAMS) to collect and store valuable information on nearly 300 locations identified as critical infrastructure in Michigan. Through the use of ACAMS, law enforcement, public safety, and emergency response personnel are better equipped to respond to CIKR sites with the ability to access incident response and recovery plans, assess potential vulnerabilities, and build partnerships before an incident occurs.
- **Security and Target Hardening Measures:** As a part of the federal Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP), Michigan has significantly bolstered security and target hardening measures at approximately 70 critical infrastructure sites statewide. Since 2005, Michigan has received more than \$8 million in BZPP funding assisting the state in identifying and/or enhancing procedures outside the security perimeter of a potential critical infrastructure target, as well as identifying lines of communication and coordination between facilities and first responders.
- **Protecting Critical Infrastructure Information:** To safeguard the sharing of sensitive and proprietary business information of Michigan's critical infrastructure, Michigan took the necessary steps to become accredited under the DHS Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) Program in 2009. As an accredited state in PCII, Michigan can assure the proper handling and release of secure information to partners in the public and private sectors. As a result of Michigan's leadership and commitment to PCII, DHS selected Michigan to participate in a pilot program designed to enhance each state's ability to access the list of authorized users ultimately strengthening the partnership between public and private sectors.

## Safeguarding Michigan's Schools

- **Schools as Critical Infrastructure Sector:** In 2003, Michigan identified schools as a critical infrastructure sector allowing educational facilities to directly benefit from federal homeland security funding to enhance the school's emergency preparedness and response capabilities. Michigan was the first state nationwide to identify schools as a critical infrastructure sector, in addition to the 18 federally designated sectors.
- **Homeland Security School Initiative:** Beginning in 2003, Michigan developed the Homeland Security School Initiative to encourage public school administrators statewide to assess their school's emergency preparedness and response capabilities. Through this program, more than 400 school districts approximately \$8 million to update their school safety plan to include CBRNE components and to conduct an emergency exercise. Approximately 94 percent of public school buildings in Michigan participated in the program, which was recognized as a "Best Practice" by DHS in 2004. The Homeland Security School Initiative was expanded in 2009 to include to nonpublic schools statewide.
- **School Bomb Threat Assessment Tool:** Most recently, Michigan developed a School Bomb Threat Assessment Tool to assist school administrators in evaluating safety and security issues when confronted with a bomb threat. More than 1,800 first responders and school administrators

statewide have been trained to help schools respond to a bomb threat in a systematic and orderly manner.

- **School Preparedness and Response Curriculum:** Beginning in the fall of 2011, Michigan schools will receive a new Preparedness and Response Curriculum for grades K-12 on lessons related to emergency preparedness, awareness of hazards and disasters, preventing dangerous situations, and post-event coping skills. The purpose of the new curriculum is to provide Michigan students with the tools and resources to prepare, respond to, and recover from an emergency. The curriculum was developed in partnership with the Michigan Departments of [Community Health](#) (MDCH), [Education](#) (MDE), and [State Police](#) (MSP).

## Securing Michigan's Northern Border

Securing Michigan's northern border requires a strong partnership and collaborative effort among all public safety officials, government agencies, and members of the private sector to share intelligence information and maximize resources to prevent criminal activity and a potential terrorist attack.

### Collaborating Resources

- **[Partnering with Federal Operational Integration Center](#)**: In March of 2011, Michigan's capabilities to secure the state's northern border were significantly enhanced by the opening of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Operational Integration Center (OIC) located at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Michigan. The MSP and MIOC maintain a strong partnership with the OIC to protect Michigan's northern border by combining resources and gathering, analyzing, and sharing intelligence information. By working together, public safety officials are better able to protect Michigan's northern border by ensuring effective and efficient measures to protect, deter, and respond to all threats and crimes along the northern border.
- **MSP Aviation Support along Northern Border**: Since 2010, the MSP Aviation Unit has supported the CBP with patrolling the international border in Southeast Michigan. The primary mission for MSP aviation is observing and tracking activities along the border that may be a violation at international crossings, waterways, or critical infrastructure sites. This partnership strengthens the security of Michigan's northern border and enhances the response capabilities of local, state, and federal resources along the border.
- **Integrated Border Enforcement Team**: The MSP maintains a continuing presence on the Integrated Border Enforcement Team (IBET) formed in 2002, which is a joint bi-national law enforcement team involving agencies from both Canada and the United States. The team analyzes and responds to information gathered from a collection of border agencies pertaining to illegal cross border activity.
- **Operation Channel Watch**: Since 2007, the MSP and additional state agencies have actively participated Operation Channel Watch led by the U.S. Coast Guard, which is designed to gather intelligence and intercept illegal activity associated with the international border. Operation Channel Watch brings together law enforcement officers from federal, state, and local agencies to carry out joint patrols along shared waterways between Michigan and Canada to improve interoperability, maximize public service, and promote sharing of resources and collaborative intelligence gathering.

### Enhancing Border Capabilities

- **Border Interoperable Communications**: In Fiscal Year 2010, Michigan was awarded \$4 million as a part of the DHS Border Interoperability Demonstration Project (BIDP) designed to enhance interoperable communications along and across the border. With the use of BIDP funding, Michigan will improve communications along the border with Canada by upgrading equipment and creating a gateway connecting the Michigan and Canadian public safety communications systems.
- **Bolstering Law Enforcement Capabilities**: Since 2008, Michigan's law enforcement capabilities along the northern border significantly increased with the award of nearly \$10 million under the DHS Operation Stonegarden Grant Program (OPSG). Michigan and other northern border states were incorporated in the OPSG program in 2008, which is designed to purchase equipment and increase law enforcement patrols enhancing capabilities to detect and prevent criminal activity along the shared land and marine borders. In 2008, funding was distributed to the counties of Chippewa, St. Clair, and Wayne due to their shared land border with Canada. In 2009, the OPSG program expanded to include international water borders of the U.S. in addition

to shared land borders, which significantly increased the number of eligible counties in Michigan to 24 counties.

- **Commercial Vehicle Enforcement:** Since 9/11, the MSP Motor Carrier Division, now called the Traffic Safety Division (TSD), has worked extensively to secure Michigan's northern border by promoting commercial vehicle safety enforcement measures, including conducting security visits on bulk hazardous materials carriers in Michigan. Since 2004, the TSD has received [nearly \\$7.6 million in federal funding](#) to enhance commercial motor vehicle security at Michigan's international border crossings. Using federal funding, the TSD has expanded commercial vehicle enforcement efforts at the Ambassador Bridge in Detroit, the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron, the Detroit-Windsor Truck Ferry, the International Bridge in Sault Ste. Marie, and the tunnel connecting Detroit and Windsor.

## Building Resilience to Disasters

During the attacks on 9/11, one of the biggest challenges first responders faced was difficulty communicating with responders from other agencies due to different communication systems. Since 9/11, Michigan has greatly expanded the ability for public safety personnel to communicate during an incident, share critical information in a timely manner, and leverage all available resources in an efficient and effective manner.

### Strengthening Interoperable Communications

- **Public Safety Communications System:** Since 9/11, Michigan has greatly expanded the ability for public safety personnel to communicate during an incident using the [Michigan Public Safety Communications System](#) (MPSCS). The MPSCS allows more than 1,300 public safety agencies to communicate statewide, as well as with bordering states and Canada. The MPSCS is recognized as one of the world's premier public safety two-way radio systems with more than 48,500 mobile radios, 231 towers, and covering an area of more than 58,000 square miles. Since 9/11, the MPSCS has provided interoperable communications during more than 7,000 events, both planned and unplanned, including the Calhoun County oil spill in 2010, the East Coast blackout in 2003, and all NASCAR races at the Michigan International Speedway (MIS) since 2006.
- **Communications Capabilities:** In 2007, Michigan was awarded \$25 million as part of the federal Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant. The PSIC grant assisted Michigan emergency responders with enhancing their communications capabilities through the acquisition, deployment, and training of interoperable communications systems. PSIC funding enabled the MPSCS to increase the number of towers and radios statewide. Michigan received the 10<sup>th</sup> largest PSIC grant award among all states and territories nationwide.
- **Regional Communication Coordination:** Since 2006, Michigan has participated in the [FEMA Region V](#) Regional Emergency Communication Coordinating Working Group (RECCWG). The RECCWG is designed to enhance interoperable communications by assessing the survivability, sustainability, and interoperability of local emergency communication systems. The RECCWG is also responsible for ensuring a process exists for the coordination of effective multijurisdictional, multi-agency emergency communication networks for use during natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

### Disseminating Timely and Accurate

- **Online Critical Incident Management System:** Michigan began using an online critical incident management system in 2004, called E Team, allowing first responders statewide to monitor a developing situation, request and track resources, and keep other responders informed with ongoing situational information. More than 9,000 people have been trained to use E Team, including various local, state, and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, and the private sector. E Team has been used to manage and share information during approximately 1,100 emergency incidents and planned events since its deployment.
- **Emergency Notifications:** Since 2004, Michigan utilizes an alert and notification application, called CodeSpear Smart Messaging (SmartMsg), to send urgent notifications to more than 1,500 emergency personnel in Michigan. Smart Messaging is used to rapidly send information to multiple personnel and electronic devices at a time during a variety of incidents, such as notifying state agency personnel to respond to the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), sharing information on developing situations related to critical infrastructure and key resources, as well as mobilizing state resources during an incident.
- **Emergency Alert System:** In 2010, the Michigan Emergency Alert System (EAS) enabled a new public warning delivery system allowing direct input and use by the MSP and local emergency



managers to key broadcast stations statewide. The Emergency Management Network, referred to as EMnet, is a secure, satellite and Internet based emergency communications system that allows for expedited and redundant delivery of critical emergency messages to radio, TV, cable systems, Internet, and other devices.

### **Leveraging Resource Capabilities**

- **National Emergency Management Mutual Aid:** In 2002, Michigan joined the [Emergency Management Assistance Compact](#) (EMAC), which is an interstate agreement that streamlines the assistance one governor can lend to another following a natural disaster or terrorist attack. Michigan has provided assistance on several occasions to other states through EMAC, including sending a contingent of law enforcement personnel to Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, deploying MSP/EMHSD staff to assist Minnesota during the flooding events in 2009, and most recently, sending MSP/EMHSD staff to assist New York with recovery efforts following Hurricane Irene in August 2011.
- **Michigan Emergency Management Mutual Aid:** Modeled after EMAC, the [Michigan Emergency Management Assistance Compact](#) (MEMAC) was established in 2006 to help Michigan's local political subdivisions leverage vital public safety services and resources more effectively and efficiently during a large-scale disaster. By utilizing all available resources within the state, MEMAC helps ensure Michigan can successfully respond to disasters and catastrophic events across jurisdictional boundaries. There are currently more than 300 jurisdictions statewide participating in MEMAC.