



## EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JBE 2023 - 6

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### *AMENDING THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) DESIGNATION*

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- WHEREAS,** it is necessary and desirable that all federal, state, local, and tribal emergency agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management;
- WHEREAS,** the President in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5, directed the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (hereafter “NIMS”), which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity;
- WHEREAS,** the collective input and guidance from all federal, state, local and tribal homeland security partners has been, and will continue to be, vital to the development, effective implementation and utilization of a comprehensive NIMS;
- WHEREAS,** to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management, it is critical that federal, state, local and tribal organizations utilize standardized terminology, standardized organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters;
- WHEREAS,** the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communication, facilities and resources will improve the state’s ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local and state agency readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management process;
- WHEREAS,** the requirement for NIMS was adopted by Executive Order Number JBE 2016-21;
- WHEREAS,** it is necessary to update Executive Order Number JBE 2016-21 to adopt a National Qualification System based on NIMS doctrine and recognized best practices;
- WHEREAS,** the updated National Qualification System will provide a coordinated multi-disciplined approach to the management of minor, major, or catastrophic disasters and large-scale or complex incidents and preplanned events that will improve the ability of State and Local emergency management personnel to prepare and implement emergency management plans and programs; and
- WHEREAS,** the best interests of the citizens of the State of Louisiana are served by amending the adoption of the standardized incident command system to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management and align with current best practices.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

**SECTION 1:** The National Incident Management System (NIMS) shall continue to be the standard of incident management for the State of Louisiana, as established within the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), which continues the standard for incident management created pursuant to Executive Order Number JBE 2016-21.

**SECTION 2:** The NIMS standards are hereby updated to include the National Qualification System, which will provide a coordinated multi-disciplined approach to the management of minor, major, or catastrophic disasters and large-scale or complex incidents and preplanned events that will improve the ability of State and Local emergency management personnel to prepare and implement emergency management plans and programs.

**SECTION 3:** All other requirements previously mandated by Homeland Security Presidential Directive HSPD-5, commencing in Fiscal Year 2005, and formally adopted by Executive Order Number JBE 2016-21 shall remain in effect as previously written.

**SECTION 4:** All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the State of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to continue to cooperate with the implementation of the provisions of this Order and Executive Order Number JBE 2016-21.

**SECTION 5:** This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023.

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**GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA**

**ATTEST BY  
THE GOVERNOR**

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**SECRETARY OF STATE**