

## **Pennsylvania All Hazards Incident Management Team Overview**

The Pennsylvania All Hazards Incident Management Team (PA-IMT3) was established under Executive Order #2008-4 of the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania which was published in the PA Bulletin on May 13, 2008. The two primary agencies which were tasked with coordination of the team were the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) and the Office of the State Fire Commissioner. In accordance with the Executive Order, other state agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction were directed to do the following:

- (1) Fully support the PA-IMT3.
- (2) Cooperate with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and the Office of the State Fire Commissioner by providing personnel, equipment, and technical assistance and information, as necessary, to carry out the functions and responsibilities of the PA-IMT3.
- (3) Accommodate their respective PA-IMT3 members' participation in training, drills, exercises, activations and deployments.
- (4) Execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, which provides the terms under which the Executive Order will be implemented.

Agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction were solicited for member participation, with preference given to those individuals who had previous experience in emergency response or emergency operations support roles and who met all the prerequisite NIMS training requirements. MOU's were executed with the agencies which specified the terms and conditions of member participation and included agency reimbursement procedures IMT members participation in training sessions, exercises and deployments. Initial training for team members was conducted using the United States Fire Administration All Hazards IMT training program, which was followed by position specific training programs coordinated through the National Emergency Training Center, Emergency Management Institute.

Over the years since its inception, the PA-IMT3 has responded to numerous incidents throughout the Commonwealth to coordinate response and recovery efforts in support of local jurisdictions. Most recently, the team completed an EMAC mission to coordinate initial response and recovery operations in Ellicott City, Maryland after flash flooding devastated the community. At the peak of the incident, the team had staffed 38 positions, with a number of positions being filled by members from other All Hazards Incident Management Teams (AHIMTs) from Virginia, Maryland, the National Capital Region, and Colorado.

Currently the team is comprised of approximately 80 members, which come from nine separate state agencies. The team maintains a cache of equipment at its Special Operations Center (SOC), which includes six prime movers, five command/office trailers, multiple cargo trailers, generator trailers, light tower trailers, Utility Task Vehicles (UTV's), and a Western Shelter System which is comprised of two 35' x 17' shelters and two 20' octagon shelters with complete HVAC systems. The team is designed and equipped to either operate out of an existing facility or to establish a fully functional field Incident Command Post (ICP).

For more information on the PA-IMT3 visit

<http://www.pema.pa.gov/responseandrecovery/Pages/PA-IMT.aspx> or contact Greg Pijar, IMT Administrator via phone at (717) 346-4440 or via e-mail at [gpijar@pa.gov](mailto:gpijar@pa.gov)



Pictured above are members of the PA-IMT along with other AHIMT members from Hampton Roads, Virginia and the National Capital Region who operated on an EMAC mission in Ellicott City, MD from July 30<sup>th</sup> – August 14<sup>th</sup>.



Pictured above, (Left) PA-IMT Administrator Greg Pijar briefs PEMA Director Richard Flinn, Jr. and Executive Deputy Director Jeff Thomas on current operations in Ellicott City; (Right) PA-IMT Incident Commander Kevin Nelson briefs personnel at the Incident Command Post in Ellicott City.