



Jim Justice
Governor of West Virginia

October 3, 2018

Jeff S. Sandy, Cabinet Secretary
Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Building 1, Room W-400
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

MG James A. Hoyer, The Adjutant General
State of West Virginia
Office of the Adjutant General
1703 Coonskin Drive
Charleston, West Virginia 25311

Jimmy Gianato, Director
West Virginia Division of Homeland Security
and Emergency Management
1703 Coonskin Drive
Charleston, West Virginia 25311

Re: Agency Realignment for Joint Emergency Response and Planning

West Virginia needs to have a comprehensive and coordinated effort to respond to emergency and disaster situations to reduce the loss of life and property, lessen the impact of future disasters, respond quickly to save lives, protect property and the environment, meet basic human needs, and provide economic growth and resilience in the aftermath of a catastrophic incident. Paramount to such activities is coordinated planning, response, recovery and resiliency between the government agencies, first responders and other entities. Excessively complex and disjointed plans can be deficient and ineffective, exasperating a crisis situation and delaying recovery operation. Disjointed plans at a strategic level, can significantly degrade the integration and synchronization of the disaster response. The Adjutant General's Department is uniquely positioned with the personnel, equipment and experience to serve in such a role.

Accordingly, as of October 1, 2018, all West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management activities will fall under the direction and management of the Adjutant General's

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

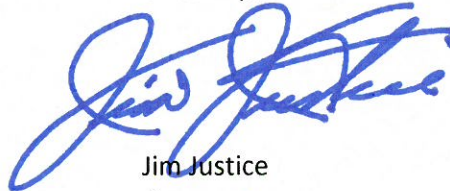
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Department and West Virginia Military Authority. I am directing the Adjutant General to conduct all necessary reviews and audits to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Please make such recommendations which are necessary to effect that end.

I will work with my staff to introduce legislation which will make permanent these actions and will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

I am committed to West Virginia and to ensuring that our Government takes all actions to protect its people and their property. If disaster strikes, I assure you, we will stand ready to respond quickly and effectively.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Justice", is written over the typed name and title.

Jim Justice
Governor