

**TITLE 1: GOVERNMENT**  
**DIVISION 2: EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

**§ 20143. Duties and Responsibilities.**

(a) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall seek appropriate input and coordination from federal agencies within the United States Department of Homeland Security; such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Secret Service, Office of Infrastructure Protection, Cyber Security Program, Office of Domestic Preparedness and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall seek further input from agencies within the United States Department of Justice; such as the Office of the U.S. Attorney General, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Justice Program, and the Office of the U.S. Marshall; and shall seek additional counsel from local agencies.

(b) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall be responsible for, as the State Coordinating Official (SCO) in coordination with the Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR) upon consultation with the Governor during a major disaster to request for Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

(c) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall be responsible for response coordination of significant emergencies and major disasters with public safety, first responders, non-governmental, volunteer organizations and/or private sectors.

(d) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall be responsible for developing and implementing appropriate training of regional, state and local responders who may be involved in responding to a terrorist incident that could include conventional, chemical, biological, and explosive or nuclear weapons.

(e) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall be responsible for establishing Specialized Task Forces to ensure that the CNMI has the capability to respond to All Hazard Incidents or Events including terrorism.

(f) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall be responsible in coordinating Specialized Task Forces to be deployed to all domestic terrorism threats or events, assist local responders and coordinate additional state resources that may be needed. The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall coordinate appropriate protocol, staffing, training and equipment guidelines for such a team.

(g) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall be responsible to coordinate with the Department of Public Safety in the development, coordination and management of an All Hazard Response Program including the protocols, procedures, policies and certification in emergency vehicle operations course and to allow the use of blue and red emergency lights (combo lighting) for task force responders.

(h) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall be responsible for developing and establishing Memorandum of Understanding

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**DIVISION 2: EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

(MOU) or Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) as needed to accomplish their established objectives with various CNMI government agencies, non-governmental organizations or private sectors.

(i) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall be responsible for identifying any needed changes in CNMI State Laws or the CNMI All Hazard Emergency Operations Plan to accomplish their established objectives.

(j) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall serve as the clearing house to identify and designate all federal grants related and pertaining to Homeland Security and shall be responsible for assisting and coordinating in the application for relevant federal grants that has been identified by the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

(k) The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall be responsible for developing, coordinating and managing the State-Wide (CNMI) Interoperability Communications program.

(l) The Special Assistant of Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall present an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the status of the CNMI's Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Such report shall be presented no later than January 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

**Source:** PL 14-63, § 5; repealed and reenacted by PL 18-4 § 5 (§ 103) (March 15, 2013).