

EXECUTIVE ORDER

WHEREAS; The threat to life and property is increasing due to a number of factors including increased production, storage and transportation of essential but potentially noxious, combustible, radioactive and otherwise hazardous materials; which fact was recently and dramatically demonstrated by the deadly anhydrous ammonia incident in Crete; and

WHEREAS; modern, and rapidly changing technology and systems engineering can be effectively and economically used to protect people and their property against this threat, and

WHEREAS; all levels of government and the private sector have vital interests and responsibilities in the improvement of emergency services essential to the welfare and safety of our citizens, and

WHEREAS; there are numerous agencies and groups from government and the private sector conducting research and programs applicable to improving emergency services,

However, there is an urgent need for a centralized management to exploit and coordinate this effort,

NOW THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of Nebraska, by virtue of the authority and responsibility vested by the Constitution and laws of this State, I do hereby declare it is the policy of this State to accomplish by means of a coordinated program the necessary research, planning and cooperative action to prevent or mitigate these hazards to life and property. Accordingly,

I HEREBY DIRECT:

I. That the Adjutant General (1) establish a Division of Emergency Services within the State Civil Defense Agency and (2) organize, as he may consider helpful, Task Forces and Advisory Committees to assist in this effort, to include representatives from the local, State and Federal governments and the private sector.

II. The Director of the Division of Emergency Services shall be responsible for this program and will provide advice to me, through the Adjutant General, relative this program and such liaison and advice as may be mutually beneficial to the Chairman and members of the Government and Military Affairs Committee of the Legislature. Additional responsibilities of the aforementioned Director are as outlined herein. These responsibilities are outlined in broad terms so as to permit and encourage aggressive action to accomplish the development of a statewide coordinated effort inclusive of all governmental and nongovernmental organizations involved and interested in this essential public safety program.

III. Under the supervision of the Adjutant General the aforementioned Director shall accomplish the following:

1. Conduct studies of disaster and emergency service operations so as to develop the most practical and effective improvements in such services both from an organizational and technological viewpoint.

2. Accomplish or coordinate studies and system evaluation of emergency services to include insuring effective visibility of resultant reports - all aimed at improvements in such services.

3. Coordinate the development of an emergency services inventory or data bank to include organization, facilities, personnel, supplies and supply resources. Seek improvements as to the data collection process and maintain on a current basis such data.

4. Foster the development of an aggressive and coordinated research program to exploit advances in technological and operational concepts for improvement of the emergency services of the State.


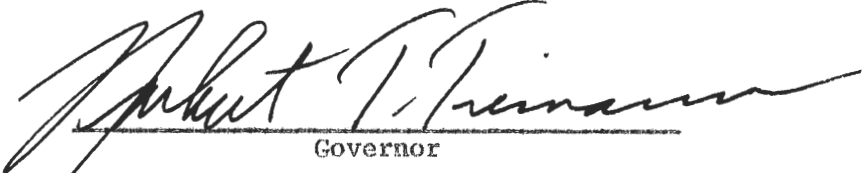
5. Support, as appropriate, the private sector in the development of a viable, nonprofit research center in furtherance of the objectives of this program.

6. Recommend policy for, and upon approval, assist in the coordination of emergency services plans and programs of local and State government agencies.

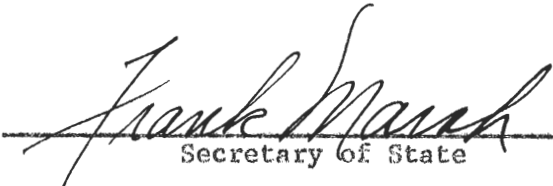
7. Promote and encourage the statewide adoption of uniform policies and standards by all who provide emergency services. Seek out and recommend for correction those conflicts or ambiguities in authority and responsibility that impair the effectiveness of adequate emergency services.

IV. Personnel of all Executive Agencies are directed and personnel of other governmental organizations and the private sector are requested to cooperate and assist, to the maximum extent practical, in furthering the purposes of this order.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed. DONE at Lincoln This 23rd day of June in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.



Governor

Attest:


Secretary of State