



Homeland
Security

Subject: HSPD-8 and Lessons Learned

The President issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive-8 “*National Preparedness*” on December 17, 2003. The Secretary of Homeland Security named the Executive Director of the Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (DHS/SLGCP) to coordinate HSPD-8 Implementation. HSPD-8 establishes national policies to prevent and respond to threatened or actual domestic terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies by: creating a national domestic all-hazards preparedness goal; providing mechanisms for improved delivery of Federal preparedness assistance to State and local governments; and outlining actions to strengthen the preparedness capabilities of Federal, State, and local entities. HSPD-8 paragraph 19 establishes the requirement for the Lessons Learned Information System. “*The Secretary shall develop and maintain a system to collect, analyze, and disseminate lessons learned, best practices, and information from exercises, training events, research, and other sources, including actual incidents, and establish procedures to improve national preparedness to prevent, respond to, and recover from major events.*” For more information on HSPD-8, please visit the ODP website: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp>.