

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

INFORMATION SUMMARY FOR DALLAS' TESTIMONY FOR LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

- OES is the most experienced, innovative and effective emergency management agency in the world today.
- OES coordinates the overall state response to major emergencies in support of local government.
- OES is responsible for assuring the state's readiness and ability to respond, and recover from all types of emergencies.
- OES assists local governments with their emergency preparedness, response and recovery efforts by providing crucial linkage for individuals and local governments to access federal disaster assistance programs through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- During major emergencies, OES may call upon all state agencies to provide support. OES has provided local governments with terrorism planning guidance for many years and published a stand-alone guide for local governments in 1998.
- OES maintains specialized equipment. For example, communication vans and portable satellite units for voice and data transmissions which we dispatch to disaster sites.
- For many years, OES has been extensively involved in terrorism planning. The California Terrorism Response Plan was signed by Governor Davis in 1999 as an annex to our California State Emergency Plan. The Plan is a critical document for guiding and directing the management of emergency and disaster operations related to terrorism incidents.
- OES chairs the State Strategic Committee on Terrorism (SSCOT). This group is represented by individuals from federal, state and local government agencies for the purposes of developing terrorism plans, provide training and working with the federal government on grants.
- OES also chairs the State Terrorism Threat Advisory Committee (S-TAC). This group includes representatives from OES, Department of Justice, National Guard, Highway Patrol and the FBI as well as consulting agencies such as FEMA, the ATF and U.S. Coast Guard, etc. as necessary. The S-TAC provides updates and advice to the Governor, through OES on the emergency at hand.
- The Office for State and Local Domestic Preparedness Support (OSLDPS) provided funding by Public Law 105-277 for equipment and planning grants to the states. OES is designated as California's State Administrative Agency (SAA). OSLDPS mission was to implement a national preparedness program to enhance the capacity of state and local agencies to respond to terrorist events.
- Grant monies were received from OSLDPS and utilized for equipment grants to all California counties and planning grants to enable each county to conduct both a vulnerability assessment and needs assessment. These assessments are due to Attorney General Ashcroft by December 15, 2001. This assessment data is being used to develop a three-year Statewide Strategic Plan to enhance response capabilities which is also due by December 15, 2001.