NIMS/ICS Background History

 While a local government handles most emergencies, local government may need assistance from neighboring jurisdictions, the State, and/or the Federal government when a major incident overwhelms its resources.

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) was developed, under a presidential directive, so responders from different jurisdictions and disciplines can work better together to respond to natural disasters and emergencies, including acts of terrorism.

State, Territorial, Tribal, and Local jurisdictions will be required to meet the FY 2007 NIMS implementation requirements (via ICS training) as a condition of receiving federal preparedness funding assistance (including DHS & FEMA grants) FY 2008.

Through Incident Command System (ICS) training, NIMS provides a unified approach to incident management; standard command and management structures; and emphasis on preparedness, mutual aid and resource management.

It is important to recognize that NIMS implementation is a dynamic system, and the doctrine and implementation requirements will continue to evolve as our prevention, preparedness, response and recovery capabilities improve and our homeland security landscape changes. New personnel will continue to need NIMS training, and NIMS processes will still have to be exercised in future years.

On June 15, 2005, the Cameron County Commissioners' Court unanimously adopted NIMS as the standard for incident management (both policy and organizational/operational levels) in the County.

NIMS/ICS Course Training

All training, regardless of setting (online or classroom), is FREE!

Because the majority of the employees are considered "front-line" staff (first responders, i.e. law enforcement, public works, public heath, etc.) as per their job description, they would only be required to take certain "basic" courses that provide a general overview of the ICS structure.

On the other hand, their respective superiors (first line supervisors, middle-management, etc.) would not only be required to take the courses that are required to be taken by "front-line" staff but also additional courses.

NIMS/ICS Course Training Guidelines
(based in part, but not exclusively, on current job description)

Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Non-governmental personnel to include: *Entry level first responders & disaster workers* • Emergency Medical Service personnel • Firefighters • Hospital staff • Law Enforcement personnel • Public Health personnel • Public Works/Utility personnel • Skilled Support Personnel • Other emergency management response, support, volunteer personnel at all levels	• FEMA IS-700.a: NIMS, An Introduction • ICS-100.a: Introduction to ICS or equivalent
Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Non-governmental personnel to include: *First line supervisors*, single resource leaders, field supervisors, and other emergency management/response personnel that require a higher level of ICS/NIMS Training.	• FEMA IS-700.a: NIMS, An Introduction • ICS-100.a: Introduction to ICS or equivalent • ICS-200.a: Basic ICS or equivalent
Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Non-governmental personnel to include: *Middle management* including strike team leaders, task force leaders, unit leaders, division/group supervisors, branch directors, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center staff.	• FEMA IS-700.a: NIMS, An Introduction • FEMA IS-800.b: National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction* • ICS-100.a: Introduction to ICS or equivalent • ICS-200.a: Basic ICS or equivalent • *In FY07, ICS-300: Intermediate ICS or equivalent*
Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Non-governmental personnel to include: *Command and general staff*, select department heads with multi-agency coordination system responsibilities, area commanders, emergency managers, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center managers.	• FEMA IS-700.a: NIMS, An Introduction • FEMA IS-800.b: National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction* • ICS-100.a: Introduction to ICS or equivalent • ICS-200.a: Basic ICS or equivalent • *And in FY07, ICS-300: Intermediate ICS or equivalent* • *In FY07, ICS-400: Advanced ICS or equivalent*

NIMS/ICS Course Offering (Links are current as of Monday, June 06, 2011)

Basic Courses (available online 24/7; click title for more information and to take course online; if you took IS-700, ICS-100.a, and/or ICS-200.a, you must now take IS-700.a, ICS-100.b and ICS-200.b)

IS-700.a	ICS 700 introduces NIMS. It explains the purpose, principles, key components and benefits of NIMS. The course also contains "Planning Activity" screens giving you an opportunity to complete some planning tasks during this course. The planning activity screens are printable so that you can use them after you complete the course. **PREREQUISITE: NONE; ONLINE: approx. 3 hours ; classroom: approx. 4 hours**
ICS-100.b (replaces ICS-100.a)	ICS 100, Introduction to the Incident Command System, introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). *ALTERNATIVE: Law Enforcement (IS-100.LEb) uses law enforcement examples, Public Works (IS-100.PWb) uses public works examples & Healthcare/Hospitals (IS-100.HCb) uses healthcare examples.* **PREREQUISITE: NONE; online: approx. 3 hours; classroom: approx. 8 hours**
ICS-200.b (replaces ICS-200.a)	ICS 200 is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS-200 provides training on and resources for personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position within the ICS. **PREREQUISITE: ICS-100.b; online: approx. 3 hours; classroom: approx. 8 hours**

Advanced Courses (ICS-300 & ICS-400 are NOT available online; if you took IS-800 or IS-800.a, you must now take IS-800.b)

ICS-300	The course material is specific to personnel who will be serving in the following positions: command staff, section chiefs, strike team leaders, task force leaders, unit leaders, division/group supervisors, branch directors, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center staff. **PREREQUISITE: ICS-100.b & ICS-200.b; online: N/A; classroom: approximately 2-3 days**
ICS-400	The course material is specific to personnel who will be serving in the following positions: command or general staff in an ICS organization, select department heads with multi-agency coordination system responsibilities, area commanders, emergency managers, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center managers. **PREREQUISITE: ICS-100.b, ICS-200.b & ICS-300; online: N/A; classroom: approximately 2-3 days**
IS-800.b	This course introduces the National Response Plan (NRP). It is intended for government leaders-- senior elected and appointed leaders and emergency management practitioners. **PREREQUISITE: NONE; online: approx. 3 hours; classroom: N/A**