



The County Working Group Process

New Jersey has been and remains cognizant of the need to include and encourage the active involvement of pertinent participants representing all relevant disciplines in the process of homeland security planning. Within each county government, a multi-discipline working group is convened to act on the operational and procurement details of the programs. The County Working Group (CWG) is staffed with representatives from the various disciplines of first responders and key representatives of the county governmental structure believed to be the core disciplines needed to effectively and intelligently discuss issues relating to prevention, mitigation and recovery/response to a terrorist attack.

The members of the CWG meet regularly to prioritize and develop the strategies and spending plan proposals based upon the needs and information they receive from the county, municipal and private sector participants. The CWG serves as the forum for open dialog and discussion between the various disciplines, county government and business community. Working together the members determine needs, coordinate activities and monitor the implementation of homeland security initiatives. As needs and situations dictate, counties may add to the membership. The CWG is minimally comprised of the following:

- OEM Coordinator
- Freeholder Director or County Administrator
- County Fiscal Officer
- County Prosecutor or Designee
- County Sheriff or Designee
- County Police Chief's Representative
- County Fire Marshal or Coordinator
- County EMS Coordinator
- County HazMat Team Representative
- County Medical Examiner
- County Health Officer
- Largest Population City Representative
- Second Largest Population City Representative
- Critical Infrastructure Coordinator
- Domestic Preparedness Planner
- Healthcare Representative
 - Hospitals, Level I and II Trauma, Blood Banks

Each federal fiscal year, the NJ OHSP receives funding from DHS/FEMA under the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP). HSGP funding is used to build capacity and enhance target capabilities at the state and local levels and to implement the goals and objectives included in state homeland security strategies and initiatives in the State Preparedness Report. HSGP funding is used to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks and other disasters. The HSGP may fund a wide range of preparedness activities, to include planning, organization, equipment purchase, training, exercises and management and administration costs.

DHS/FEMA's grant guidelines require that 80% of the HSGP funding awarded to NJ OHSP be passed through to local units of government. The NJ OHSP passes these funds through to each of the 21 counties. Each county, via its respective CWG, is required to program their pass through funding consistent with both DHS/FEMA and NJ OHSP grant guidelines to support counter terrorism and emergency preparedness initiatives. Funding allocations made by NJ OHSP to each of the 21 counties is based on the relative risk profile of each county. This risk profile is comprised of population/population density, threat, vulnerability and consequence.

Each CWG is required to submit annual spending plans to the OHSP for review and approval that outlines how they have prioritized their respective funding. The multi-disciplinary CWG's members are required to represent their constituent first responder agencies throughout their counties in order to facilitate the NJ OHSP's bottoms-up planning approach to funding homeland security projects. Municipalities and agencies within each of the 21 counties that have a homeland security mission and purpose can contact their respective CWG to discuss their project proposals.

COUNTY WORKING GROUP CHAIRS:

Atlantic County	Vincent J. Jones, County OEM Coordinator
Bergen County	Lt. Dwayne Razzetti, County OEM Coordinator
Burlington County	Kevin Tuno, County OEM Coordinator
Camden County	Sam Spino, County OEM Coordinator
Cape May County (Co-Chairs)	Prosecutor Robert Taylor, County Prosecutor Francis McCall, County OEM Coordinator
Cumberland County	Joseph Sever, County OEM Coordinator
Essex County	Garey Chin, Essex County Director Homeland Security
Gloucester County	J. Thomas Butts, County OEM Coordinator
Hudson County	Jack Burns, County OEM Coordinator
Hunterdon County	George Wagner, Director of Public Safety
Mercer County	Dean Raymond, County OEM Coordinator
Middlesex County	John Ferguson, County OEM Coordinator
Monmouth County	Michael Oppegaard, County OEM Coordinator
Morris County	Scott DiGiralomo, County OEM Coordinator
Ocean County	Chief Michael Osborn, Ocean County Sheriff's Department
Passaic County	Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdez, County Prosecutor
Salem County	Prosecutor John Lenahan, County Prosecutor
Somerset County	Doug Vornlocker, Acting County OEM Coordinator
Sussex County	Mark Vogel, County OEM Deputy Coordinator
Union County	Chris Scaturo, County OEM Coordinator
Warren County	Frank Wheatley, County OEM Coordinator