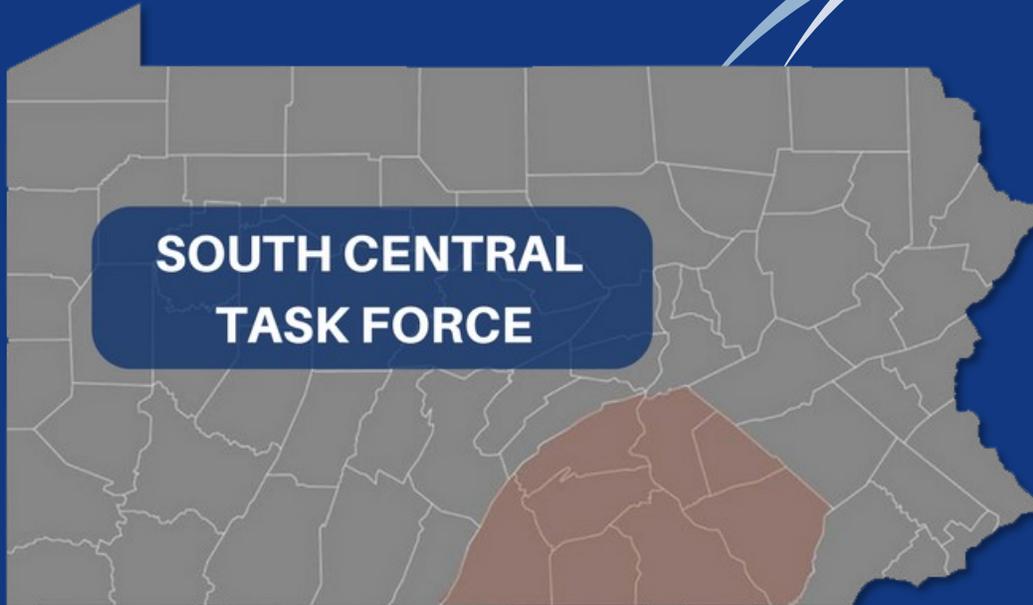




South Central Regional Task Force

Homeland Security: A Return on Our Investment



Counties

- Adams
- Cumberland
- Dauphin
- Franklin
- Lancaster
- Lebanon
- Perry

State-Level Coordination



STATE COORDINATION AND PROTECTION

No one can do it alone. In Pennsylvania, multiple jurisdictions, agencies, and disciplines work together to strengthen our ability to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events.

Pennsylvania Criminal Intelligence Center (PaCIC) is managed by the Pennsylvania State Police and is the primary all-hazards fusion center comprised of analysts and subject matter experts from local, state, and federal agencies. In 2016, PaCIC fulfilled almost 40,000 requests for information and developed 57,434 products including briefs and alerts ranging from dirty bombs and the increased findings of Carfentanil in heroin, to attacks on natural gas facilities. In 2016, PaCIC completed 43 event assessments for emergency response, public sector and private sector partners.

Critical Partners

The private sector owns and operates an estimated **85%** of infrastructure and resources that are critical to our physical and economic security. GOHS has mapped over 30,000 sites in PA.



Duke Energy's gas-powered plant, Masontown, Pennsylvania.

Increased Demand, Decreased Funding

Homeland Security Grant Program Funding (HSGP) has dropped 48% since 2010. However, demand for services continues to increase. For example, in 2016, PaCIC received 993 reported cyber compromises, an increase of over 400 since 2015.



How HSGP Funds Support Agribusiness and Food Safety:

- Lab systems and equipment critical to the safety of **PA's food supply** and **agriculture systems**.
- Food safety **communications and inspection** system for approximately 130 local and state agency health jurisdictions with food safety responsibilities.
- Equipment to enhance **lab testing** for real-world food contamination incidents.
- PA is positioned to lessen the devastating effects of a disease outbreak on PA's poultry industry through **mapping and database investment**.

The **Governor's Office of Homeland Security (GOHS)** helps to secure Pennsylvania from acts of terrorism and reduce the vulnerability of PA's critical infrastructure. GOHS provides training, exercises, and learning opportunities not otherwise available to participants. Since 2012, GOHS has provided more than **30 training courses** to over 4000 public and private partners, **28 tabletop** prevention and protection exercises, and engaged over 7500 participants with **29 seminars**.

The **Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)** is the lead agency for the annual Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and State Preparedness Report (SPR). The result is a comprehensive strategy for funding capability gaps at state and regional levels.

PEMA maintains deployable assets purchased using HSGP funds to support counties during disasters; such assets include trailer-mounted generators, bathroom shower trailers, light tower trailers, non-potable water trailers, and remotely operated camera trailers.





Vital Statistics

The Regional Task Force is a model for intergovernmental and multi-jurisdictional cooperation.

- Population: Over 2 Million
- Area: Approximately 5200 Sq. Miles
- Municipalities: 300+
- Fire/Rescue: 290
- Police Departments: 180+
- County Sheriff Departments: 8
- Emergency Med Service Agencies: 135
- Health Care Facilities: 17
- Special Operations Units: 25+



Investment



Capabilities

- All Hazards Incident Management Team
- Amateur Radio Working Group
- Behavioral Health Working Group
- County Animal Response Teams (CART)
- Decontamination Companies
- EMS Task Forces
- Explosive K-9 Working Group
- Foam Task Forces
- Forensic Evidence Teams
- GIS Working Group
- Hazardous Materials Response Teams
- Hospital Response Teams
- Information & Intelligence Working Group
- Law Enforcement Tactical Teams
- Mobile Communications Units
- Regional Traffic Incident Management Equipment Cache
- Structural Collapse Rescue Teams
- Technical Rescue Teams

Regional Coordination

SOUTH CENTRAL TASKFORCE: A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

The South Central Task Force is a regional emergency preparedness organization that facilitates regional collaboration, communications and coordination for problems that may exceed local and county operational capabilities. Through the Executive Committee, consisting of the County Emergency Management Coordinators, SCTF provides its stakeholders with an enhanced capability to effectively respond to large, complex or low frequency/high risk events and incidents.



Law enforcement strike teams are one of the capabilities the SCTF brings to the region.

The Task Force spreads the cost of its specialized emergency response capabilities across the eight county region. SCTF and its leadership team have been recognized by a range of national and state emergency preparedness organizations for their professional contributions to the homeland security and all-hazards emergency management communities. The Task Force leverages its Homeland Security Grant funds to enhance regional emergency preparedness.

REGION STRONG

Through subcommittees, working groups and response assets, the SCTF supports region-based planning and response activities for those incidents that exceed local and county capabilities.

The Mass Evacuation Working Group brings together key stakeholders involved with planning, training and implementing large-scale public protective actions. The Working Group has initiated the process to



develop a Mass Evacuation Plan. The multi-region effort includes the Southeastern PA Regional Task Force and the National Capital Region. Activities have expanded in support of Traffic Incident Management with our state partners, including PennDOT and the PA Turnpike Commission.

ACTIVE SUPPORT FOR THE REGION

The SCTF **Agriculture Safety Subcommittee** integrates county, state and federal activities in the areas of agriculture planning, protection and response. Examples of recent projects and initiatives include:

- Sponsoring multi-discipline training and exercises on a range of agriculture safety topics.
- Developing Farm Emergency Response Guides for use by the farming community.
- Developing training, procedures and exercises for conducting large animal decontamination operations.
- Engaging agriculture stakeholder groups, such as State Fair Board members, on potential animal and food/agriculture vulnerabilities and risks at a local or county fairs.

The All-Hazard Incident Management Team (AHIMT) provides planning, support and response capacities to regional jurisdictions. It works closely with the PA Type 3 IMT and other regional-based AHIMT's to share best practices, and training and exercise opportunities.



ALL-HAZARDS READY

Major snow events and catastrophic multi-vehicle accidents are nothing new on the miles of Interstates that traverse the region. Exercises performed annually with emergency responders in the region prepare them to handle all types of disasters. Funds provided through the HSGP make training, exercises and coordinated response possible.

A multivehicle accident on Interstate 78 in Lebanon County.

The Business, Industry and Infrastructure (BI&I) Subcommittee provides networking and collaboration opportunities for the emergency preparedness community and over 850 private sector organizations and related government agencies. Among the "success stories" is the voluntary BI&I security vulnerability assessments. In 2016-2017, the Subcommittee conducted 21 voluntary, no cost assessments in support of its customer base. In addition, BI&I coordinates a robust training and education program to support the public and private sectors in the areas of business continuity, cybersecurity, congregation security, and the Joint ASIS/InfraGard / SCTF Security Symposium.

The **South Central PA Healthcare Coalition** enhances regional medical and public health preparedness. SCTF stakeholders in the pre-hospital, hospital and long-term medical care sectors form the Coalition.

Programs and priorities include:

- Assessing and analyzing local and regional facility vulnerabilities.
- Sustaining regional healthcare training and equipment.
- Delivering FEMA-sponsored Hospital Emergency Response Training (HERT) for over 125 regional hospital personnel.
- Facilitating the coordination and delivery of the regional healthcare exercise program.
- Implementing the PATrak patient tracking systems.
- Planning and developing a specialized SCTF medical response based upon the Southeast Regional Task Force model.



EQUIPPED, TRAINED AND READY

The SCTF has supported the delivery of over 1,000 all hazard trainings and over 200 exercise opportunities. Given the breadth of SCTF stakeholders and their affiliated agencies, these students and participants then become “change agents” and have a significant multiplier effect that will go well beyond the life of the Homeland Security Grant Program. The Task Force leverages HSGP funds to train thousands within the region.

Year	# of Deliveries	# of Students	Total Hours
2016	78	2,310	20,307
2015	58	2,005	20,866
2014	74	2,411	23,805
2013	76	2,589	27,053



The SCTF **Exercise Working Group (EWG)** is a regional resource that meets monthly to facilitate the coordination and delivery of county, regional and inter-regional exercise activities, consistent with the DHS Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP). With members from both local, county, regional, state and federal agencies, EWG establishes a framework for increasing both the efficiency and effectiveness of the regional exercise program. *Over 100 exercises were conducted in 2016-2017.*



Highlights of the bi-annual SCTF Wide Vigilance series exercise include:

- Approximately 4,000 individual participants from 143 affiliated agencies.
- 7 major scenario events at 23 separate locations.
- Regional resources engaged for at least 72 hours.
- Some agencies engaged in activity over an extended two week period.
- 11 Department of Homeland Security core capabilities were demonstrated and evaluated.
- 12 primary exercise planners participated in a one year planning cycle.

THREE MILE ISLAND EMERGENCY DRILLS

Source: Lancaster Online

Lancaster County is one of only five counties nationwide within 10 miles of two nuclear power plants — Exelon’s Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station and Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station. “It’s hard to keep people interested and prepared for something that hasn’t happened in 40 years, but we have to be ready if it would happen five minutes from now,” said the Lancaster County’s Emergency Management Director.



COMMUNICATIONS

A portion of the HSGP funds are integral to improvements made to the regional public safety communications infrastructure that have enhanced regional and interstate interoperability and networking. Improvements include:

- Installing regional non-commercial private microwave system that ties all eight counties into a single network sharing secure digital voice and data communications.
- Enhancing local and county-based Mobile Communications Units (MCU) has increased communications to state and federal levels.
- Acquiring portable and mobile 800 MHz radios enables regional emergency response resources to communicate with other state and regional task forces for those incidents with multi-regional impacts.
- Establishing a fully-tested and operational back-up communications network for the 17 regional healthcare facilities.
- Developing the first command and communications relay built in the National Capital Region (NCR).



CRIMINAL JUSTICE / INTEGRATED RESPONSE

The Task Force must have the ability to react to changes in regional threats and vulnerabilities. Public safety responders face many challenges posed by active shooter/active assailant scenarios.

SCTF has initiated an aggressive program to advance the concept of integrated response operations between law enforcement, EMS and fire/rescue personnel. Activities include hosting:

- 32 Rescue Task Force (RTF) presentations which contacted over 1,050 emergency responders in response to active assailant scenarios.
- 7 RTF functional exercises, which involved 524 responders and 749 observers/students.
- The US DHS Active Shooter Incident Management (ASIM) train-the-trainer course. 47 responders attended the training, including 24 law enforcement, 11 Fire / Rescue, 7 EMS and 5 communications dispatchers.



TRAGEDY STRIKES RURAL PA: THE REGION RESPONDS



What started out as a beautiful day would turn into a mass casualty incident that shocked the nation. In 2006, an armed man entered the West Nickel Mines Amish School in Bart Township, Lancaster County. The actions that followed resulted in the deaths of several young children, and life-threatening injuries to others. It ended with the assailant killing himself.

The ability to utilize air medical assets from three different states, rapidly deploy ground-based EMS resources, and establish an effective unified command organization were critical benchmarks in

the quick response that followed. Over the next four days, SCTF personnel and resources provided additional support to the community as it coped with a myriad of post-incident issues and challenges.