

**WHATCOM COUNTY  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2005-02**

**DESIGNATION OF THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) AS  
THE BASIS FOR ALL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT IN WHATCOM COUNTY.**

**WHEREAS**, the President in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5, directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS), which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity;

**WHEREAS**, the collective input and guidance from all Federal, State, local, and tribal homeland security partners has been, and will continue to be, vital to the development, effective implementation and utilization of a comprehensive NIMS;

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary and desirable that all Federal, State, local and tribal emergency agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management;

**WHEREAS**, to facilitate the most efficient and effective incident management it is critical that Federal, State, local, and tribal organizations utilize standardized terminology, standardized organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training, and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters;

**WHEREAS**, the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities and resources will improve the County's ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management processes.

**WHEREAS**, the Incident Command System components of NIMS are already an integral part of various incident management activities throughout the County, including current emergency management training programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks (9-11 Commission) recommended adoption of a standardized Incident Command System;


**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Pete Kremen, Executive of Whatcom County, by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the County Charter and Laws of the State of Washington, do hereby establish the NIMS as the standard for incident management in Whatcom County. I further direct all employees with responsibilities for emergency response to assist the County to comply with NIMS requirements by completing the FEMA IS 700 course NIMS, which is available through the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management website.  
<http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/dem/contact/role.jsp#responder>

STATE OF WASHINGTON)


) ss.

COUNTY OF WHATCOM )

On this 16th day of May 2006, before me personally appeared Pete Kremen, to me known to be the Executive of Whatcom County and who executed the above instrument and who acknowledged to me the act of signing and sealing thereof.

  
PETE KREMEN  
County Executive



  
LINDA M. KASPER  
NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State of  
Washington, residing at Bellingham.  
Commission expires: 3/29/09