

NCR Emergency Preparedness Council – May 13, 2015

Update on Cyber Security Focus for 2015

Background:

The EPC established cybersecurity as a focus for 2015 with a goal of reviewing and approving a draft Cyber Annex to the *Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP)* by the end of the year.

A draft Cyber Annex to the *Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP)* was developed under an FY'2012 UASI grant and is intended to support the region's public policy in preventing and protecting against, responding to, and recovering from any cyber incident of regional significance. Once approved, it is expected that a Cyber Annex would augment the *RECP* in guiding the region's overall preparation for and response to cyber-related emergencies and disasters.

In order to move the regional Cyber Annex from draft to final adoption, the CISO Subcommittee from RESF-2 will take the lead in working with the appropriate RESF committees and other stakeholders to ensure appropriate regional collaboration in planning, reviewing, and developing revisions to the draft Annex.

Issues/Implications:

Based upon feedback and lessons learned from a regional cybersecurity workshop that was held in February 2015, it was apparent that work is needed to further identify the types of cyber incidents/events and thresholds that would trigger notifications to other stakeholders beyond RESF-2 under the *RECP* and draft Cyber Annex. A workshop is being planned with a target audience that includes members of the Chief Information Officer, Emergency Management Committees, and other relevant stakeholders. The outcome from this workshop would be a draft list cyber incidents and regional notification processes, building on existing communication processes.

Work is also needed to integrate regional work on cybersecurity with other existing efforts. Examples include the Virginia Cybersecurity Partnership, the Virginia Cybersecurity Commission, and development of a Virginia Joint Cyber Security Operations Center (CSOC). Looking forward, there will likely be a need to strengthen partnerships and collaboration between local governments in the NCR, state agencies, Federal agencies, and private sector owners and operators of critical infrastructure.

Questions for discussion by the EPC:

1. Approval to move cyber workshop to June 2015 to take advantage of information learned from the Cyber Guard prelude exercise on June 2nd with DHS and Virginia.
2. Agreement that the RESF-2 CISO Subcommittee will have the lead role in reviewing and revising a draft Cyber Annex to the *Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP)* for presentation to the EPC in November 2015.