

U.S. Government Interagency Domestic Terrorism Concept of Operations Plan

Mission

The mission of the U.S. Government Interagency Domestic Terrorism Concept of Operations Plan (CONPLAN) is to establish conceptual guidance for assessing and monitoring a developing threat; notifying appropriate Federal, state, and local agencies of the nature of the threat; and deploying the requisite resources to assist the Lead Federal Agency (LFA) in facilitating interdepartmental coordination of crisis and consequence management activities.

Purpose

The purpose of the CONPLAN is to provide overall guidance to Federal, state, and local agencies concerning how the Federal government will respond to a potential or actual terrorist incident or threat that occurs in the United States, particularly one involving weapons of mass destruction. The CONPLAN outlines an organized and unified capability for a timely, coordinated response by Federal agencies to a terrorist threat or act.

Overview

The CONPLAN was developed through the efforts of six primary departments and agencies with responsibilities as identified in Presidential Decision Directive/NSC-39 (PDD-39):

- Department of Justice/Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- Federal Emergency Management Agency;
- Department of Defense;
- Department of Energy;
- Environmental Protection Agency; and
- Department of Health and Human Services.

This plan, by being consistent with relevant PDDs, Federal law, the Attorney General's Critical Incident Response Plan, the PDD-39 Domestic Guidelines, and the Federal Response Plan and its Terrorism Incident Annex, explains the need for the U.S. government to prevent, deter, defeat, and respond decisively to terrorist attacks. The Department of Justice has worked in conjunction with these six departments and agencies to provide a forum to participate in planning and exercising activities in order to develop, maintain, and enhance the Federal response capability.