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| Subject: Designation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the Basis for Incident Management | Policy Number | Effective Date |
| | G1 | Jan. 27, 2005 |

Purpose:

This policy establishes standard incident management procedures to be utilized by public safety agencies utilizing resources of the Pima County Wireless Integrated Network to manage incidents requiring activation of mutual aid services.

Background:

The President of the United States 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.

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.

Implementation of the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities and resources is a requirement for award of future federal grant funds to enhance local agency readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management processes beginning with FY 2005 requests. Federal funds are required to supplement implementation of the Pima County Wireless Integrated Network.

Policy:

- A. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) is established as the standard by which participating member agencies will manage mutual aid incidents supported by the Pima County Wireless Integrated Network (PCWIN).
- B. PCWIN Participant agencies are expected to:
 - 1) Formally recognize the NIMS and adopt the NIMS principles and policies;
 - 2) Develop a strategy for full NIMS implementation;
 - 3) Incorporate NIMS into training programs and exercises;
 - 4) Incorporate NIMS into Emergency Operations Plans (EOP); and
 - 5) Institutionalize the use of the Incident Command System (ICS).

References:

Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD-5)
NIMS Integration Center (www.fema.gov/nims)