

# **DHS OPERATIONAL PLANNING DIRECTIVE**

---

## **I. Purpose**

This Directive establishes the responsibilities and policy for Department of Homeland Security (DHS) operational planning. It institutionalizes a common understanding of DHS operational planning and outlines Component and Joint Task Force (JTF) responsibilities for the development of Secretary-directed and Operational Planning Guidance (OPG)-directed DHS operational plans.

## **II. Scope**

This Directive applies to Secretary-directed and OPG-directed, multi-Component or JTF DHS operational planning efforts. DHS operational planning translates Department strategy and policy guidance into Department mission execution through the development of operational plans, which guide and direct Component and JTF activities for priority threats and challenges to the Homeland.

## **III. Authorities and References**

- A. Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002), as amended
- B. National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, Public Law 114-328, section 1901 and 1902
- C. DHS Operational Planning Guidance for Fiscal Year 2017, dated November 4, 2016
- D. DHS Operational Planning Guidance for Fiscal Year 2016, dated December 17, 2015
- E. DHS Operational Planning Guidance for Fiscal Year 2015, dated February 6, 2015
- F. Presidential Policy Directive – 8, “National Preparedness”, dated March 30, 2011

G. Homeland Security Presidential Directive – 5, “Management of Domestic Incidents,” dated February 28, 2003

## IV. Responsibilities

A. The **Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans**:

1. Manages the execution of this Directive, to include the implementation of instructions, polices, and reference materials for DHS operational planning;
2. Approves Secretary-directed and OPG-directed DHS operational plans, unless otherwise delegated;
3. Tasks the Assistant Secretary for Strategy, Plans, Analysis and Risk to chair the DHS Operational Planning Executive Steering Committee (OP ESC);
4. Leads the development, coordination, and vetting of the annual DHS Operational Planning Guidance (OPG) with Components and JTF partners through the DHS OP ESC;
5. Nominates DHS operational plans for the DHS Exercise and Evaluation Program and National Exercise Program Cycle;
6. Assists Components and JTFs in validating tasked plans through coordination between DHS operational planning stakeholders and DHS exercise stakeholders through Exercise and Evaluation Programs in accordance with Secretarial requirements;
7. Establishes, promulgates, and maintains DHS operational planning policy and guidance;
8. Develops and promulgates a methodical and repeatable planning process to develop Department-wide operational plans; and
9. Provides DHS Components with training on DHS operational planning through the Department Planner’s Course Series.

B. The **Component heads** and **Joint Task Force (JTF) Directors**:

1. Designates executives or flag officers to represent their respective Component on the DHS OP ESC;
2. Supports and collaborates on the development of the annual OPG through the OP ESC;

3. Leads or supports the execution of DHS operational planning tasks assigned in the Secretary-directed and OPG-directed operational planning;
4. Maintains, exercises, and completes After Action Reports for DHS operational plans under their purview; and
5. Ensures completed DHS operational plans are revised and exercised, as appropriate.

## V. Policy and Requirements

### A. Policy:

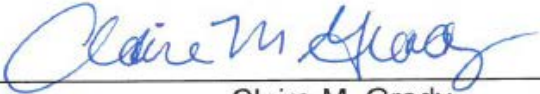
1. All counterterrorism-related planning efforts are coordinated with the DHS Counterterrorism (CT) Coordinator and, at the discretion of the CT Coordinator, briefed to the Counterterrorism Advisory Board (CTAB).
2. DHS operational plans assigned by the Secretary through the OPG or other planning directive will include reference to the alignment with the National Planning Frameworks in the OPG Scoping Statement and the DHS Operational Plan.

### B. Requirements:

1. Components and JTFs use the DHS operational planning formats promulgated by the Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans for Secretary-directed and OPG-directed DHS operational plans.
2. Nothing in this directive, impedes, inhibits, or diminishes the authority granted by statute, executive order, or Secretarial delegation or directive, to the Components to perform the Component's assigned missions and functions.

## VI. Questions

Address questions concerning this Directive to the Office of the Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Claire M. Grady  
Under Secretary for Management

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date