



State of Louisiana

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY
AND
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

MARK A. COOPER
DIRECTOR

PRESS RELEASE

Veronica Mosgrove
(225)358-5667
veronica.mosgrove@la.gov

GOHSEP Announces Mid-Year Reductions

BATON ROUGE (October 22, 2010) – Today, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) announced a \$1,110,859 budget reduction plan that will ensure the agency can continue to deliver critical services and more value.

Savings include eliminating unfilled vacancies in areas such as planning, operations, and regional support. Other savings include reducing and/or eliminating travel, overtime, the purchase of general office supplies, and professional services contract support.

"This reduction plan is responsible because it spends less and delivers more value. Our mission remains and will always be to do what it takes to protect the citizens of Louisiana from harm's way. We are constantly looking for ways to do business more efficiently," said GOHSEP Director Mark Cooper.

One example of conducting business more efficiently is the recently launched Louisiana Business Emergency Operations Center (LA BEOC). This center, funded by private donations and grants, is the first of its kind in the country and was recently named a best practice by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. It will be utilized before, during, and after a disaster to leverage Louisiana's businesses when possible to provide products and services that are more economical and efficient than utilizing the traditional government model. Innovations like this one are what GOHSEP is striving for during tough economic times.

In the past two years, GOHSEP has cut costs by \$4,669,438 while successfully handling a number of crises including the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

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