



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department of Emergency Management*

MICHAEL M. CLINE  
State Coordinator

JANET L. CLEMENTS  
Deputy Coordinator

JAMES W. KECK.  
Deputy Coordinator

10501 Trade Court  
Richmond, Virginia 23236-3713  
(804) 897-6500  
(TDD) 674-2417  
FAX (804) 897-6506

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**Memorandum**

To: The Honorable Timothy M. Kaine  
Members of the General Assembly

From: Michael M. Cline

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael M. Cline".

Subject: § 44-146.18 - Status of State and Local Emergency Operations Plans

The Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (COVEOP) is currently under revision to conform to the organizational structure of the National Response Plan (NRP). The Commonwealth functions under the operational concept of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The COVEOP was promulgated in April 2004. Volumes IV and VIII have been consolidated into one volume—Volume IV - Hazardous Materials and Terrorism Consequence Management Plan. The Commonwealth's Emergency Management program has received full accreditation through the national Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP).

Of the 140 jurisdictions responsible for an emergency management program, 112, or 80%, maintain a current Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). These numbers reflect a slight decrease from the previous year's percentage. This may simply be a result of some jurisdictions missing their suspense of December 31, 2006. The jurisdictions are also realigning their EOPS to conform to the recommendations of the NRP, which may have resulted in a temporary delay in completion of the update. The addition of three planners to the Local Planning Branch of the Preparedness, Training and Exercises Division will provide localities with resources to assist them in plan revision.

If you have questions, please contact me.

MMC/jc

cc: The Honorable John W. Marshall  
The Honorable Robert P. Crouch, Jr.  
Division of Automated Legislative Services

*"Working to Protect People, Property and Our Communities"*