



National Troopers Coalition

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January 9, 2009

The Honorable Barack Obama
President-Elect
White House Transition Office

Dear President - Elect Obama,

On behalf of the National Troopers Coalition (NTC) and its 45,000 State Troopers and Highway Patrol Officers, I urge your support to retain the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The NTC is on the front lines of response to our nation's natural disasters, terrorist attacks and first responder incidents. Clear lines of responsibility are vital to adequately respond to varying critical incidents. Separation of FEMA from DHS would create unnecessary bureaucratic confusion and delays in responding to the potential jurisdictionally unclear events we are called upon to respond to. The NTC remains committed to improving our nation's emergency response capabilities and we believe retaining FEMA within DHS will help us achieve our mission.

Please do not fragment or weaken our vital critical response efforts and keep FEMA under the direction of the Department of Homeland Security. Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions on this matter, please feel free to contact the NTC at the number provide on this correspondence.

Respectfully,
Dennis J. Hallion

Dennis J. Hallion
Chairman
National Troopers Coalition

