



### NHSC Vision

Enhanced homeland security to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies, disasters and catastrophes through strategic partnerships, collaborative strategies and information sharing.

### NHSC Mission

Provide a forum of key national organizations through effective communication, collaboration, and coordination that positively promotes national policies, strategies, practices and guidelines to preserve the public health, safety and security of the nation.

### More Information

NHCS is currently administered by the **National Emergency Management Association**  
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Lexington, KY 40578  
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## The National Homeland Security Consortium

is a forum for public and private sector disciplines to coalesce efforts and perspectives about how best to protect America in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The Consortium consists of 21 national organizations that represent local, state and private professionals. The consortium represents the array of professions that deliver the daily services that are vital to safety and security of the United States. The Consortium represents the first and secondary responders as well as those who will provide the sustained effort necessary to respond to any major emergency, including leadership and direction by elected and appointed officials.

The Consortium is an example of expanded local, state and private coordination necessitated by growing national demands. Our members recognize that people in the U.S. live in large population centers that have complex, overlapping and interrelated governmental and political structures. At the same time rural and less populated regions of the country also have citizens that expect and deserve safety and security from any hazard that may threaten their communities. Consequently, state and local government organizations that we represent have taken the initiative to significantly expand their collaboration in order to respond effectively in a crisis. We know that none of us can be effective attempting to work in isolation.

The Consortium provides a neutral forum for organizations to exchange ideas, have candid discussions, and galvanize input to the federal government. Although consensus is not always possible, we aspire to group understanding.

## NHSC Objectives

1. Provide a broad-based resource and sounding board on homeland security issues for all national stakeholders.
2. Share information, knowledge, experiences, and practices.
3. Contribute to the homeland security debate and discussion.
4. Focus efforts to resolve issues.
5. Develop recommendations in identified areas of common interest.

## Consortium Background

Participating organizations began meeting together in 2002 at the invitation of the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA). The National Homeland Security Consortium is an outgrowth of those initial discussions regarding the need for enhanced communication and coordination between disciplines and levels of government. The Consortium is now a recognized entity by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency and works in partnership with other federal agencies such as the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Defense and others.

The Consortium meets at least two times annually and shares information on a regular basis on issues of common interest. Subject matter experts within the Consortium are available as needed to provide input on national strategies, plans and policies impacting state and local governments.

## Participating Organizations

- **Adjutants General Association of the United States**
- **American Public Works Association**
- **Association of Public Safety Communications Officials**
- **Association of State & Territorial Health Officials**
- **Business Executives for National Security**
- **Council of State Governments**
- **International Association of Chiefs of Police**
- **International Association of Emergency Managers**
- **International Association of Fire Chiefs**
- **International City/County Management Association**
- **Major City (Police) Chiefs Association**
- **National Association of Counties**
- **National Association of County & City Health Officials**
- **National Association of State Departments of Agriculture**
- **National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials**
- **National Conference of State Legislatures**
- **National Emergency Management Association**
- **National Governors' Association and Governors' Homeland Security Advisors Council**
- **National Sheriffs' Association**
- **State Homeland Security Advisors**
- **U.S. Chamber of Commerce**

## Consortium Leadership

NEMA serves as the administrative arm of the NHSC and therefore retains a permanent role as one of three chairs (tri-chairs). The remaining two tri-chair positions are elected annually by the NHSC membership.