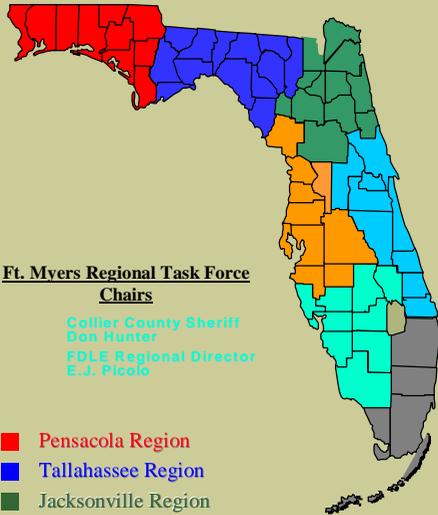


## Map of Regional Domestic Security Task Force Locations

A Regional Domestic Security Task Force exists in each of the seven FDLE regions shown below. In the event a terrorist incident occurred in any of the listed regions, the designated Task Force in the effected area would immediately be called to aid in recovery and attack response efforts.



### Ft. Myers Regional Task Force Chairs

Collier County Sheriff  
Don Hunter  
FDLE Regional Director  
E.J. Picolo

- Pensacola Region
- Tallahassee Region
- Jacksonville Region
- Orlando Region
- Tampa Bay Region
- Miami Region
- Fort Myers Region:
  - Charlotte
  - Collier
  - Desoto
  - Glades
  - Hendry
  - Highlands
  - Lee
  - Okeechobee
  - Sarasota



## About the Regional Domestic Security Task Force

A month after our nation's tragedy, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush issued Executive Order #01-300 on Oct. 11, 2001 to strengthen the state's capability to prepare and respond to terrorist activity. In December 2001, Gov. Bush signed a bill, passed by the Special Legislative Session, that authorizes the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to oversee the implementation of various counter-terrorism goals, including the establishment of a Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) in each



of the seven FDLE regions (Tallahassee, Pensacola, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa Bay, Fort Myers, and Miami). Each RDSTF detects and prevents potential terrorist threats by collecting and disseminating intelligence and investigative information, promotes ongoing security vulnerability assessments to protect critical infrastructure, and provides domestic security training and equipment for police officers, public safety first responders, and disaster response team members in the region. In Southwest Florida, Collier County Sheriff Don Hunter and FDLE Fort Myers Regional Director E.J. Picolo are co-chairs of the RDSTF. The RDSTF chairmen report directly to the Chief of Domestic Security and FDLE Commissioner James "Tim" Moore in Tallahassee about the task force's activity in this area. The task force is comprised primarily of senior officials from local and state law enforcement, fire-rescue, first responders, emergency management, and health professions in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, Highlands, Okeechobee and Sarasota counties.

## For More Information about Domestic Security

Call the Florida Department of Law Enforcement at (941) 278-7170 or visit the following web sites:

[www.myflorida.com](http://www.myflorida.com)

[www.fdle.state.fl.us](http://www.fdle.state.fl.us)

[www.flash.org](http://www.flash.org)

[www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org)

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

[www.fema.org](http://www.fema.org)

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Florida Department of Law Enforcement

The Regional Domestic Security Task Force presents

# TERRORISM AND SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



United to Protect Florida's Citizens

## Terrorism, Weapons of Mass Destruction, and Florida Law

In December 2001, Gov. Jeb Bush signed a law that defines terrorism as a violent act which violates the laws of Florida and of the United States of America, and is intended to:

- A. Intimidate, injure, or coerce a civilian population.
- B. Influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion.
- C. Affect the conduct of government through destruction of property, assassination, murder, kidnapping, or aircraft piracy.

Under the law, crimes that are acts of terrorism receive enhanced penalties.

### Weapons of Mass Destruction

Under Florida law, it is a first-degree felony to make, use, attempt to use, or possess, without lawful authority, an actual weapon of mass destruction, which includes Anthrax or other disease agents, a bomb, harmful chemicals, or radioactive substances. If a death occurs, it is a capital felony punishable of up to life imprisonment or death. It is a second-degree felony, punishable of up to 15 years in prison, to manufacture, possess, sell, deliver, display, use, threaten or attempt to use a hoax weapon of mass destruction. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement offers up to a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the successful arrest and prosecution of a person issuing a real or hoax weapon of mass destruction. Anyone with information should call FDLE at 1-800-407-4880.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND THE ANSWERS

- Is our region of Florida a real target for terrorists? *Any place in our country is a potential target for terrorists, and Florida is not exempt. However, this region has no obvious targets of national or international value. Since the value of a target is determined by the terrorist, not the victim, we must be vigilant and prepared for any unforeseen event.*
- Is our region prepared to handle a terrorist incident? *Yes. Emergency response and health care personnel have been training and obtaining vital equipment, while police have been gathering intelligence information necessary to respond to a potential terrorist incident. State and federal authorities already have people and equipment that could immediately respond to an incident.*
- Is our region ready for a biological incident? *Yes, as much as we can be. Training is the key to assessing a potential problem and understanding how it can be localized. Currently, ongoing training is in place. Also, state medical resources and personnel are especially focused on this issue.*
- What are the law enforcement officers of the Regional Domestic Security Task Force actually doing? *Federal, state, and local police have been gathering intelligence information, conducting interviews, and following up on viable leads to uncover persons plotting to attack our people and property. All levels of law enforcement have been working together on a plan to immediately mitigate a terrorist incident.*
- Can we win this war on terrorism? *Yes, we can and we will. We have increased our focus on domestic safety and security, thereby making it difficult for a potential terrorist to plan and carry out an attack.*

## How Can Citizens Help in the War Against Terrorism

- ◆ **Get to know and help your neighbor.** So many people in Southwest Florida are recent arrivals in their community, so they haven't had a chance to get to know their neighbors. Meet your neighbors and join a community group. Help make the quality of living better for one another.



- ◆ **Don't live in Fear.** Terror is a mindset. If you remove the fear of the unknown, there is little terror.



- ◆ **Stay informed.** Keep abreast of local, state, and national news.



- ◆ **Report any suspicious activity to police.** **Call 911** to immediately contact your local police department if you have reason to believe that someone is affiliated with a terrorist group, or is engaged in suspicious activity. Even if police find out that your information is unsubstantiated, it is important to share it with law enforcement authorities.



## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

**Local Law Enforcement: 9-1-1**

**Local Family Contact:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

**Out-of-town Family Contact:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

**Local American Red Cross:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number