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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Board of Regents Approves NIMS Guidelines**

At its December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, the UH System Board of Regents approved the implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) for the entire UH System.

“This is an emergency management system that works on all levels,” said Malcolm Davis, assistant vice president for public safety and UHDPS chief. “It gives specific duties to specific entities, but at the same time is scalable, allowing responders to address the intricacies of any emergency.”

In 2003, President George W. Bush directed the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and administer a system designed to help prevent, prepare, respond, and recover from incidents, regardless of their size or complexity. In 2005, Texas Governor Rick Perry designated NIMS as the incident management system for Texas. At the time, it was not clear if institutions of higher education were included in this mandate, and would be required to have their emergency management plans based on NIMS guidelines.

Davis recognizes the value of implementing NIMS as the UH System standard and spearheaded an initiative to formally adopt NIMS as the standard for emergency management for all the component institutions of the UH System.

A revision of the Emergency Management Plan is currently underway that will incorporate NIMS standards.