department Of Emergency Services

and Public Protection

<http://www.ct.gov/despp>

Agency Purpose

* To protect and improve the quality of life for all by providing a broad range of public safety services, training, regulatory guidance and scientific services through enforcement, prevention, education, and innovative use of technology.
* To protect the life and property of the residents of Connecticut in the event of a disaster or crisis, whether natural or manmade, through a collaborative program of prevention, planning, preparedness, response, recovery, mitigation, and public education.  This mission includes strategic planning, operations, training and exercise, grants, and disaster relief.
* To certify all police officers, law enforcement instructors and police training programs throughout the state of Connecticut.
* To reduce death, injury and property damage due to fire, emergencies and other disasters by increasing the proficiency of fire service personnel through training, education and recognition of professional competency through certification.
* To provides forensic services to both criminal prosecutors and to the public defender’s office.
* To provide primary law enforcement services for all municipalities that do not have their own chartered police department.
* To provide additional special police resources to all municipalities on request.
* To provide special police services including the bomb squad, aviation unit, marine unit, dive team, tactical unit, canine search and rescue, arson cause and origin investigation and major crime investigative units.
* To develop a master plan for emergency telecommunications within the state of Connecticut. To coordinate with area states as well as the Federal Communications Commission and act as a liaison with the public safety community to ensure that its needs are addressed.