



# FACT SHEET

## What is OP3?

In an effort to increasingly serve Ohioans before, during and after a disaster, the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) relies on strong partnerships between citizens, government, higher education, and private business. To strengthen these partnerships across the state, ODPS created the Ohio Public Private Partnership (OP3) program, an initiative designed to provide current information and situational awareness on disaster prevention, response, and recovery efforts to state agency and business executives, allowing decisions and resources to best support the needs of the impacted community.

OP3 aims to:

- Assist public and private sector entities with returning to normal operations in the wake of a disaster by sharing critical information with OP3 members
- Provide situational awareness of imminent threats on a need to know basis through voluntary information sharing between OP3 members
- Build a comprehensive network of businesses, associations, government agencies, higher education and non-profits, to jointly participate in disaster prevention, planning, response, and recovery efforts

Information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing access to state situation reports, updates on power outages, road closures, commodities shortages, employee and family emergency planning guidance and other planning, response, recovery-related information and prevention.

## Homeland Security Information Network

OP3 utilizes the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) to securely share homeland security information with partnership members. HSIN is a U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) online information sharing portal that hosts timely and relevant products to public and private sector partners. Upon joining OP3, you are eligible to complete a registration to be nominated for a HSIN account.

## Emergency Partner Credentialing System (EPCS)

EPCS is a credentialing system that will allow OP3 private sector partners to access disaster scenes easier. The credentials, much like an airline boarding-pass, will allow the bearer's identity to be verified upon arrival at a disaster scene. Two variations of the credentials will be provided through the Communication and Information Management System (CIMS).

## Join the Ohio Public Private Partnership

Visit the OP3 website to join the partnership, ask questions, or learn more about the program at <http://www.homelandsecurity.ohio.gov/op3.stm>

*"With the disaster challenges that we face today, it is critical that the public and private sectors work together to build a safer Ohio for all citizens."*

John Born, Director  
Ohio Department of Public Safety

