



**State of New Jersey**  
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS  
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*Governor*  
*Commander-in-Chief*

☆  
GLENN K. RIETH  
*Brigadier General*  
*The Adjutant General*

18 December 2003

Mr. Arthur K. Wu  
Staff Director  
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations  
Room 337A  
Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Wu:

I want to thank Chairman Buyer for the opportunity to testify at the hearing with the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations entitled "Weapons of Mass Destruction: Is our Nations's Medical Community Ready?" in April 2003.

As requested in your letter dated 8 December 2003, we have attached the post hearing questions and our responses.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input. If you have any questions, please contact me at 609-530-6953.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Falca-Dodson".

MARIA FALCA-DODSON  
Colonel  
New Jersey Air National Guard  
Deputy Adjutant General

Attachment

**“Weapons of Mass Destruction: Is Our Nation’s Medical Community Ready?”**

**April 10, 2003**

**Post Hearing Questions for Colonel Dodson (formerly Morgan)**

1. Your testimony states that Indiana, Oregon, and New Jersey failed to obtain federally funded WMD Civil Support Team (CST)-Heavy from the Department of Defense. Was an explanation as to why the New Jersey National Guard (NJNG) was denied such funding given? What actions has the NJNG taken to pursue this matter?

The initial assignment of a CST-H to the 10 FEMA regions occurred in 1998. Subsequent assignments have occurred through Congressional action. New Jersey did not begin pursuing Congressional action until Governor McGreevey’s administration in 2002. Since April 2002, Governor McGreevey and The Adjutant General have actively sought Congressional support for the full-time stationing of a CST. Actions include: several Governor generated letters to Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld, Congressional letters to Secretary Rumsfeld, a detailed statistical analysis of the need in New Jersey based on the criteria of infrastructure and population density, and a number of meetings, calls and correspondence between the Office of Secretary of Defense, National Guard Bureau and New Jersey National Guard.

2. Has the New Jersey National Guard had any type of dialogue with HHS or the Department of Homeland Security? What suggestions would you offer concerning steps that need to be taken to enhance the New Jersey medical community’s preparedness to deal with the consequences of terrorist activities using weapons of mass destruction?

In New Jersey, the Governors office, the Attorney General’s office, the Office of Counter Terrorism, the Department of Health and the New Jersey National Guard all communicate regularly with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). DHS is well aware of the needs of New Jersey both in resources and training. The Department of Health takes the lead on all communications with the Department of Health and Human Services.

A formal education program that is fully integrated into medical school curricula on a national basis needs to occur at the National level.