

**Travis Nelson**, *Deputy Chief of Staff*, Office of Governor Wes Moore

Travis Nelson currently serves as the Deputy Chief of Staff and Homeland Security Advisor for Governor Wes Moore of Maryland. Mr. Nelson has served in this position since January 2026. As part of these duties, he is responsible for public safety and homeland security matters in the state. This involves oversight of departments and agencies including: Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services, Department of State Police, Department of Military, Department of Emergency Management, Department of Juvenile Services, Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Police, Governor's Office of Homeland Security; Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission; Office of the State Prosecutor; Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System; Maryland Center for School Safety. He also monitors homeland security matters impacting Maryland and directly advises Governor Moore, Lt. Governor Miller, state elected and senior appointed officials.

Prior to his appointment as Deputy Chief of Staff, Mr. Nelson served as the Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security. During that time, he served on the National Capitol Region Homeland Security Executive Committee, the National Governor's Homeland Security Advisor Executive Committee, Maryland Artificial Intelligence Subcabinet, Cyber Security Council, and other similar state boards and councils.

Mr. Nelson was previously a Sergeant in the Maryland State Police where he served as the commander of the Complex Operations Management Unit, part of the Special Operations Division of the Maryland State Police. This unit was responsible for oversight, management, and planning of complex incidents and events, including Gubernatorial Inaugurations, the 2022 truck convoy, and Maryland law enforcement support to the District of Columbia and the US Capitol Police on January 6, 2021. This Unit also oversaw preparedness and prevention of incidents with large-scale impacts, such as those involving weapons of mass destruction or mass casualties. Travis was also detailed as a liaison officer to the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) since 2015 and coordinated resources, management, and response of law enforcement during a crisis. Travis served as the co-chair for the Maryland Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Workgroup since 2014 and works with the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical System Services (MIEMSS) to lead a statewide effort to provide guidance for all responders to hostile events.

Mr. Nelson is the former chair of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Complex Coordinated Attack Working Group, former chair of the Region III Advisory Council for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and supports several other committees and groups in Maryland. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Travis served as the

primary coordinator of law enforcement operations and led the prevention task force which oversees compliance and enforcement of public health orders.

Director Nelson also served within several units and divisions as a trooper with the Maryland State Police, to include: the Maryland Emergency Management Agency as regional liaison officer, Special Events Unit, Human Resources Division, and Centreville Barrack. Travis is the former Director of Career Services at the Kent & Queen Anne's Rescue Squad in Chestertown, MD, and was a certified medic, rescue diver, and firefighter. He previously worked for Kent County 9-1-1, Queen Anne's Department of Emergency Services.