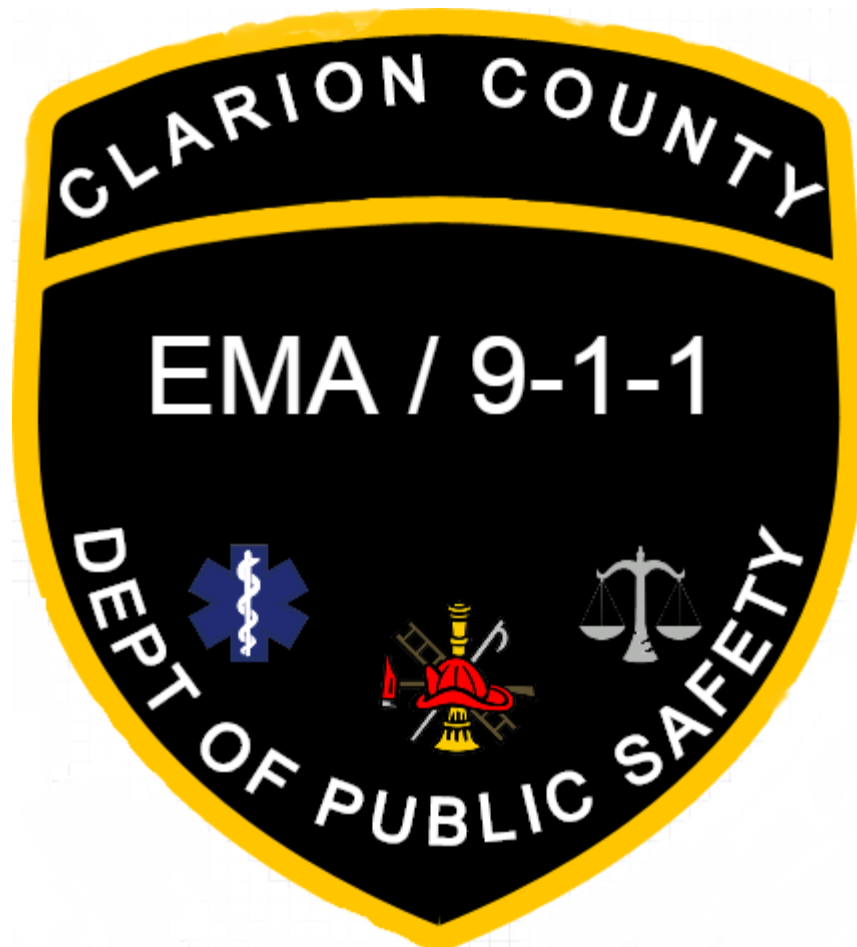


CLARION COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN



VOLUME 2: EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION ANNEXES

February 2024

The plan can be available in alternate formats, upon request,
to the Department of Public Safety to maintain compliance
with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 1 Annex Transportation

NIMS Category: LOGISTICS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: Transportation Officer

Support Agencies: Transportation Providers - Commercial
Transportation Providers - Schools

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 1 – Transportation assists government, voluntary organizations and private citizens requiring transportation to perform response missions and facilitate recovery from major disasters or emergencies.

B. Scope

1). ESF #1 responsibilities include:

- a). Coordination and assistance in procuring emergency transportation.
- b). Monitoring the status of transportation (ground and air) and transportation infrastructure
- c). Assisting officials in prioritizing restoration of damaged transportation systems.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Providing resources or personnel to aid traffic control relocation, and evacuation efforts.
- b). Monitoring restricted airspace (in cooperation with the Federal Government).
- c). Conducting damage reporting and assessment.
- d). Performing aerial reconnaissance or photography.
- e). Coordinating transportation of patients or medical professionals.
- f). Coordinating restoration of County roads, bridges, and transit systems or establishing similar temporary systems.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to the infrastructure of the affected area, in addition to the peculiarities of the transportation network in the area, will influence assistance available and offered by transportation providers.
- B. During and immediately following an emergency there may be a heavy demand for transportation to move people, supplies, records and equipment to minimize loss of life and property and to ensure continuity of government. For this reason, transportation resources may be in short supply. Transportation corridors and terminals may be damaged or destroyed requiring close coordination with PennDOT, Commonwealth or Local Police to monitor. It may be necessary to establish temporary facilities for emergency use.
- C. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- D. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. County/Local EMA is the Coordinating Agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #1 branch.

- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #1 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #1 branches to maximize the results of all efforts and to avoid duplication.
- D. Most transportation assets in Clarion County belong to private individuals or companies, or to other governmental entities (school districts.) The ESF #1 branch will maintain a list of these transportation assets and find ways to procure/use them during disaster.
- E. The County ESF #1 Branch will monitor the status of county and local transportation systems and determine the feasibility of land or air transport. Branch members will also recommend means to restore the transportation network if damaged.
- F. The branch will coordinate directly with the PennDOT county manager and other transportation officials to gather information and assistance when needed.
- G. If transportation needs cannot be filled from within the County, they may be identified in other municipalities or in the Commonwealth. Requests for support from outside the County will be sent through the EOC Manager and PEMA Area Office to that municipality/office.
- H. Missions will be tracked, and resources will be reassigned as they become available for subsequent uses.
- I. The Transportation ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the representative in policy/planning meetings within the EOC.
 - 2). Develop team procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with team members.
 - 3). Assign/delegate missions to supporting agencies.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 (Emergency Management) to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B). Support Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Transportation Branch Director in accomplishing missions assigned to the Transportation Branch.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the team, as necessary.

- 5. **Administration and Logistics** Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)
- 6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan
- 7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan
- 8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan
- 9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function # 2 Annex Communications

NIMS Category: OPERATIONS

Coordinating Agency: County 9-1-1

Primary Agency: County 9-1-1

Support Agencies: Center Communications

Verizon Crisis Response Team

Clarion County IT

ARES

PEMA

Verizon, Windstream, Century Link, Comcast, AT&T, Zito and Venus

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 2 – Communications ensures interoperable voice and data communications resources and services to support emergency operations or other disaster assistance initiatives.

B. Scope

1). ESF #2 responsibilities include:

- a). Providing landline, modem, cellular, internet and radio assistance or resources for emergency missions.
- b). Coordinating the use of other available resources to facilitate a favorable result.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Receiving and transmitting messages.
- b). Issuing alert and warning messages or notifications.
- c). Ensuring technical support and equipment exists to enable functional countywide communications systems.
- d). Identifying government or private sources that can render communications assistance from outside the affected area.
- e). Assisting with identifying and combating a cyber-attack on County/local facilities.
- f). Supporting the restoration of damaged emergency communications.
- g). Advising/assisting in prioritization of restoration of damaged communication infrastructure.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. County emergency response is reliant on electronic communication for command, control, coordination and information gathering.
- B. The County EMA maintains open, reliable, and redundant communication systems.
- C. The County EMA personnel monitor national reporting services that indicate present and impending weather and other hazards.
- D. The extent of damage to the communications infrastructure of the affected area, in addition to the peculiarities of the telecommunications network in the area, will influence the strategy for assistance offered by service providers.
- E. The County 9-1-1 Center can activate the Emergency Alert System and Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) for local, regional, or countywide public announcements.
- F. At least some of the redundant communications systems in place will continue to function throughout the emergency.
- G. ARES and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) will be able to respond and communicate throughout the emergency.

- H. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- I. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County 9-1-1 is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #2 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #2 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #2 branches to maximize the results of all efforts and to avoid duplication.
- D. An assessment of the countywide communications network will be conducted, and the information analyzed to determine the feasibility/operability of land-line, cellular, and other communications in the affected area(s).
- E. The status of communications technology and resources will be disseminated widely among emergency response agencies.
- F. In all cases, municipalities and response agencies in the affected area(s) will be contacted as soon as possible.
- G. Warnings or notifications will be made through the County's primary warning point or via the County 9-1-1 Center when activated and emergency information is disseminated from that facility.
- H. Missions will be tracked, and resources will be reassigned as they become available for subsequent uses.
- I. All team members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- J. The Communications ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A). Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the representative in policy/planning meetings within the EOC.
 - 2). Develop team procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with team members.
 - 3). Assign/delegate missions to supporting agencies.
 - 4). Act as the coordinating agent for all communication resources.
 - 5). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 6). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 7). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B). Support Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Communications Branch Director in accomplishing missions assigned to the Transportation Branch.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the team, as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Team Leader.

5. Administration and Logistics Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)

6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan
7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan
8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan
9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function # 3 Annex Public Works & Engineering

NIMS Category: LOGISTICS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: County Planning Department/Local Public Works

Support Agencies: County Buildings and Grounds
County Parks
Municipal Public Work Departments
Water and Sewer Companies (Public & Private)
Conservation District

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 3 – Public Works and Engineering provides technical advice and or coordination for evaluation, engineering services, contracting for construction management and inspection, and contracting for emergency repair of water and wastewater facilities and transportation infrastructure as well as assisting with the provision of potable water and ice and emergency power to assist the county and local municipalities in lifesaving and life sustaining actions, damage mitigation, and recovery activities following a major disaster emergency.

B. Scope

1). ESF #3 responsibilities include:

- a). Coordinating for engineering, construction management, and building inspection services.
- b). Coordinating for contracting services.
- c). Procuring sites for temporary emergency use.
- d). Provision of emergency power and potable water.
- e). Coordinating the removal of debris from damaged areas in the community.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Coordinating the County/local Debris Management Plan.
- b). Coordinating for actual removal of debris from public areas.
- c). Obtaining permits to dispose of debris.
- d). Coordinating the construction or restoration of public buildings.
- e). Coordinating the repair or restoration of public structures.
- f). Coordinating the repair or restoration of water supply systems and wastewater or solid waste treatment facilities.
- g). Coordinating for the emergency demolition or stabilization of public and other critical facilities or structures, including flood protection and flood control structures.
- h). Coordinating for the preparation of sites for Point of Distribution (Commodities POD) or other emergency use.
- i). Damage assessment or inspection of damaged buildings and facilities.
- j). Serve on/advise the Short Term/Long Term Recovery Task Force

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to the public infrastructure of the affected area, in addition to the condition of the transportation network in the area, will influence the availability of assistance from engineering or other ESF #3 providers.
- B. While the owner of a property is responsible for its repair or demolition, if a damaged facility or property presents an imminent danger to the public, local government has authority to enter private property and take whatever actions are necessary.

- C. Unless there is a declaration of disaster emergency, normal contracting and environmental protection practices will be followed. A declaration will allow relaxed rules for contracting and/or disposal of debris.
- D. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- E. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/municipal EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #3 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #3 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #3 branches to maximize the results of all efforts and to avoid duplication.
- D. An assessment of the condition of public infrastructure will be conducted and the information analyzed to determine the need for or immediate repair, restoration, or demolition of any structure or facility.
- E. The status of the public infrastructure will be disseminated widely among emergency response agencies, to local governments and the public.
- F. The ESF #3 branch will identify public and private engineering and public works resources. This will be recorded in Knowledge Center and reported to ESF #7.
- G. Missions will be tracked, and resources will be reassigned as they become available for subsequent use.
- H. Team members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- I. The Public Work ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF teams, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with team members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with team members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
 - 1). Assist the Public Works Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for public works operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

5. **Administration and Logistics** Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)
6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan
7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan
8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan
9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function # 4 Annex Firefighting

NIMS Category: OPERATIONS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: Fire/Hazmat Services

Support Agencies: Local Fire Departments
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 4 – Firefighting coordinates detection and suppression of wildland, rural and urban fires caused by, or causing an emergency that spans multiple political subdivisions of the County.

B. Scope

1). ESF #4 responsibilities include:

- a). Managing firefighting activities in developed areas as well as wildlands or forests.
- b). Providing personnel, equipment, and supplies for emergency response.
- c). Providing other assistance or resources that can be useful in firefighting operations.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Coordinating performance of fire suppression operations.
- b). Providing supplemental resources to jurisdictions.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. Urban commercial and residential fire incidents typically can be managed by municipalities and will not require extensive county support or involvement.
- B. After certain disaster events, urban water systems may be inoperable or sufficiently damaged so that some conventional fire suppression techniques are severely challenged.
- C. The extent of damage to the public infrastructure of the affected area, in addition to the condition of the transportation network in the area, will influence the firefighting strategy as well as availability of assistance from ESF #4 providers outside the immediate area.
- D. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- E. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/Local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #4 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County's ESF #4 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #4 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. The status of firefighting resources and capabilities will be monitored by ESF #4. This will be recorded in the Knowledge Center and reported to ESF #7.
- E. Missions will be tracked, and resources will be reassigned as they become available for subsequent use.

- F. Team members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- G. The Firefighting ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF teams, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with team members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with team members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Firefighting Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for public works operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

- 5. **Administration and Logistics** Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)
- 6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan
- 7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan
- 8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan
- 9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function # 5 Annex Emergency Management

NIMS Category: PLANNING

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: County/Local EMA

Support Agencies: Local Fire Departments
Local Emergency Medical Services
County Transportation
County Planning
County PIO
Northwest Central Pa. Task Force

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 5 – Emergency Management coordinates the effort to collect, assemble, analyze, and disseminate information about an emergency and the necessary response and recovery operations. It then analyzes information and applies it to the creation of operational and strategic plans, including the transition to and the provision of disaster assistance and other recovery activities.

B. Scope of Operations

1). ESF #5 responsibilities include:

- a). Collecting, processing, and disseminating information to County, local, and private officials involved in emergency response and recovery operations.
- b). Providing a place (EOC or Mobile CP) and structure for overall coordination of the local/countywide response to an emergency.
- c). Coordinating with Commonwealth and federal government representatives involved in response and recovery activities.
- d). Preparing county/local disaster declarations and requesting gubernatorial declarations from the Commonwealth.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Obtaining damage assessment information from affected jurisdictions.
- b). Gathering data and information and developing reports.
- c). Collecting deployment information from other ESF branches
- d). Producing status reports.
- e). Conducting situation analysis.
- f). Creating incident action and strategic operations plans.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to both the transportation and communications infrastructures of the affected area will influence the method of data collection and dissemination.
- B. The ESF #5 branch will rely on local reports and damage assessments as well as information from other ESF branches to develop a local or County-wide summary of events, damages, and response operations.
- C. Documents developed by the ESF branch will not be released directly to the public.
- D. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- E. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency

transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/Local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #5 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #5 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #5 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. Data and information will be obtained continually from County departments and agencies, other ESFs, and municipalities, and the findings will be summarized in reports, specifically those prescribed by the Incident Command System.
- E. The information the ESF team will seek to gather includes, but is not limited to:
 - 1). Geographic boundaries of the affected area,
 - 2). Social, physical, economic, and political impacts of the disaster
 - 3). Status of transportation systems in the affected area
 - 4). Status of communications systems in the affected area
 - 5). Access/entry points to the affected area
 - 6). Hazard-specific data and information regarding the disaster
 - 7). Current and forecast weather conditions for the affected area
 - 8). Status of critical facilities in the affected area
 - 9). Status/activation of local governments in the affected area
 - 10). Emergency declarations by affected jurisdictions
 - 11). Resource needs and unmet "service" needs
 - 12). Response and recovery priorities in jurisdictions and of the County
 - 13). Status of pending ESF operations
 - 14). Status of Special Populations
- F. ESF #5 branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- G. The Emergency Management ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.
- H. Initial Damage Reports submitted by local municipalities will be consolidated at the County and forwarded to PEMA. This data will be used to anticipate operational needs, and to identify locations where damage may be found.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF teams, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with team members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with team members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with other ESFs to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Emergency Management Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for emergency management operations, as possible.

- 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
- 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

5. **Administration and Logistics** Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)
6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan
7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan
8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan
9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function # 6 Annex Mass Care, Shelter & Human Services

NIMS Category: LOGISTICS

Coordinating Agency: County EMA

Primary Agencies: Human Services and Area Agency on Aging

Support Agencies: Children and Youth
MH/DD
American Red Cross
Civil Air Patrol
Emergency Medical Services
Fire Services
Police Services
School Districts
County Human Service Agencies
Veteran Affairs
Clarion County CISM/DCORT Team
County VOAD

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 6 – Mass Care, Shelter and Human Services coordinates the effort to meet the basic needs of surviving victims following a disaster, as well as to collect, assemble, and report information about victims and assist with reunification of families.

B. Scope

1). ESF #6 responsibilities include:

- a). Coordinating temporary shelter, basic medical care, and food to victims and their families,
- b). Collecting and forwarding evacuee information and assisting families in their efforts to reunite.
- c). Coordinating bulk distribution of emergency supplies

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Coordinating food for responders and emergency workers,
- b). Coordinating basic medical care,
- c). Coordinating vouchers for clothes and certain other expenses,
- d). Coordinating temporary shelters and keeping shelter records,
- e). Coordinating meals to displaced families or individuals,
- f). Coordinating informal behavioral health screening to determine need,
- g). Coordinating critical incident stress debriefings (for responders) or psychological first aid for the public.
- h). Collecting damage assessment information, and
- i). Assisting with coordination of federal programs and provision of housing and housing repair to citizens whose homes were affected by the disaster.

3). For a complete discussion of animal care and sheltering, please refer to the Agriculture and Natural Resources (ESF #11).

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. A significant disaster event may deny a population access to food, may spoil food and ruin clothing, and may displace a population from their homes and create a widespread need for shelter, food, and other basic human needs.

- B. The extent of damage to infrastructure and communities in the affected area will influence the demand for and selection of shelters.
- C. The extent of damage to shelters in the affected area and the availability of shelter space in the area will influence the strategy for assistance offered by service providers.
- D. Shelter sites may consist of existing, pre-identified facilities, temporary, built-to-demand structures, or tent cities.
- E. Some victims with special needs will not be able to be accommodated at all shelters. Special needs shelters may need to be established, sometimes requiring extra transportation for victims.
- F. Some individuals with special needs may require transportation assistance to enable them to reach a shelter facility.
- G. Shelter and feeding activities will continue if the need persists.
- H. Close cooperation will be maintained with the ESF #11 team, to ensure an efficient food service system is employed that satisfies the needs of the greatest number of people.
- I. A Donations and Volunteer Management plan exists for the County, which can be helpful in organizing volunteer resources as well as donated goods. For more detail, please refer to the Donations/Volunteer Management Plan.
- J. The Public Information team will be a critical partner to mass care and sheltering activities. For more detail of public information operations, please refer to the Public Information (ESF #15).
- K. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- L. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #6 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The ESF #6 branch will coordinate with Commonwealth and federal and local ESF #6 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. Unmet needs for resources or other assistance will be forwarded through the Regional Task Force (if activated) to the PEMA Area Office, to the Commonwealth Watch and Warning Center (CWWC) through ESF #7.
- E. The County's ESF #6 branch will work closely with local volunteer organizations to maximize the effectiveness of their contribution to the disaster response. The County will rely on voluntary agencies to open and operate shelters.
- F. Provision of shelter and other services will consider and make efforts to accommodate citizens with special needs and requirements; including age, physical or mental infirmity, and language difficulty.
- G. Shelters will be designated to care for domestic pets near their owners' shelters.
- H. Sheltering operations will begin prior to a disaster event when information and data suggest large-scale displacement of citizens may occur.
- I. Family Assistance Centers, when necessary, will be established in cooperation with the appropriate local jurisdiction and private entities.
- J. Resource needs will be determined and requests for assistance will be conveyed to appropriate ESF teams.
- K. Shelter occupancy records will be maintained in Knowledge Center and shared with emergency management officials of the county and in appropriate local jurisdictions.

- L. Shelter, food, and other assistance will be made available until the need for emergency relief in the affected area has been reduced sufficiently so that individuals and families can return to their homes or can receive assistance from traditional personal, private, and governmental sources.
- M. Missions will be tracked, and resources will be reassigned as they become available for subsequent use.
- N. All team members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- O. The Mass Care, Emergency Assistance and Human Services ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF teams, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with team members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with team members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data, and with other ESFs for logistical and other support as needed.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Mass Care, Emergency Assistance and Human Services Branch Director, and make resources of their respective organizations available for public works operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

- 5. **Administration and Logistics** Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)
- 6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan
- 7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan
- 8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan
- 9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function #7 Annex Logistics Management and Resource Support

NIMS Category: LOGISTICS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: County/Local EMA

Support Agencies: Area Agency on Aging
County Accounting
Transportation
County Corrections
Emergency Medical Services
Fire Services
Human Services
Municipalities
Police Services
Veterans Affairs

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 7 – Resource Support provides comprehensive, strategic logistics planning to utilize all available resources in an optimum way, and provide operational management and coordination of supplemental resources, including performing logistical operations necessary to support an emergency response or recovery efforts.

B. Scope of Operations

1). ESF #7 responsibilities include:

- a). Contracting for or obtaining goods or services.
- b). Coordinating execution of logistical or administrative activities for emergency response operations.
- c). Providing emergency contracting support.
- d). Coordinating the use of the resources to facilitate an effective, efficient, and appropriate result.
- e). Planning for and establishing Points of Distribution (commodity PODs) for emergency supplies.
- f). Integrating resources from private and volunteer sources, as well as from other counties, Commonwealth and federal government.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Procuring equipment or supplies.
- b). Leasing temporary office space or mobile office units.
- c). Performing printing or photographic reproduction services.
- d). Initiating contracting agreements.
- e). Coordinating and possibly operating Points of Distribution (commodity PODs) for emergency supplies.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to both the transportation and communications infrastructures of the affected area will influence the ability to provide resources.
- B. Supplies and equipment will be provided from existing County/municipality inventories whenever possible.
- C. Supplies and items of equipment obtained from commercial providers will not be stockpiled.
- D. The scope of procurement operations will be consistent with the severity of the event.

- E. Procurement will be conducted in accordance with Commonwealth, County and municipal laws and regulations, including provisions for emergency procurement and no-bid contracting.
- F. The County Commissioners and municipal officials may issue a declaration of Disaster Emergency which will suspend some of the time-consuming regulations and procedures.
- G. A donations plan exists for the County, which can complement the effort to obtain resources under some circumstances.
- H. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- I. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #7 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #7 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #7 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. Resource needs and requests will be obtained from County departments and agencies, other ESFs, and municipalities.
- E. Requests will be prioritized, and resources will be allocated and deployed in mission assignments.
- F. Contracts with commercial vendors will be initiated to obtain supplies and equipment unavailable in existing inventories.
- G. Missions will be tracked, and resources will be reassigned if they become available for subsequent uses.
- H. ESF #7 branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- I. The Logistics Management and Resource Support ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF branches, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all branch resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with other ESFs to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for logistics management and resource support operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

5. **Administration and Logistics** Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)
6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan
7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan
8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan
9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function # 8 Annex Public Health & Medical Services

NIMS Category: OPERATIONS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: Medical Services & Pa. Dept. of Health

Support Agencies: County Coroner
Emergency Health Services Council
County Hospitals, Urgent Care Centers, Adult Day Center, Personal Care Facilities, and Nursing Homes
Pa. Dept. Of Environmental Protection
Transportation
County MH/DD
County CISM/DECORT
Human Service and Human Service Agencies

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 8 – Health and Medical Services coordinates the provision of medical and behavioral health care and the dissemination of public health information necessary to support emergency response to and recovery from a public health or other medical disaster; a potential or actual event requiring a public health or medical response or a developing public health or medical emergency.

B. Scope of Operations: ESF #8 responsibilities include:

1). Health and Medical support include:

- a). Coordinating health and medical professionals and facilities and their disposition of care and treatment.
- b). Managing medical supplies and resources to facilitate an effective, efficient, and appropriate result.

2). Public Health includes:

- a). Monitoring of disease and potential trends.
- b). Identifying environmental or other factors that may affect the health of the community.
- c). Disseminating information to the public on how to deal with disease issues.

3). Behavioral Health includes:

- a). Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) for emergency workers.
- b). Psychological First Aid or other behavioral health screening, and referral to professional services for victims of the disaster (DCORT Team).
- c). Public information on behavioral health issues.

4). Potential operations include:

- a). Identifying health hazards
- b). Disseminating public health information
- c). Managing vector control
- d). Conducting triage and providing treatment
- e). Coordinating transportation of patients
- f). Operating field hospitals
- g). Coordinating the opening and operation of PODs under the SNS plan,
- h). Controlling patient loads at hospitals
- i). Importing medicines, medical professionals, or supplies into the affected area
- j). Establishing temporary morgues, performing forensic examinations and completing victim identifications

- k). Managing medical supplies and pharmaceuticals
- l). Arranging crisis counseling for victims (DCORT Team)
- m). Arranging or conducting CISM debriefings for responders
- n). Health surveillance
- o). Identifying and publicizing environmental health hazards
- p). Tracking patients at and between hospitals and other medical treatment centers
- q). Coordinating mortuary services and the identification and disposition of remains
- r). Managing mass fatalities, dealing with next of kin.
- s). Human Services to residents

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. A significant disaster event may cause a considerable number of injuries or deaths, produce physical or biological health hazards throughout the affected area, and create a widespread need for medical care or public health guidance. A natural or technological disaster may cause a failure of the health system, which then becomes a secondary disaster. An epidemic or widespread disease may become a disaster on its own.
- B. The extent of damage to both the transportation and communications infrastructures of the affected area will influence the ability to provide medical or health resources
- C. The extent of damage to medical, mental health, and extended care facilities within the affected area will influence the strategy and ability to coordinate care and provide appropriate treatment.
- D. Damage to solid waste disposal facilities, wastewater treatment facilities and water treatment systems, and the loss of electrical power services, may foster conditions that propagate bacteria and disease.
- E. Appropriate information about patients will be shared with the ESF #6 branch.
- F. General information only or aggregate data regarding patients will be provided to public information officials to share with media outlets.
- G. Medicines and supplies will be provided from existing inventories whenever possible.
- H. Procurement will be conducted in accordance with federal, Commonwealth and County laws and regulations, including provisions for emergency procurement and no-bid contracting.
- I. The County Commissioners may issue a declaration of Disaster Emergency which will suspend some of the time-consuming regulations and procedures.
- J. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- K. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/Local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #8 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #8 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #8 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. Resource needs and requests will be obtained from County departments and agencies, other ESFs, and municipalities before referring to outside agencies.

- E. An assessment of the regional transportation network will be obtained, and the information analyzed to determine the feasibility of accessing care facilities and transporting patients from one location to another.
- F. The patient load at medical facilities will be monitored and action will be taken to moderate the influx of patients at all available treatment sites.
- G. A continuous assessment will be conducted to determine the Countywide supply of essential and appropriate medicines as well as the level of need.
- H. Assessments will be conducted to determine the threat posed by vermin or other health hazards, and actions will be taken to eradicate such threats.
- I. Water supplies in the affected area will be evaluated and designated safe or unsafe for public consumption.
- J. Requests for assistance will be prioritized, and resources will be allocated and deployed in mission assignments.
- K. Public service announcements will be broadcast, offering health and safety guidance and directions.
- L. All branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- M. The Public Health and Medical Services ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF branches, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for public works operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

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|-----------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 5. | Administration and Logistics | Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base) |
| 6. | Authority and References | See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 7. | Definitions of Terms | See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 8. | Training and Exercises | See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan |
| 9. | Annex Maintenance | The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex. |

Emergency Support Function # 9 Annex Search and Rescue

NIMS Category: OPERATIONS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: Police/Fire Services

Support Agencies: Local Fire Departments
Civil Air Patrol
Local Police Departments
Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Northwest Central Pa. Task Force and Specialty Teams
Commonwealth Agencies
Pennsylvania State Police
National Guard

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 9 – Search and Rescue – coordinates the elements of search and rescue operation in the event of a major disaster or emergency. Operational activities include locating, extricating, and coordinating on-site medical assistance to victims in collapsed buildings, wilderness or water.

B. Scope of Operations

1). ESF #9 responsibilities include:

- a). Collapsed structures or search and rescue operations.
- b). Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) companies or squads formed under the auspices of the RTFs or PEMA.
- c). Wilderness search teams, including the Pa. Dept. Conservation & Natural Resources and Civil Air Patrol.
- d). Underground search teams from the Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Deep Mine Safety.
- e). Water search and rescue teams, including Commonwealth swift water teams

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Conducting needs assessments
- b). Provision of technical advice
- c). Organizing and monitoring the conduct of searches
- d). Provision of technical advice and assistance to Commonwealth and Federal teams.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to both the transportation and communications infrastructures of the affected area will influence the ability to conduct rescue operations.
- B. In situations that entail structural collapse, large numbers of people may require rescue and medical care.
- C. The National Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Response System consists of Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces, Incident Support Teams and technical specialists. Pa. Task Force 1 is available through the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, and other teams can be requested from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Regional Task Forces in Pennsylvania have developed additional USAR assets that are available throughout the RTF.
- D. Because the mortality rate among victims rises dramatically after only a few hours, Search and Rescue must be initiated without delay.

- E. During response, rescue personnel may encounter extensive damage to the local infrastructure, such as buildings, roadways, public works, communications, and utilities.
- F. Following any disaster, secondary events and/or other hazards (fires, landslides, flooding and hazardous materials) may compound problems and further threaten disaster victims and rescue personnel.
- G. Weather conditions such as temperature extremes, snow, rain, and high winds may pose additional hazards for lost victims and rescue personnel.
- H. In some circumstances, rescue personnel may be at risk from terrorism, civil disorder or crime.
- I. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- J. A donations plan exists for the County, which can complement the effort to obtain resources under some circumstances.
- K. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #9 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #9 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #9 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. Information regarding the extent of the incident will be collected to enable the branch to develop an appropriate response strategy.
- E. Resource needs and requests will be obtained through ESF #7 from County departments and agencies, other ESFs, and municipalities before looking to sources outside the county.
- F. If it is determined that outside resources are needed, the ESF #9 branch will forward a request through the EOC Manager to the RTF or PEMA for the appropriate assistance. This request will follow protocols outlined by the RTF or PEMA (if applicable.)
- G. Coordinate logistical support of deployed USAR/Swift Water forces beyond their initial 72-hour period of self-sufficiency.
- H. Requests will be prioritized, and resources will be allocated and deployed in mission assignments.
- I. Contracts with commercial vendors will be initiated to obtain supplies and equipment unavailable in existing inventories.
- J. Missions will be tracked, and resources will be reassigned if they become available for subsequent uses.
- K. ESF #9 branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- L. The Search and Rescue ESF branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF branches, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with branch members.

- 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B). Support Departments or Agencies
- 1). Aid the Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for search and rescue operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

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|-----------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 5. | Administration and Logistics | Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base) |
| 6. | Authority and References | See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 7. | Definitions of Terms | See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 8. | Training and Exercises | See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan |
| 9. | Annex Maintenance | The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex. |

Emergency Support Function # 10 Annex Oil and Hazardous Materials

NIMS Category: OPERATIONS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: Fire Services/ Mc Cutcheon Enterprises, Inc.

Support Agencies: Local Fire Departments
Police Services
Emergency Medical Services
Local Emergency Planning Committee
County 9-1-1 Center
Pa. Department of Environmental Protection
Clarion University

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 10 – Hazardous Materials coordinates the resources and services necessary for response or recovery efforts essential to the remediation of conditions caused by toxic chemical or hazardous material release.

B. Scope of Operations

1). ESF #10 responsibilities include:

- a). Limiting or containing accidental releases of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes.
- b). Taking actions that mitigate the effects of a leak.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Coordinating the suppression of chemical fires,
- b). Coordinating conduct of soil tests or collecting air samples,
- c). Coordinating construction of stabilizing berms or other barriers,
- d). Coordinating application of retardant materials,
- e). Coordinating collection of hazardous materials,
- f). Coordinating removal of contaminated soil, and
- g). Coordinating decontamination of a site or individual.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to both the transportation and communications infrastructures of the affected area will influence the ability to provide resources or to respond.
- B. Supplies and equipment will be provided from existing County inventories whenever possible.
- C. Supplies and items of equipment obtained from commercial providers will not be stockpiled.
- D. Hazardous materials include oil, fuels, chemicals, toxic debris and waste, chemical weapons, radioactive substances, and other contaminants capable of polluting soil, water tables, or water bodies or harming humans or animals.
- E. Fixed facilities, disposal sites, pipelines, highways and water bodies are potential incident sites, all of which pose unique response challenges.
- F. A severe disaster may precipitate cascading incidents, and coordination with local hazardous materials response teams will become critical.
- G. The coordinating agency may provide an on-scene coordinator at the request of local responders.
- H. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- I. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency

transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/Local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #10 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #10 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #10 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. Resource needs and requests will be obtained from County departments and agencies, other ESFs, and municipalities.
- E. Information regarding the extent of the incident will be collected to enable the branch to develop an appropriate response strategy.
- F. Individuals subject to exposure will be decontaminated or otherwise treated with appropriate medical care, when necessary.
- G. Missions will be tracked, and resources will be reassigned if they become available for subsequent uses.
- H. ESF #10 branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- I. The Oil and Hazardous Materials ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF branches, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources and activities; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B). Support Departments or Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for Oil and Hazardous Materials operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

5. **Administration and Logistics** Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)

6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan

7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan

8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan

9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function # 11 Annex Agriculture and Natural Resources

NIMS Category: LOGISTICS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: Pa. Dept. of Agriculture USDA

Support Agencies: Pa. Dept. of Health
Transportation
American Red Cross
Clarion County Sheriff Department
Clarion County Animal Rescue Team
Conservation District
DCNR Reps from Commonwealth parks in the County
Clarion County Historical Society
County Human Service Agencies

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 11 includes the identification, security and coordination of efforts to provide bulk food resources, to protect agriculture and food production, to protect domestic and farm animals and to protect natural, historic and cultural resources.

B. Scope of Operations: ESF #11 responsibilities include:

1). Food support includes:

- a). Identifying sources of food supplies,
- b). Obtaining food resources, and
- c). Arranging to transport food to designated staging sites in the affected area.

2). Protection of Agriculture and Food Production includes:

- a). Taking steps to prevent animal or crop disease,
- b). Ensure food production and distribution, and
- c). Identify potentially dangerous human foodstuffs before it makes it to market.

3). Protection of domestic and farm animals include:

- a). Measures to shelter animals from disaster,
- b). Measures to evacuate them to a safe location and provide shelter there, and
- c). Establishing shelters for domestic pets.

4). Protection of Natural, Historic or Cultural Resources includes:

- a). Identification of historic buildings and artifacts
- b). Physical steps to protect historic buildings and artifacts
- c). Restoration of damaged historic buildings and artifacts

5). Potential operations include:

- a). Researching governmental food programs and stockpiles
- b). Negotiating with food suppliers
- c). Developing a food procurement strategy
- d). Organizing a food transportation plan
- e). Coordinating with private and volunteer groups
- f). Analyzing staging sites
- g). Establishing a temporary food assistance program.
- h). Providing information to farmers on sheltering or protecting farm animals
- i). Providing shelter for domestic pets near human mass care centers
- j). Providing shelter for farm animals at a location out of the area affected by the emergency

- k). Rescuing stray and abandoned animals
- l). Ensuring adequate supplies of food are available at boarding facilities and temporary shelters
- m). Coordinating grief counseling to victims whose animals are lost, injured, or killed
- n). Assisting with inspecting food processing and transportation facilities and equipment to ensure safe production of food.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to both the transportation and communications infrastructures of the affected area will influence the ability to provide resources and services.
- B. Supplies and equipment will be provided from existing County inventories whenever possible.
- C. Supplies and items of equipment obtained from commercial providers will not be stockpiled.
- D. A significant disaster event may deny human and animal populations access to food and water, may create conditions that prevent individuals with food supplies from preparing them, or may displace a population from their homes and create a widespread need for food and drink.
- E. Some disaster situations may require citizens to evacuate their homes and farms. Those with large animals or livestock may be separated temporarily or effectively prevented from providing continuous care to livestock.
- F. Food supplies intended for human populations will be suitable for either household distribution or congregate meal service.
- G. Food supplies will be provided from existing managed inventories whenever possible.
- H. Close cooperation will be maintained with the ESF 6 branch to ensure “Pet friendly” shelters.
- I. Commercial and retail food storage facilities may be inoperable because of widespread power failure; thus, some privately held, large-volume food supplies may be available as donated goods.
- J. A donations plan for the County exists, which can be helpful in organizing food collection and distribution efforts. For more detail of donations management operations, please refer to the Donations Management Plan.
- K. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- L. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/Local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #11 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #11 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #11 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. Resource needs and requests will be obtained from County departments and agencies, other ESFs, and municipalities before looking to outside sources.
- E. Pet owners who need to evacuate, whether to a mass care center or to private accommodations should make every effort to take their pets with them. If this proves impossible, the agencies supporting ESF #11 will assist the pet owners in making suitable arrangements.
- F. When necessary, a mutual aid program that incorporates pet food and equipment suppliers as well as veterinary professionals will be implemented during emergencies to aid local governments and citizens.

- G. Storage and staging sites will be identified and utilized as necessary.
- H. A strategy for direct procurement of food supplies will be implemented to obtain products not available in current inventories.
- I. Food supplies will be evaluated to ensure their suitability for consumption.
- J. Missions will be tracked, and resources will be reassigned if they become available for subsequent uses.
- K. ESF #11 branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- L. The Agriculture and Natural Resources ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF branches, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources and activities develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for public works operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

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| 5. | Administration and Logistics | Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base) |
| 6. | Authority and References | See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 7. | Definitions of Terms | See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 8. | Training and Exercises | See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan |
| 9. | Annex Maintenance | The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex. |

Emergency Support Function # 12 Annex Energy

NIMS Category: LOGISTICS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: County Planning

Support Agencies: Transportation
Utility and Energy Companies
Pipeline Companies
Public Utility Commission

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

To provide liaison to the utility and energy industries to facilitate a coordinated restoration of telephone, electric, gas, and commodity fuels, as well as energy delivery systems, in affected areas.

B. Scope of Operations

1). ESF #12 responsibilities include:

- a). Communicating with providers,
- b). Coordinating restoration strategies, and
- c). Reviewing emergency plans.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Coordinating restoration plans,
- b). Implementing rationing measures,
- c). Allocating fuel resources,
- d). Coordinating delivery schedules with wholesale providers,
- e). Locating supplemental resources and arranging for distribution or delivery, and
- f). Participating in damage assessment operations.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. Utility and energy resources include: electricity, natural gas, water, heating oil, coal, propane, gasoline, and fire wood.
- B. The extent of damage to the utility and energy infrastructures of the affected area, in addition to the condition of the transportation network in the area, will influence the strategy for assessment and restoration operations.
- C. Damaged or destroyed transmission lines, pipelines, or energy distribution equipment may pose significant public health hazards and may pose unique debris management challenges.
- D. The ESF Branch Leaders, in conjunction with branch members, may appoint a supplemental staff member as Resource Coordinator to coordinate the restoration or supply of a specific resource.
- E. The County has some authority to regulate utility and energy services and commodities; however, providers remain private enterprises with whom the government usually must negotiate rather than unilaterally compel cooperation.
- F. Supplies and equipment will be provided from existing County inventories whenever possible.
- G. Supplies and items of equipment obtained from commercial providers will not be stockpiled.
- H. The scope of procurement operations will be consistent with the severity of the event.
- I. Procurement will be conducted in accordance with Commonwealth, municipal and County laws and regulations, including provisions for emergency procurement and no-bid contracting.
- J. The County Commissioners and municipal officials may issue a declaration of Disaster Emergency which will suspend some of the time-consuming regulations and procedures.
- K. A donations plan exists for the County, which can complement the effort to obtain resources under some circumstances.

- L. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- M. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #12 branch.
- B. The resources of any department or agency remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County's ESF #12 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #12 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. Resource needs and requests will be obtained from County departments and agencies, other ESFs, and municipalities.
- E. Requests will be prioritized, and resources will be allocated and deployed in mission assignments.
- F. An assessment will be conducted to determine the scope of system damage, the supply of remaining resources, the capability of operable systems and equipment, and the nature of immediate needs.
- G. Requests as well as restoration operations will be prioritized, and resources will be allocated and deployed in mission assignments.
- H. Out-of-County or regional providers will be contacted to arrange deliveries or distribution of supplemental resources or equipment, as necessary.
- I. ESF #12 branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- J. The Energy ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF branches, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
 - 1). Aid the Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for public works operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

5. **Administration and Logistics** Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)

6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan

7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan
8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan
9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 13 Annex Public Safety and Security

NIMS Category: OPERATIONS

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: Law Enforcement

Support Agencies: County Sheriff
County District Attorney
County Probation
Municipal/University Police Departments
Pennsylvania State Police
State Park Rangers

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 13 – Public Safety and Security assigns responsibilities for security and provides for coordination among law enforcement agencies during emergencies.

B. Scope

- 1). ESF #13 Public Safety and Security support entails the coordination and deployment of uniformed personnel to:
 - a). Assist local officials in field operations,
 - b). Ensure security of critical infrastructure and other sites,
 - c). Maintain stability and order within communities, and
 - d). Otherwise guard the public safety.
- 2). Potential operations include:
 - a). Providing for perimeter security at an incident site,
 - b). Managing traffic patterns,
 - c). Coordinating the patrolling of communities,
 - d). Establishing security at shelters (in coordination with ESF #6), Points of Distribution (commodity PODs) (in coordination with ESF #7), and Points of Dispensing (PODs) (in coordination with ESF #8),
 - e). Implementing protective action orders,
 - f.) Providing for the enforcement of isolation or quarantine orders, and
 - g). Apprehending offenders.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to both the transportation and communications infrastructures of the affected area will influence the ability to provide resources.
- B. Supplies and equipment will be provided from existing County inventories whenever possible.
- C. Supplies and items of equipment obtained from commercial providers will not be stockpiled.
- D. Local law enforcement agencies share mutual aid agreements and will cooperate per parameters set forth in such documents
- E. During and immediately after emergencies, police services must be expanded to provide the increased protection required by disaster conditions. If municipal capabilities become overtaxed, then support can be provided by the County or regional task force and augmented by Commonwealth and federal law enforcement agencies.
- F. The governor may issue a declaration of emergency, which may make the Pennsylvania National Guard available to augment municipal police forces.
- G. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency

transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

- H. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/Local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #13 branch.
- B. The resources of any department remain under the administrative and policy procedures and control of their home agency but will be under the operational control of the incident commander.
- C. The County ESF #13 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #13 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. Resource needs and requests will be obtained from County departments and agencies, other ESFs, and municipalities.
- E. Requests will be prioritized, and resources will be allocated and deployed in mission assignments.
- F. Emergency law enforcement operations will be an expansion of normal functions and responsibilities, and normal procedures and protocols will be followed to the greatest extent possible.
- G. ESF #13 will keep the Incident Manager informed of changes in police resource availability or police service requirements in their jurisdiction.
- H. ESF #13 branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- I. The Public Safety and Security ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
- 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF branches, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all law enforcement resources and activities; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
 - 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
- 1). Aid the Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for public works operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

5. **Administration and Logistics** Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base)
6. **Authority and References** See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan
7. **Definitions of Terms** See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan

8. **Training and Exercises** See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan
9. **Annex Maintenance** The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex.

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 14 Annex Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure

NIMS Category: FINANCE and ADMINISTRATION

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: County/Local EMA

Support Agencies: County Commissioners
Municipal Elected Officials
Clarion County Economic Development Corporation
Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry
County Assessment Office
County Planning
Public Works and Water/Sewer Authorities
Human Service Agencies
Various Commonwealth Agencies

I. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 14 – Cross-Sector Business and Industry supports the coordination of cross-sector operations, including stabilization of key supply chains and community lifelines, among infrastructure owners and operators, businesses, and their government partners.

B. Scope

1). ESF #14 responsibilities include:

- a). Determining the extent of damage and the need for recovery assistance.
- b). Deployment of damage assessment teams alone, and with Commonwealth and federal teams.
- c). Providing facilities to serve as Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC).
- d). Activating a long-term recovery committee.
- e). Applying for Commonwealth and federal reconstruction and mitigation grants.
- f). Making recommendations to elected officials regarding rebuilding/reconstruction.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Collection, consolidation and forwarding of initial damage reports.
- b). Conducting rapid assessment or scheduling and guiding joint Damage Assessment Teams.
- c). Determining the value of the damage.
- d). Attending meetings and applying for federal recovery assistance.
- e). Selecting and preparing DRC sites.
- f). Conducting public meetings to identify potential hazard mitigation projects.
- g). Determining a long-term vision for rebuilding county communities and infrastructure.
- h). Managing meetings of the long-term recovery committee.
- i). Ensuring that rebuilding supports the county long-term vision.

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to both the transportation and communications infrastructures of the affected area will influence the ability to conduct recovery operations.
- B. Supplies and equipment will be provided from existing County inventories whenever possible.
- C. Local municipalities have primary response and recovery obligations, and the County provides supplemental support when requested.
- D. Comprehensive damage assessment information is essential as the basis of a request by the governor for federal assistance.

- E. The federal Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act are designed to assist local communities when the magnitude of the disaster exceeds the ability of the Commonwealth and local governments to meet these needs.
- F. Following a presidential declaration, a Disaster Field Office (DFO) will be established and staffed with federal personnel assigned to manage the disposition of federal relief funds in cooperation with County personnel.
- G. Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) will be established in the affected area to provide information and guidance to citizens affected by the emergency or disaster. The county will provide the facility to house the DRC.
- H. Private or non-profit disaster relief organizations often offer services to victims independently of governmental efforts or coordination.
- I. A presidential declaration of Disaster Emergency is required to make available most of the federal recovery programs.
- J. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/Local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #14 branch.
- B. The ESF #14 branch will coordinate with Commonwealth and federal and local ESF #14 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- C. Resource needs will be obtained from County departments and agencies, other ESFs, and municipalities, before seeking help from outside the County.
- D. When safe, the County/Local Damage Assessment Teams will conduct an Initial Damage Assessment to determine the actual amount of damage. This information will be forwarded to PEMA.
- E. If there is sufficient damage to justify a request for federal disaster, a Joint (Commonwealth/federal) Preliminary Damage Assessment will be conducted. County ESF #14 personnel will assist in scheduling and in acting as guides.
- F. A thorough assessment of damage will be conducted, and the information will be analyzed to determine the immediate needs in affected communities and to assist in a decision whether to seek federal assistance.
- G. The County will form a County Recovery Task Force comprised of representatives from the government and private sectors to coordinate and guide the recovery process. The Recovery Task Force will make recommendations to elected officials regarding:
 1. Priorities for recovery efforts
 2. Mitigation projects to preclude or minimize future damage
 3. Revising zoning and subdivision ordinances.
 4. Lower taxes for open space or reduced-density development.
- H. Debris management and donations management operations begin, and emergency response functions will continue as necessary.
- I. ESF #14 branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- J. The Long-Term Community Recovery ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary (e.g. debris management activities see the County Debris Management Plan).

4. Organization and Responsibilities

A. Primary Department or Agency

- 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF branches, and other matters.
- 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with branch members.
- 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with branch members.
- 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.
- 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
- 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.

B. Support Departments or Agencies

- 1). Aid the Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for long term community recovery operations, as possible.
- 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
- 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.
- 4). The Long-Term Community Recovery ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.

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| 5. | Administration and Logistics | Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base) |
| 6. | Authority and References | See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 7. | Definitions of Terms | See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 8. | Training and Exercises | See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan |
| 9. | Annex Maintenance | The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex. |

Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 15 Annex External Affairs

NIMS Category: **COMMAND STAFF**

Coordinating Agency: County/Local EMA

Primary Agency: County/Local PIO

Support Agencies: Municipalities
County Commissioners Office
Emergency Management – Public Information
County News Media Outlets
EAS Station
Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
Commonwealth or Private Agencies

1. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

External Affairs (Emergency Support Function –ESF # 15) ensures the coordination and dissemination of official County/local information necessary to support emergency response or recovery operations or other disaster assistance initiatives and to assure coordination of information and instructions released to the public.

B. Scope

1). ESF #15 responsibilities include:

- a). Providing accurate information to the media.
- b). Monitoring public concerns through a “rumor control” hotline.
- c). Managing and utilizing the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS).
- d). Providing the public with information regarding the location, severity and magnitude of the emergency or disaster.

2). Potential operations include:

- a). Formulation of media statements,
- b). Scheduling and conduct of press briefings,
- c). Development of pre-scripted and pre-emergency media statements, press/media packages,
- d). Answering the rumor control hotline and monitoring for misinformation and rumors that may need to be addressed,
- e). Analyzing information and rumors to identify trends or possible erroneous information,
- f). Development of emergency public announcements,
- g). Coordination and release of information with other involved agencies (Municipalities, PEMA, FEMA, VOAD), and
- h). Transmission of timely messages to the various media outlets, the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS).

2. Situation and Assumptions

- A. The extent of damage to the transportation and communications infrastructures of the affected area will influence the ability to provide resources and information.
- B. During periods of emergencies, there will be a heavy demand for public information.
- C. Local and National news media will cooperate per parameters set forth in guidance documents.
- D. Each level of government (Federal, Commonwealth, County, and Municipal) will furnish timely information and coordinate news releases.
- E. The County can activate the Emergency Alert System and the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System for local, regional, or countywide emergency announcements.

- F. A rumor control number will be established, and the number will be distributed via various media outlets and publications.
- G. Support and assistance from outside the County can be obtained through the Regional Task Force or the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- H. The County/municipalities must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which requires that emergency policies be modified to enable people with disabilities to evacuate, use emergency transportation, stay in shelters, and participate in all emergency and disaster-related programs together with their service animals.

3. Concept of Operations

- A. The County/Local EMA is the coordinating agency and will coordinate efforts and missions of ESF #15 branch.
- B. ESF #15 branch will monitor local and national media to be aware of current information and to monitor the accuracy of statements related to the emergency or disaster.
- C. The County ESF #15 branch will coordinate with local, Commonwealth and federal ESF #15 branches to avoid duplication and to maximize the results of all efforts.
- D. All information released to the media will be through the Public Information Officer after clearance with the County commissioners or the County coordinator.
- E. Whenever possible and time permitting, information will be coordinated with public information officers of the involved municipalities. When other counties are involved, all information that will impact upon other counties will be cleared with that County or with the PEMA Press Secretary.
- F. When it becomes apparent that there will be several counties or Commonwealth agencies involved, a Joint Information Center (JIC) will be established. The County PIO will act as JIC coordinator, unless relieved by a press secretary from a Commonwealth-level agency, in which case the County PIO will assist in the operation of the JIC. If the County PIO needs assistance, the PEMA press secretary will be requested to respond to the county to assist.
- G. Timely press briefings will be held to report information concerning emergency response efforts to reassure citizens that the situation is under control.
- H. ESF #15 members will monitor the questions and comments coming into the rumor control hotline, and craft press releases to deal with patterns or trends of misinformation that may be detected.
- I. The County will seek the cooperation of all local media prior to and during emergencies.
- J. Public service announcements, as well as warnings for the hearing impaired or other special needs populations, will be disseminated in the most appropriate and effective manner to reach the largest audiences.
- K. The County PIO will conduct public information and education programs on emergency preparedness.
- L. ESF #15 branch members will monitor activities and deployments to ensure the core duties of their respective organizations can continue to be performed.
- M. The Emergency Management ESF Branch or the branch members may participate in other emergency response missions as necessary.
- N. County/municipalities to use social media networks to provide pre/post emergency information.

4. Organization and Responsibilities

- A. Primary Department or Agency
 - 1). Act as the Branch Director as well as the branch's representative in policy discussions, negotiations with other ESF branches, and other matters.
 - 2). Develop procedures and policies, as necessary, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 3). Act as the coordinating agent for all related resources; develop operations assignments, and direct deployment, in cooperation with branch members.
 - 4). Ensure sufficient persons are identified and trained to staff the branch for 24-hour operations.

- 5). Establish liaison with ESF #5 to facilitate the sharing of information and data.
 - 6). Collect, compile, and report information and data, as appropriate.
- B. Support Departments or Agencies
- 1). Aid the Branch Director and make resources of their respective organizations available for external affairs operations, as possible.
 - 2). Provide supplemental staff to support the branch as necessary.
 - 3). Track the use of resources from their respective organizations and share that information with the Branch Director.

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| 5. | Administration and Logistics | Resource Lists (are maintained in a computer data base) |
| 6. | Authority and References | See Appendix 1 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 7. | Definitions of Terms | See Appendix 2 Emergency Operations Plan |
| 8. | Training and Exercises | See Section IV Emergency Operation Plan |
| 9. | Annex Maintenance | The coordinating agency is responsible for the review and maintenance of the annex. |