

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 13

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

ICS Function: Operations, Incident Command (IC)

LEAD: Sheriff
Coupeville Marshall
Langley Police Department
Oak Harbor Police Department

SUPPORT: Department of Emergency Management (DEM)
Washington State Patrol (WSP)

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

1. To provide guidelines for maintaining civil order and security under emergency/disaster conditions.
2. To provide for the effective coordination of law enforcement operations within Island County in the event of an emergency/disaster.
3. To utilize local law enforcement communication resources to support emergency operations.

B. Scope

The intent of this Emergency Support Function (ESF) is to outline the law enforcement procedures required to respond to emergencies and disaster incidents in Island County.

II. POLICIES

- A.** The Sheriff will function as the law enforcement coordinator for emergencies, disasters, and catastrophic events in accordance with RCW 38.52.
- B.** Municipal police departments/constables will retain all authority for activities within their jurisdictions in accordance with municipal emergency operations plans.
- C.** A law enforcement-oriented emergency, disaster, or catastrophic event is any large scale emergency situation where the maintenance of law and order is the primary focal point, i.e., hostage or terrorist activity, riot and civil disturbance, terrorism

incident as declared by the chief officer of the responsible law enforcement agency/department.

- D.** The Incident Command System (ICS) will be used at all Island County emergency or disaster incidents. At declared Law-Enforcement incidents, the senior law-enforcement officer of the jurisdiction will be the incident commander (IC) until command is formally transferred.

III. SITUATION

A. Emergency/Disaster Conditions and Hazards

Island County is vulnerable to the effects of flooding, extreme wind and storm, earthquake damage, and the possible effects of volcanic eruption. These hazards could cause public and private property loss and damage, death and injury, damage to the environment, and prolonged disruption of commercial activity in the county. These and other possible hazards will require maximum efforts by available law enforcement personnel to maintain civil control and property security. While other hazards are possible they are not expected to produce as widespread or prolonged impact on the county.

B. Planning Assumptions

1. General law enforcement problems are compounded by disaster related community disruption, restriction of movement, impacted communications and facilities, and a shortage of law-enforcement resources.
2. The capabilities of local law enforcement agencies will be quickly exceeded. Supplemental assistance shall be requested through local and state emergency management channels and the operation of mutual aid agreements (MAAs).

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. In time of an emergency/disaster, law enforcement agencies shall be called upon to perform a wide range of functions, including, but not limited to: warning, evacuation; search and rescue; emergency transportation; emergency communications; control of disaster site access; looting control; crowd control; emergency traffic control; and damage assessment.
2. The Sheriff, in addition to having 24-hour operational capability, has two-way radio communication links

between its respective mobile units and the county EOC. This becomes a valuable resource during a disaster situation. (See ESF 2 Communications, Information Systems, and Warning for communication frequencies).

3. If an emergency occurs within unincorporated Island County, the Sheriff will exercise overall authority for law enforcement activities and responsibilities.
4. Law enforcement units, with the use of their sirens and public address systems, may be requested to disseminate warning and emergency information.
5. The Mutual Aid Act (Washington Laws of 1985, Chapter 89, Section 7(1)) provides law enforcement with mutual assistance capabilities between jurisdictions.
6. The Sheriff may provide a representative to the Island County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to coordinate disaster law enforcement activities between local, district, and state law enforcement agencies, if available.

B. Organization

Law Enforcement agencies presently available for emergency operations in Island County consist of:

1. Sheriff and Reserves
2. City Police Departments
3. Whidbey NAS Law Enforcement (only on U.S. Navy Property).
4. WSP – Whidbey Island Detachment

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Local: Island County Sheriff

The Sheriff will:

1. Notify the Director, DEM of major law-enforcement emergencies. Notification of the County Commissioners will be accomplished by the Sheriff.
2. Provide incident command (IC) and coordinate ground and water search and rescue operations within unincorporated Island County.

3. Control traffic during and after emergencies and disaster; and maintain access and egress routes.
4. Maintain order in and around emergency/disaster scene; safeguard property in and around scene. Investigate all crimes committed.
5. Provide a representative to the County EOC as requested. Provide security for the EOC if necessary.
6. Recommend the evacuation of endangered population. Inform the public of evacuation orders including, but not limited to: door-to-door notification of persons in affected area, and warning the public through the use of mobile public address systems. Provide security, if resources are available, to evacuated property
7. Assist the Coroner in necessary investigation, identification, recovery and management of deceased persons.
8. Maintain necessary mutual aid agreements with other jurisdictions for law enforcement services.
9. Provide incident documentation, reports, and financial information.

B. DEM

1. Activate EOC and issue emergency warning(s).
2. Provide the means for coordinating capabilities, resources, and assets necessary to alleviate disaster impacts on citizens and public entities caused by an emergency or disaster.
3. Coordinate documentation of emergency activities and recovery of funds.

C. City/Town Law Enforcement Agencies

1. Provide law enforcement support in accordance with mutual aid agreements.
2. Provide a decision-making representative to the incident command post (ICP) or the EOC at the request of the IC or EOC supervisor.
3. Provide warning and communication support.

D. Public Information

Coordinate all public information and instructions and media relations as defined in ESF #15, External Affairs/Public Information, Island County CEMP.

E. State

1. State Emergency Management Division (EMD)

Serves as the focal point for all state level emergency support. Operates the State EOC.

2. Washington State Patrol (WSP)

- a. Assist the Sheriff, and city/town police, in law enforcement operations.
- b. Coordinate and maintain liaison with the appropriate state departments, as identified in the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).
- c. Provide warning and communications support.

F. All Law Enforcement Agencies

Support recovery operations as defined in agency Emergency Operation Procedures (EOP) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) or as requested by the Island County EOC, to include:

1. Maintaining post emergency/disaster security patrols.

2. Controlling re-entry into controlled or evacuated areas.
3. Assisting in damage assessment activities.
4. Investigate criminal activity related to the incident or emergency.

VI. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

- A.** The primary and support agencies will provide their own internal support, i.e. vehicles, tactical equipment, and funding.
- B.** All off-duty and reserve personnel will be recalled. All personnel will be placed on extended work shifts.

VIII. REFERENCES

- A.** Island County Sheriff's Department Policy Manual
- B.** EOC Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
- C.** Mutual Aid Act (Washington Laws of 1985, Chapter 89, Section 7 [1])
- D.** Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)
- E.** Island County CEMP, References

IX. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

See Island County CEMP, References, Definitions and Acronyms