

Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan

Part III

State of Texas Emergency Management Plan



Rick Perry, Governor
February 2004

**STATE OF TEXAS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
BASIC PLAN**

Revision 5

APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION

This plan applies to all State agencies, boards, commissions, and departments assigned emergency responsibilities in this plan, and to others as designated by the Governor or Director of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management as well as local governments in Texas.

The Director, Governor's Division of Emergency Management, will provide guidance and direction to the State Coordinator, Governor's Division of Emergency Management, in the conduct of emergency response and disaster recovery activities.

This plan is hereby approved for implementation and supersedes all previous editions.

Pursuant to The Texas Disaster Act of 1975, Government Code §§ 418.042, 418.043(13), and 418.173(a), failure to comply with this plan or a rule, order, or ordinance adopted under this plan is an offense punishable, for each transaction, by penalty of a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term not exceeding 180 days.

Date

Governor

Director
Governor's Division of Emergency Management

State Coordinator
Governor's Division of Emergency Management

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EXPLANATION OF TERMS

A. ACRONYMS

AGD	Adjutant General 's Department
ARC	American Red Cross
BPC	Texas Building & Procurement Commission
CAP	Civil Air Patrol
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CIPC	Critical Infrastructure Protection Council
COG	Continuity of government or councils of government
COOP	Continuity of operations
CPA	Comptroller of Public Accounts
DADS	Department of Aging & Disability Services
DARS	Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Service
DDC	Disaster District Committee
DFO	Disaster Field Office
DPFS	Department of Protective & Family Services
DHS	Department of Human Services
DIR	Department of Information Resources
DPS	Department of Public Safety
DRC	Disaster Recovery Center
DSHS	Department of State Health Services
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EMC	Emergency Management Coordinator
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ERN	Emergency Response Network
ERT-A	FEMA Emergency Response Team – Advance
ESC	Emergency Support Center
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FCO	Federal Coordinating Officer
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency, an element of US DHS
FRP	Federal Response Plan
FRERP	Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan
GAR	Governor's Authorized Representative
GDEM	Governor's Division of Emergency Management
GLO	Texas General Land Office
HCA	Department of Housing & Community Affairs

HSAS	Homeland Security Advisory System
ICP	Incident Command Post
JIC	Joint Information Center
JOC	Joint Operations Center
JRIES	Joint Regional Intelligence Exchange System
MHMR	Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation
NAWS	National Warning System
NCP	National Contingency Plan
NLETS	National Law Enforcement Telecommunication System
NRP	National Response Plan
OAG	Office of the Attorney General
ORCA	Office of Rural Community Affairs
PUC	Public Utility Commission of Texas
ROC	FEMA Regional Operations Center
RRC	Railroad Commission of Texas
RRP	FEMA Regional Response Plan
RSA	Resource Staging Area
SAO	State Auditor's Office
SAC	State Area Command
SCO	State Coordinating Officer
SEMC	State Emergency Management Council
SERC	State Emergency Response Commission
SERT	State Emergency Response Team
SOC	State Operations Center
TAHC	Texas Animal Health Commission
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
TCFP	Texas Commission on Fire Protection
TDA	Department of Agriculture
TDCJ	Department of Criminal Justice
TDH	Department of Health
TDI	Department of Insurance
TEA	Texas Education Agency
TEEX	Texas Engineering Extension Service
TFS	Texas Forest Service
TEWAS	Texas Warning System
TIPCC	Texas Infrastructure Protection Communications Center
TLETS	Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunication System
TPWD	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
TRC	Texas Rehabilitation Commission
TSA	The Salvation Army
TSAAC	Texas Security Alert & Analysis Center
TSMPS	Texas Strategic Military Planning Commission

TWC Texas Workforce Commission
TXDOT Department of Transportation

US DHS US Department of Homeland Security
US EPA US Environmental Protection Agency
US NRC US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

B. DEFINITIONS

Critical Infrastructure: Public or private assets, systems, and functions vital to the security, governance, public health and safety, economy, or morale of the state or the nation.

Emergency: The occurrence or imminent threat of a condition, situation, or event that requires immediate response actions to save lives; prevent injuries; protect property, public health, the environment, and public safety; or to lessen or avert the threat of a disaster. An emergency is a situation larger in scope and more severe in terms of actual or potential effects than an incident. The local Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is typically activated to mobilize local resources, coordinate external resource support, conduct mid- and long-term planning, and disseminate emergency public information. Some technical assistance or resources may be requested from the State; the local Disaster District EOC and the State Operations Center (SOC) are typically activated to monitor and respond to the situation.

Emergency situations: This term is used in this Plan when the intent is to describe a full range of crisis situations – from incidents at the low end of the crisis spectrum to disasters at the high end of spectrum.

Disaster: The occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, loss of life or property that is beyond the capability of the governments within the affected area to resolve with their resources. Local EOCs are activated to carry out the functions described above. State and/or federal response assistance will be needed to resolve the situation and carry out recovery activities. One or more Disaster District EOCs and the State Operations Center (SOC) will be fully activated to respond to the disaster.

Homeland Security Activity: Any activity related to the prevention or discovery of, response to, or recovery from a terrorist attack, natural or manmade disaster, hostile or paramilitary action, or extraordinary law enforcement emergency.

Incident: An emergency situation that is limited in scope and potential effects on lives and property and is typically handled by one or two local response agencies acting under an incident commander. An incident may require limited external assistance from other local response forces. The local EOC is usually not activated.

**STATE OF TEXAS
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

I. AUTHORITY

This plan applies to emergency management operations in the State of Texas and supersedes all previous editions. Strategic planning guidance and authorities governing its enactment and implementation include:

A. STATE

1. *Constitution of the State of Texas.*
2. Executive Order of the Governor relating to Emergency Management and Homeland Security
3. Chapter 418 (Emergency Management), Government Code.
4. Chapter 421 (Homeland Security), Government Code.
5. Chapter 433 (State of Emergency), Government Code.
6. Chapter 791 (Interlocal Cooperation Contracts), Government Code.
7. Chapter 778 (Emergency Management Assistance Compact), Health and Safety Code.
8. Sections 88.112-88.116 (South Central Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact), Education Code
9. Respective State Agency, Department, and Commission enabling legislation.
10. Title 37 (Public Safety and Corrections), Administration Code.
11. *The Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan, Parts I and II, December 15, 2003.*

B. FEDERAL

1. Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended.
2. *The National Strategy for Homeland Security, July 16, 2002.*
3. Emergency Management and Assistance, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 44.
4. Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 1988, Public Law 100-408, as amended.
5. Emergency Management Assistance Compact, Public Law 104-321.
6. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 3: Homeland Security Advisory System.
7. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5: Management of Domestic Incidents.

8. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7: Critical Infrastructure Identification, Prioritization, and Protection.

C. MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS AND CONTINGENCY PLANS

1. *Southern Agreement for Mutual State Radiological Assistance*
2. *Federal Response Plan (FRP)*
3. *FEMA Region VI Regional Response Plan (RRP)*
4. *Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan (FRERP)*
5. *National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)*

II. PURPOSE

A. PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN

1. This plan has been prepared by the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) pursuant to §418.042 of the Government Code, which requires that GDEM prepare and keep current a comprehensive emergency management plan, and Chapter 421 (Homeland Security) of the Government Code. A comprehensive emergency management plan describes how the State will mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the impact of hazards to public health and safety, including natural disasters, technological accidents, homeland security threats, and other emergency situations.
2. This plan establishes operational concepts and identifies tasks and responsibilities required to carry out a comprehensive emergency management program. It describes the State's emergency management organization and a statewide system of direction and control. It indicates who is expected to do what, when, where, and how to prevent and manage emergency situations. It defines the specific duties and responsibilities of departments, agencies, and organizations represented on the Emergency Management Council and provides for coordination of appropriate preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery actions with both the federal government and with local governments.
3. This plan addresses the steps necessary to ensure continuity of our representative form of government in the event of a major disaster as well as the continuity of the operation of State government and local governments to provide protection and essential services to the citizens of the State.
4. This plan, though comprehensive, includes provisions for flexibility of methods, operations, and actions needed to facilitate the efforts of the State and local governments in accomplishing emergency management objectives.

B. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANNING DOCUMENTS

1. **Relationship to Homeland Security Strategies.** This plan is intended to implement the general homeland security strategy for the State established by the Governor in the

Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan, Parts I and II, which in large part implement the national strategy established by the President in the *National Strategy for Homeland Security*. The *Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan* sets three general objectives:

- a. Prevent terrorist attacks within Texas by enhancing communication and coordination.
- b. Reduce the State's vulnerability to terrorism by protecting critical infrastructure and key assets.
- c. Minimize the damage and recover from attacks that do occur.

This plan provides for the employment of state resources in partnership with local governments, industry, volunteer groups, and the federal government to carry out operational strategies to achieve homeland security and emergency management objectives and should be considered as Part III of the *Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan*.

2. **Relationship to Other State Plans.** This basic plan is supported by a number of specialized state plans. These include specialized plans for complex large-scale hazards such as the *Drought Contingency Plan*, and other plans developed to address special emergency situations, typically of limited scope and duration, such as the *Emergency Drinking Water Plan*. Such stand-alone plans are considered as supplements to the *State of Texas Emergency Management Plan*. The State also produces a *State Mitigation Action Plan* to guide state hazard mitigation activities and a number of administrative plans required by the federal government which outline policies and procedures for certain recovery programs.
3. **Relationship to Local Emergency Management Plans.** This plan provides for coordination with local officials concerning credible threats and the effective integration of state support for local emergency operations when local officials request state assistance. Local emergency management plans provide guidance for the employment of local emergency resources, mutual aid resources, and specialized regional response resources under a local incident commander, who may be supported by a local EOC. Local emergency plans include specific provisions for requesting and employing state resources to aid in managing and resolving emergency situations for which local resources are inadequate.
4. **Relationship to Federal Contingency Plans.** This plan provides for integration of state response operations with the federal agencies responding to emergency situations in Texas at the request of the Governor pursuant to the *Federal Response Plan (FRP)*, the *Federal Radiological Emergency Preparedness Plan (FRERP)*, the *National Contingency Plan (NCP)* and other federal contingency plans. These three federal response plans are in the process of being incorporated into a new *National Response Plan*.
5. **Relationship to Interstate Agreements.** This plan also addresses provisions for requesting emergency assistance from other states or providing emergency assistance to other states pursuant to the Emergency Management Assistance Compact and a number of specialized agreements to which the State of Texas is party.

III. SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS

A. SITUATION

1. The *State of Texas Hazard Analysis*, published by the GDEM, provides detailed information concerning the occurrences and impact of hazards in Texas. The types of hazards threatening this state include:
 - a. Natural hazards such as wildfires, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, lightning, snow or ice storms and droughts;
 - b. Technological hazards such as major transportation accidents, oil spills, industrial fires and explosions, nuclear facility accidents, or hazardous material spills (radioactive or chemical);
 - c. Homeland Security threats, including attacks by foreign military forces and terrorists with conventional, chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological weapons; and
 - d. Other threats, including civil unrest, strikes affecting production and distribution of critical goods and services, and energy shortages.
2. The federal government recognizes that an attack on the United States is possible by foreign military forces, although that is presently considered highly unlikely; attacks by terrorists are considered more likely. A large-scale military attack would likely be preceded by a period of international tension that may provide strategic warning. However, acts of terrorism can occur any place and at any time with little or no warning.
3. It is possible for emergency situations to occur at any time and at any place in the State and all levels of government must be prepared to respond with little or no warning. For emergency situations that develop slowly, such as riverine flooding, dissemination of timely warning and implementation of preventive measures may be possible to reduce the threat to lives and property. Similarly, dissemination of specific credible intelligence on terrorist threats may aid local and state officials in preventing terrorist acts.
4. The State of Texas has periodically experienced disasters that were so widespread or severe that local and state and local resources were insufficient to meet response and recovery needs. In these circumstances, the State has sought and received assistance from the federal government and some other states. However, most large disaster recovery programs are federal programs, and not all disasters that occur in Texas will qualify for federal disaster assistance. In these cases, the State and volunteer groups may be able to provide limited recovery assistance.
5. Many of the threats facing the State have the potential to cause catastrophic damage, mass casualties, and mass fatalities. The occurrence of a catastrophic disaster could quickly overwhelm affected local governments and rapidly deplete state resources. It is essential that all levels of government be prepared to continue to operate effectively during crises and continue to ensure public safety, provide essential services, and maintain uninterrupted direction and control capabilities.
6. The Constitution of the State of Texas, as well as other state laws, requires the State and

local governments to implement certain continuity of government (COG) programs, including providing for emergency succession of governmental officials, identification of alternate operating facilities, preservation of vital records, and protection of government personnel, materials, and facilities. These measures should be in place before threats materialize to ensure continuity of government is maintained following emergencies or disasters.

7. Effective pre-disaster mitigation, thorough preparedness, timely warning, and well-trained and equipped response forces can reduce the number of deaths and injuries caused by a hazard. Effective pre-disaster mitigation can also reduce the amount of damage to private and public property and facilities that results from a disaster.
8. The ability of the State and local governments to respond to and provide for the safety and welfare of the public during an emergency or disaster is directly influenced by the effectiveness of preparedness, response, and continuity of government operations. The ability of the State and local governments to recover and resume normal operations following a disaster is directly influenced by the effectiveness of continuity of government, continuity of operations, and recovery planning.
9. The availability of critical emergency response and recovery capabilities and resources can be expanded through employment of intrastate and interstate mutual aid. Local governments are encouraged to enter into local and regional mutual aid agreements to supplement their capabilities.
10. Although the State and local governments have a wide variety of emergency response assets, both the State and many local governments also contract with industry for certain specialized emergency response equipment, supplies, and services to supplement their organic resources.
11. Elected officials in Texas do not have the authority to issue mandatory evacuation orders. However, the Governor, mayors, and county judges may recommend evacuation of the population and control ingress and egress to and from a disaster area.

B. ASSUMPTIONS

1. The State and its political subdivisions will continue to experience emergency situations and disasters that may cause death, injury, and damage, or may necessitate evacuation and sheltering of the public at risk.
2. Local governments will develop, maintain, and implement comprehensive emergency management plans that address all hazards and contain mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery elements and procedures in accordance with state planning standards.
3. In the event of an enemy attack involving nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons, large areas of the State could suffer catastrophic levels of deaths, casualties, physical damages, and long-term contamination. To save lives, the Governor, at the request of the President, may request that residents of possible target areas relocate to areas of lower risk.
4. Emergency response and recovery capabilities can be enhanced by employment of supplemental resources obtained through intrastate and interstate mutual aid

agreements and from private industry.

5. Local emergency operations, including mutual aid, will be directed by officials of the local government, except in those situations where state law requires that a state agency exercise lead responsibility or where local government personnel require special expertise to cope with the problem(s) at hand.
6. State resources may be committed when local resources, including mutual aid resources, are inadequate to cope with an emergency situation or threat and a valid request for supplemental state assistance is made by a mayor, county judge or their designee. To insure that the most readily available sources of emergency assistance are fully considered, cities must request assistance from their county before requesting assistance from the State. If a state assistance team is operating to cope with a unique emergency situation such as a hazardous material (hazmat) spill or radiological incident, then the local chief elected official or his designee will be kept informed of progress in responding to and rectifying the situation.
7. A number of hazards that threaten Texas are capable of causing a catastrophic disaster. The most probable is a Category 4 or greater hurricane, with sustained winds in excess of 130 miles per hour, impacting heavily populated areas of the Texas Coast.
8. The occurrence of a catastrophic event could cause such widespread damage to the infrastructure that existing emergency response capabilities of state and local governments are curtailed or are otherwise inadequate to the needs of the situation. Such an event could result in governments being victims of the disaster and therefore unable to adequately provide for the safety and welfare of the general public.
9. It is expected that state-owned facilities and resources in a catastrophic disaster area also will suffer widespread damage and destruction. This situation may severely limit or eliminate immediate response capabilities of state agencies within the disaster area.
10. Federal level response and recovery assistance will be necessary to provide for the public safety before, during, and after a catastrophic event in Texas. It is expected that federal assistance provided to Texas will be based upon specific requests and priorities provided by the State.
11. Although this plan outlines procedures for coordinating the provision of supplemental emergency assistance, it is essential for all levels of government to be prepared to carry out emergency response and short-term recovery actions on an independent basis.
12. Actions should be taken to maintain a representative form of government in the State. Emergency situations may cause the death of or injury to key elected and appointed officials. Should this occur, emergency response operations will be more effective if lines of succession have been pre-established that clearly identify who is in charge and what emergency powers they are authorized to use.
13. Government offices, including emergency facilities, may be destroyed or become inoperable during a major disaster. Emergency response operations will be more effective if emergency facilities are protected and alternate sites for essential government operations pre-selected. Having mobile emergency operations centers or command posts available may also preserve operational capabilities.

14. Normal communications systems may be destroyed, degraded, or rendered inoperable in a disaster. Emergency response operations will be more effective if compatible, alternate, and/or mobile communications capabilities are available and operational. Comprehensive pre-planning will be necessary to ensure effective communications during crisis situations.
15. Normal operating procedures can be disrupted during a crisis situation; however, governments can still operate effectively if employees understand their emergency responsibilities and have pre-designated tasks and assembly instructions.
16. The destruction of key facilities as well as essential equipment and supplies located in hazard-vulnerable areas can be greatly reduced through preplanned actions to protect these resources in place or by relocating them.
17. The identification and continued protection of vital records is essential to the continuity of government and the effective return to normal operations of an area affected by a disaster.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. GENERAL

The *State of Texas Emergency Management Plan* (the State Plan) is Part III of the *Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan*. It is the basic planning document for state-level comprehensive emergency management actions. The State Plan consists of a basic plan (this document) and functional support annexes, which detail general coordination responsibilities and emergency actions required during various phases of emergency management. The Plan establishes Emergency Support Functions (ESF); annexes to the plan outline specific responsibilities of each agency or organization assigned to each ESF. Appendices to most annexes have been prepared to facilitate accomplishment of functional responsibilities. Specific information on how functions are to be performed are outlined in standard operating procedures (SOPs), operating manuals, and other documents which may be referred to in the basic plan, annexes, or appendices.

B. PLANNING CONCEPTS

1. Comprehensive Emergency Management

- a. Emergency management consists of phased, coordinated, mutually supporting actions by government at all levels -- local, state, and federal -- to **mitigate** the effects of hazards, to **prepare** to conduct effective emergency operations by planning and conducting training, to **respond** appropriately during emergencies and provide necessary assistance, and to implement **recovery** operations in order to efficiently return a community to normal following an emergency or disaster.
- b. Comprehensive emergency management involves a cycle of activities conducted by each level of government before, during, and after an emergency situation, including:
 - 1) **Mitigation**: Mitigation activities eliminate hazards, reduce the probability of their occurrence, or their effects.

- 2) *Preparedness*: Mitigation efforts alone cannot eliminate or prevent all emergency situations. Preparedness activities ensure governments and their citizens are ready to react promptly and effectively during an emergency. Preparedness activities include obtaining information on threats, carrying out emergency planning to prepare an organized response to emergencies, providing disaster preparedness training for emergencies, conducting emergency drills and exercises to test plans and training, obtaining and maintaining emergency equipment and facilities, establishing intergovernmental coordination arrangements, and conducting public education related to emergencies
- 3) *Response*: Response includes those actions that must be carried out when an emergency exists or is imminent. It includes notifying key officials and warning the public of emergency situations; activating emergency facilities; mobilizing, deploying, and employing personnel, equipment, and supplies to resolve the emergency situation; and providing emergency assistance to the affected local population.
- 4) *Recovery*: Recovery consists of short-term and long-term activities.
 - a) Short-term recovery operations are conducted to restore vital services, such as electrical power, water, and sewer systems, clear roads in affected areas, and to provide emergency assistance to disaster victims. Disaster relief programs to help restore the personal, social, and economic well being of private citizens will be administered by non-profit disaster relief and charitable organizations, and local, state, and federal disaster relief programs
 - b) Long-term recovery focuses on restoring communities to a normal state by assisting property owners in repairing or rebuilding their homes and businesses and assisting local governments, school districts, and other public non-profit agencies in restoring or reconstructing damaged infrastructure. State and local agencies will administer the provisions of federal and state disaster relief laws to provide for restoration and recovery of vital facilities. Post disaster mitigation programs may also be implemented during the recovery period.

2. All-Hazards Planning

State and local emergency planning in Texas uses an all-hazard approach, which is used by the Federal government and recommended by the US Department of Homeland Security for state and local governments. All-hazard planning is based on the fact that most of the functions performed during emergency situations are not hazard specific. For example, evacuation may be required because of flooding, a chemical spill, or a terrorist threat. Hence, the most efficient approach to planning is to plan in some detail for the tasks required to carry out basic emergency functions, such as warning or evacuation, that may have to be executed whether an incident is caused by a natural, technological, or man-made hazard. All-hazards plans are supplemented by some hazard specific plans for unique threats.

3. Comprehensive Resource Planning

- a. Comprehensive resource planning should include public sector resources and those private sector resources that can be reasonably expected to be made available, either on a voluntary or paid basis, including resources of industry and volunteer organizations, quasi-public resources, and donations. Similarly both intrastate and interstate mutual aid resources and federal resource assistance should be considered, where appropriate. All emergency organizations should have an inventory of their major emergency resources or provisions for representatives of the departments, agencies, and organizations that develop its plans and staff its emergency operations facilities to provide current resource information.
- b. When resources are limited, plans should address suspending, reducing, or deferring some government services so that personnel, equipment, supplies, and facilities involved can be redirected to support emergency operations.

4. Information Support for Emergency Planning and Operations

- a. The emergency planning process provides for the development of the information and intelligence needed both to develop realistic plans and to conduct effective emergency operations. This effort should include:
 - 1) An accurate analysis of natural and technological hazards, descriptions and/or maps of possible impact areas, and information on the characteristics of such areas.
 - 2) Intelligence on the identity, number, capabilities, and intentions of security threats.
 - 3) Estimates of the potential effects of various threats on people and property and where appropriate, tools to make dynamic assessments of such threats.
 - 4) A list of key facilities and major equipment that is needed to carry on the essential functions of government.
 - 5) A list of critical infrastructure, which typically includes both public and private sector facilities that are essential for to security, public health and safety, or the economy.
 - 6) Resource data, including public resources and those industry and volunteer group resources that can reasonably be expected to be available for emergency use.
- b. The State shall take the measures necessary to obtain and share intelligence and operational information essential to conducting effective emergency management operations with both the Federal government and with local governments. In the case of homeland security threats, much of that intelligence is sensitive and must be protected through effective safeguards. Effective information sharing provides decision makers at all levels of government with a sound basis for making decisions to posture and commit resources and implement plans and procedures.

C. OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE

1. Threat Monitoring

- a. The SOC will monitor the impact of natural and technological threat information, including weather warnings, disseminated by federal authorities and other agencies

as well as monitor the status of incidents that are reported by and being handled by local officials that may require state assistance. The SOC also assesses the potential impact of potential threats.

- b. State agencies are expected to monitor security threats reported by the industries they regulate, and provide information on those threats to the Department of Public Safety (DPS).
- c. The Texas Security Alert and Analysis Center (TSAAC) will analyze suspicious incidents relating to homeland security reported by law enforcement agencies, share information developed by the state with local governments, other states, and the US Department of Homeland Security through the Joint Regional Intelligence Exploitation System (JRIES) and respond to queries relating to such incidents.

2. Alert & Warning

- a. Alert. The SOC receives warnings of actual or potential emergency situations from federal agencies, state agencies, local governments, industry, and other sources. The SOC makes notification of impending threats and significant incidents that have occurred to senior state officials and state agencies. For many types of incidents, the SOC also makes notifications to FEMA and other federal agencies and to volunteer organizations active in disasters.
- b. Warning. In its role as the state warning point, the SOC relays warnings received through the National Warning System (NAWAS) and other warning networks as well as warnings generated by the state officials to regional warning points and local governments. Some types of warning, such as weather warnings, are disseminated on a routine basis. Other warnings are issued after a threat or situation has been analyzed and a determination made by senior officials that special warning is appropriate.
- c. The two general warning systems used by the State include the Texas Warning System (TEWAS) and the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (TLETS). The Emergency Response Network (ERN) is a specialized alerting system for designated state and local officials. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is the primary warning system that can be used to provide short warning or information messages directly to the public. Specialized agency communications systems that may be used for certain types of warning include the Department of Health's Health Alert Network, which reaches health professionals, and the Texas Education Agency's Statewide Education Notification System, which reaches school officials.

3. Activation of Emergency Facilities

- a. Emergency facilities will be activated at a level necessary to effectively monitor or respond to threats or actual emergency situations.
- b. State Operations Center (SOC). The SOC operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, but the level of staffing varies with the Emergency Readiness and Response Level.
 - 1) During Normal Conditions (Level 4), the permanent SOC staff operates the facility.

- 2) At Increased Readiness (Level 3), other member of the GDEM staff may augment the SOC staff.
- 3) At Escalated Response (Level 2), GDEM SOC teams are activated to conduct operations and the Emergency Management Council will be partially or fully activated, and selected liaison personnel may be summoned.
- 4) At Emergency Conditions (Level 1), GDEM SOC teams operate the facility, the full Council is typically convened, and liaison personnel are present.

GDEM SOPs for certain hazards provide specific guidance for activation of the SOC for those hazards.

- c. Disaster District Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). Disaster District Chairs activate Disaster District EOCs as needed. The DDC Chair may partially or fully activate the local Disaster District Committee to assist in coordinating state resource support.
- d. Incident Command Posts (ICPs). For most incidents and emergencies, local governments will establish an incident command post at which state agencies and organizations providing assistance will be represented. State incident command posts may be established as needed for incidents for which the State has primary responsibility, typically incidents that occur on state property.
- e. Local EOCs. Local EOCs are activated and deactivated as deemed necessary by local officials.
- f. Agency Emergency Support Centers. State agencies may establish emergency support centers (ESCs) from which to manage agency resources during emergencies and/or disasters. State Council member agencies that establish and operate an ESC to manage agency resources are still required to coordinate emergency operations and provide representatives as appropriate to the SOC and DDC EOCs.
- g. Disaster Field Office (DFO). State-federal Disaster Field Offices will be established by FEMA for those emergency events that result in a federal disaster or emergency declaration. It generally takes four to six days after a disaster or major emergency occurs for a DFO to be activated in the general area of impact. The facility will normally continue in operation until the state and FEMA agree that a centralized disaster recovery facility is no longer required in the affected area and residual functions can be transferred to GDEM and the FEMA regional headquarters.
- h. Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs). Federal and state personnel at the DFO coordinate on the locations for and opening and closing of DRCs.

4. Precautionary Prepositioning of Resources

- a. Where the impact point of an impending threat is known with reasonable certainty and precautionary deployment of personnel and equipment and prepositioning of supplies can facilitate a rapid response, the State may preposition resources. The State Coordinator will coordinate with the Governor's Office regarding the prepositioning of state resources. The Governor must approve the activation and deployment of National Guard and State Guard assets.

- b. In instances where a state agency wishes to pre-stage assets, the agency should coordinate with the appropriate Disaster District chair and the SOC
- c. Pre-deployment of state resources generally involves a significant cost to the State. Hence, the benefits of prepositioning resources should be carefully weighed against the cost.

5. Interagency Coordination

a. Coordination

- 1) The State will coordinate regularly with local governments, federal agencies, volunteer groups, and industry during impending threats, response operations, and recovery activities to coordinate actions, provide information, and resolve issues.
- 2) The SOC and DDC EOCs are equipped to conduct telephone conference and video teleconferences. General coordination conferences are normally conducted several times a day during emergency situations. Separate conference calls or video teleconferences may be conducted on specific issues.
- 3) The DFO staff conducts periodic conference on disaster recovery and post-disaster mitigation issues.

b. Situation Reporting

- 1) Local emergency plans provide that local EOCs will provide Situation Reports (SITREPs) to their Disaster District during major emergencies and disasters.
- 2) Disaster Districts are required to provide SITREPs to the SOC during major emergencies and disasters.
- 3) The SOC uses the SITREPs submitted by Disaster Districts and other information to prepare state SITREPs, which are disseminated to the Governor's Office, legislators, state agencies, federal agencies, and volunteer groups active in disasters.

c. Liaison Personnel

- 1) To facilitate information exchange, the State requests liaison officers from federal agencies, industry, and volunteer groups active in disasters during major emergencies and disasters. The State provides liaison officers to federal agencies and local governments.
- 2) Liaison Officers at the SOC

The following agencies and organization may be requested to provide liaison officers at the SOC:

- a) FEMA for most major emergencies and all disasters.

- b) The FBI for security related situations.
- c) Volunteer groups for most major emergencies and disasters.
- d) National Weather Service for severe weather.
- e) US Coast Guard for maritime incidents and search and rescue.
- f) US Environmental Protection Agency for major hazardous materials spills.
- g) US Nuclear Regulatory Commission for nuclear facility incidents.
- h) Nuclear power plants for nuclear power plant incidents.

3) State Liaison Officers

During major emergencies and disasters, GDEM Regional Liaison Officers and/or other state agency personnel may be deployed to local EOCs to assist in coordinating state emergency response activities with local governments.

6. Requests for Assistance

- a. Local governments have primary responsibility for local emergency management activities and directing and conducting emergency response operations during local emergency situations. Affected jurisdictions are expected to use their own resources first to respond to an emergency incident, summon mutual aid resources to assist, activate volunteer auxiliaries such as Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs), implement any contingency support agreements or contracts that may exist with industry, and request assistance from local volunteer groups who have agreed to support the jurisdiction during emergencies.
- b. When an emergency situation exceeds a local government's capability to respond or recover, that government may seek supplemental assistance, to include assistance in obtaining information needed to respond to an emergency situation, from the State. Counties may request assistance directly from their DDC Chairperson. Cities must first request assistance from their county. If the county cannot provide the requested assistance, the city may then request assistance from the appropriate DDC Chairperson. Attachment 6 illustrates the channels for requesting assistance.
- c. The DDC Chair is expected to validate the request for assistance and identify and task resources available with the District to meet the need. Use of the National or State Guard requires advance approval by the Governor, which will be coordinated by the SOC. If a particular state agency is required by law to render assistance in a certain type of emergency (e.g., oil spill, hazmat, animal disease outbreak, radiological event, etc.), then direct communications between local government officials and that state agency is appropriate; however, the DDC Chair must be kept informed of the operational situation. If state assistance is authorized by the DDC Chair or directed by statute, state agencies will provide response and recovery assistance within their capabilities in accordance with state statutes and regulations and this plan.
- d. State assistance furnished to local governments is to supplement local resources, not a substitute for them. The provision of state response assistance to local governments is not dependent upon a formal declaration of a State of Disaster either by the local government or Governor when such response is required by state law or, in the opinion of either the Governor, the Director of the Division of Emergency Management, the State Coordinator, or the DDC Chair, such assistance is needed for lifesaving operations or to relieve suffering and hardship.

- e. If the resources or information requested cannot be provided at the Disaster District, then the request for assistance will be forwarded to the SOC for action.
- f. When state resources are insufficient to deal with an emergency situation, the SOC senior staff will coordinate with the Governor's Office to request specific assistance from other states or the federal government.
 - 1) The Federal government may provide supplemental response and/or recovery assistance to Texas and its political subdivisions pursuant to the Stafford Act and other statutes. Federal resources are typically activated and employed in accordance with the *Federal Response Plan (FRP)*, the *National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)* or the *Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan (FRERP)*.
 - 2) Assistance also may be provided by other states in accordance with provisions of current agreements and plans, to include the *Southern Agreement for Mutual State Radiological Assistance*, the *South Central Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact*, and the *Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)*, which are discussed in *Annexes D, F, and N*, respectively.

7. Emergency Management Council & Disaster District Committee Operations

- a. The SEMC consists of both state agencies and volunteer organizations named to the Council by the Governor in the Executive Order Relating to Emergency Management. (*See Attachment 1 for SEMC membership.*)
- b. The SEMC is organized as a matrix organization that includes 22 emergency support functions, most consisting of a primary agency and one or more support agencies. Each ESF coordinates state planning for a specific emergency function and takes the lead in coordinating the execution of that function during emergencies. (*See Attachment 2 for the matrix of ESF assignments.*) The federal government also uses an ESF organizational scheme for its emergency operations. The ESF concept provides for efficient allocation of resources and a team approach to problem solving, and facilitates multi-agency operations. SEMC or DDC member agencies may be assigned as both a "primary" and/or a "support" agency for more than one ESF.
 - 1) Primary agencies coordinate the activities of their ESFs to develop and maintain appropriate annexes to this plan, and related materials and procedures. (*See Attachment 8 for annex assignments.*) Primary agencies are also responsible for coordinating emergency response and recovery activities through the established state emergency direction and control system as outlined in this plan, and for providing inputs for operational reports and other documentation in accordance with this plan and current procedures.
 - 2) State "support" agencies in each ESF are responsible for assisting designated primary agencies in accomplishing appropriate functional responsibilities and tasks in accordance with this plan and current procedures. Additionally, they are responsible for providing information and appropriate documentation as requested by designated primary agencies.

- c. This approach requires no radical organizational changes because, for the most part, the state departments or agencies that are responsible for certain functions on a daily basis retain those responsibilities during emergency response and disaster recovery operations. (See *Attachment 9 for general agency responsibilities.*) To the extent possible, the same personnel and material resources are employed. There are some exceptions, however, since some emergency management functions, such as managing donations, may not be performed by the state on a regular; in an emergency these functions must be coordinated by the most appropriate ESF of the SEMC and at the appropriate DDC.
- d. While ESFs of the SEMC are replicated to the fullest extent possible at the DDC level, some state agencies do not have regional offices and therefore cannot operate as ESF members except at the DDC. In these instances, the DDC Chairperson will select the most appropriate ESF member agency to act as the "primary" agency for that ESF.
- e. Requests for information relating to the emergency situation or requests for state resource assistance will be assigned to the most appropriate ESF at the DDC or SEMC for resolution. Most requests for assistance can be readily categorized and assigned to an identifiable ESF for resolution. However, some specific support requirements cannot not be easily categorized, such as emergency testing of privately owned water wells, emergency construction of levees, or conducting structural safety inspections in a disaster area. Such requests must be assigned to the most appropriate ESF(s). If the assistance is not available from state government, the ESF member agencies will use their working relationships with industry, associations, and other groups to determine how best the request for assistance might be satisfied.
- f. The response to requests for assistance or information addressed to the DDC or the SEMC will be coordinated by the most appropriate ESF. The agencies composing an ESF are expected to work together to satisfy emergency needs. They are expected to ensure they have a clear understanding of the assistance required, explore the full range of possible solutions, and recommend a preferred solution to the SOC Controller or DDC Chair. These recommended actions could include: (1) providing assistance through resources of an agency/organization in the ESF; (2) providing assistance through resources of a public or private non-state organization associated with an agency within the ESF; (3) providing assistance through a mission tasking to the Military Support ESF; (4) determining that the needed assistance is not available from any organization at the state government level and should be passed to the federal government for resolution; or (5) providing assistance through employment of intra or inter-state mutual aid resources. Based on the recommendations provided, mission assignments will then be issued by the appropriate direction and control authority and implemented by tasked agencies/organizations.
- g. Annexes to this plan detail the organization, responsibilities, actions, and operational procedures of each ESF. Functional responsibilities and tasks are multi-disciplined.

8. State Lead Agencies for Certain Incidents

In accordance with state laws, "lead" state agencies have been designated to exercise state oversight responsibilities for or manage the state response to certain types of

incidents. ESF responsibilities contained in the State Plan do not negate or alter these existing these mandates or procedures. Lead agencies designated with specific incident oversight responsibilities are as follows:

- a. *General Land Office* - incidents involving state-owned lands, coastal oil spills, and onshore/offshore petroleum storage facilities.
- b. *Railroad Commission of Texas* - incidents involving public safety or environmental threats such as spills or releases resulting from the exploration, development, and production of oil or geothermal resources.
- c. *Department of Health* - incidents involving radioactive materials.
- d. *Texas Forest Service* - coordination of response to major or potentially major wildfires.
- e. *Texas Commission on Environmental Quality* - incidents involving hazardous materials spill response, water quality, and dam safety.
- f. *Governor's Division of Emergency Management* - long-term energy emergencies and emergency response to drought.

9. **Local Governments**

- a. By Executive Order, the Governor has designated the mayor of each municipal corporation and the county judge of each county as emergency management directors for these political subdivisions. In that same Executive Order, the Governor further authorized those elected officials to exercise the powers granted the Governor by Chapter 418 of the Government Code an appropriate local scale during disasters.
- b. Mayors and county judges are responsible for emergency management planning within the jurisdiction and for providing guidance and direction for emergency response and recovery operations should emergency situations threaten or occur. Mayors and County Judges may appoint an emergency management coordinator (EMC), who shall serve as an assistant to the chief elected official to manage the emergency management program.
- c. Each local and interjurisdictional emergency management agency is required by state statute to prepare and keep current a local or interjurisdictional emergency management plan. GDEM promulgates state standards for local and interjurisdictional plans. Plans must address all aspects of emergency management to include hazard mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, and continuity of government.
- d. In the event that an emergency situation occurs, local officials are expected to:
 - 1) Activate an incident command operation and, if needed, the local EOC and other emergency facilities, and commit and direct appropriate local resources, including mutual aid resources and organized volunteer groups such as CERTs, to resolve the emergency situation.

- 2) Take measures to protect public health and safety and public and private property from damage or destruction.
- 3) Provide information on the emergency situation to the public and instructions on how to deal with it.
- 4) Provide situation reports to the appropriate Disaster District.
- 5) If local resources are insufficient to deal with the emergency situation, request assistance from the State and facilitate delivery and employment of those resources.
- 6) Facilitate state and federal recovery support if needed

f. State Assistance

- 1) Response Assistance. If local emergency resources, including mutual aid resources, are exhausted, inadequate, or unsuitable for the emergency response tasks that must be performed, the county judge or mayor should request supplemental state assistance from the appropriate DDC Chair. Mayors must initially forward requests for supplemental assistance to the county judge. If the county cannot provide the needed assistance, the city should then forward the request to their DDC Chair. Requests should identify the nature of the emergency/disaster, an estimate of the type and quantity of assistance needed, the approximate length of time the assistance will be required, point-of-contact information, and the desired delivery or staging location.
- 2) Recovery Assistance. If state and/or federal **recovery** assistance will be necessary to cope with a disaster, mayors and judges should submit a written request for such assistance to GDEM. The request should be accompanied by: a completed Disaster Summary Outline (DSO), a local Disaster Declaration, and other documentation as required by the most current version of the *Disaster Recovery Texas (DEM-62)* distributed by GDEM.

10. State Direction and Control System

- a. During emergency operations, state and local emergency responders will remain, to the extent possible, under the established management and supervisory control of their parent organizations.
- b. Key officials have been vested, either by state law, executive order, or this plan, with the responsibility for executing direction and control of multi-agency state response and recovery operations in a defined area of responsibility within Texas.
- c. These key officials are identified and discussed in Section VI of this plan. They are responsible for deciding response and/or recovery priorities of need. They have been provided the authority to commit state resources necessary and reasonable to satisfy those prioritized needs and likewise provided the authority to escalate the assistance request to a higher response support level. These key officials have the authority to issue mission assignments that involve the commitment of state personnel and/or material resources, and the expenditures of state funds to resolve emergency and/or disaster requirements.

- d. This direction and control system provides a means for agencies/ organizations to pursue existing mission requirements and for their emergency workers to continue to operate under their existing supervisory chain of command. This system also provides a means to focus the efforts and actions of multiple agencies/organizations to resolve the most important problems facing the entire impacted area through the prioritized commitment of efforts and deployment of resources.

11. Effect of a Disaster Declaration

- a. The Governor, by executive order or proclamation, may declare a State of Disaster for areas of the state affected by a disaster or the imminent threat of such an event. A county judge or mayor may also declare a local State of Disaster for their jurisdiction.
- b. A State of Disaster proclamation activates the disaster recovery and rehabilitation aspects of this plan and authorizes the deployment and use of resources needed to cope with the disaster situation. Such a proclamation by the Governor is also a requirement to activate the full-range of federal disaster recovery programs available to the state and a condition for requesting interstate mutual aid through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).
- c. Emergency response operations will be conducted in accordance with existing emergency management plans and are not dependent upon the declaration of a State of Disaster either at the State or local level.

12. Catastrophic Disaster Operations

- a. Upon determination of a possible catastrophic threat to Texas, the SOC and appropriate DDC EOCs will commence emergency operations. These facilities will continue operations for as long as needed.
- b. If adequate warning time is available prior to occurrence of a potentially catastrophic event, affected local governments, the applicable DDC Chair(s), and SEMC members will be informed of the situation and advised to commence pre-event response operations. The FEMA Region VI Director also will be advised of the situation and notified of the possible need for federal response assistance.
- c. It is essential that, when possible, response operations commence prior to actual occurrence of a catastrophic event. This requires the deployment and prepositioning of specific personnel, resources, and capabilities so as to be ready for immediate deployment into the disaster area once conditions allow. Based on need, the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) may be notified to report to designated staging areas for possible deployment into the disaster area. Based on anticipated needs and the seriousness of the situation, EMAC member states will also be notified of possible interstate mutual aid support requirements.
- d. The Governor must be provided with accurate and timely risk and threat assessment information prior to occurrence of a catastrophic event. If adequate warning time is available, it is expected that the State Coordinator will request that the Governor declare a State of Disaster based upon imminent threat. The commencement of immediate response operations, however, is not dependent upon such a declaration.

As a means to secure federal assistance and funds to reimburse the State and local governments for authorized response and recovery-related expenditures, the Governor will request federal assistance from the President through the FEMA Region VI Director in accordance with the *Stafford Act*. The Governor may request a Presidential Emergency Declaration prior to occurrence of the potentially catastrophic event (i.e., massive wildfires) and a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration soon after the actual occurrence of such an event.

- e. Following a request to the FEMA Region VI Director, the Region's Emergency Response Team – Advance Element (ERT-A), consisting of representatives of federal agencies that provide response/recovery assistance, will deploy to the SOC to obtain an update on the situation and coordinate the state staff. If it appears a federal emergency or disaster declaration will be granted, the ERT-A will then deploy to the vicinity of the disaster to inspect facilities for a Disaster Field Office.
- f. *The Federal Response Plan (FRP) and the associated Region VI Regional Response Plan (RRP) provide for federal response and recovery assistance through the coordinated actions of federal agencies. Federal agencies are also organized ESFs consisting of a primary agency and support agencies tasked to address functional-related needs, requirements, and capabilities. (See Attachment 7 for federal ESF information.)*
- g. When requested by a DDC Chair or directed by the State Coordinator, the SERT will be activated and deploy into the disaster area. The SERT will provide immediate, additional state presence in the disaster area, assess impact, identify immediate lifesaving and hazard-abatement needs, and provide an on-scene capability for enhanced emergency response operations.
- h. As soon as safe and practical, state response and recovery operations will begin in the disaster area. The goal of these operations is to save lives, reduce human suffering, and assist local governments. State and federal-level response and recovery operations in the disaster area are based on demonstrated need. Initial state and federal response assistance is expected to be limited immediately following the occurrence of a catastrophic event because of frequent difficulty in getting resources to the affected area. Affected local governments and state agencies should be prepared to provide for their own needs until the full response capability of state government, interstate mutual aid providers, and the federal government is deployed and operational. This amount of time will be influenced by the levels of preparedness achieved prior to occurrence of a catastrophic event.
- i. When a Federal Emergency or Disaster Declaration is approved by the President, FEMA, in conjunction with the State, will normally establish a Disaster Field Office (DFO) in proximity to the disaster area whenever there is significant field deployment of federal resources to provide response and recovery assistance. The DFO is a state-federal operation that is staffed by designated federal agency staff members and by representatives of designated SEMC agencies needed to coordinate response/recovery activities
- j. The SOC will continue operations for as long as needed to facilitate emergency response and initial recovery activities and until the DFO is staffed and operationally capable of coordinating recovery efforts. Once the DFO is operational, and where practical, the State Coordinator may transfer direction and control of certain state

response operations from the SOC to the DFO. This action will not change the role/responsibility of the DDC Chair(s), who will retain responsibility for operations within the Disaster District(s).

- k. A Joint Information Center (JIC) is normally established as part of the DFO to facilitate coordinated news releases to the public and support media operations. This is also a combined state-federal operation. The JIC will remain operational as long as needed to support emergency response and recovery activities, including conducting outreach to disaster victims.
- l. Once conditions in the disaster area stabilize somewhat, recovery programs will begin and response operations will be reduced accordingly. Both response and recovery operations may be conducted concurrently for a limited time. Once response operations are terminated, recovery operations will continue for as long as required by conditions in the disaster area.

13. Technological Hazard Operations

- a. A wide range of technological hazards threaten the State. Emergency response and disaster recovery operations for technological hazards parallel actions taken in response to natural and man-made hazard events, but differ in regards to procedures for accessing federal assistance.
- b. Federal assistance is provided under the provisions of several hazard-specific federal contingency plans. These plans, along with state responsibilities and procedures, are discussed in appropriate annexes to this plan, *specifically Annex D (Radiological Emergency Management) and Annex Q (Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response)*.

14. Drought Operations

The Texas Water Code requires a wide range of actions to be accomplished whenever drought conditions threaten the State. Contingency plans and procedures have been developed to insure that these actions are coordinated and parallel emergency response and recovery requirements of this plan. These plans, along with state responsibilities and procedures, are discussed in appropriate annexes to this plan, *specifically Annex N (Direction and Control) and Annex V (Food and Water)*

V. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. ORGANIZATION

- 1. Chapter 418 (Emergency Management) of the Government Code provides that emergency management be structured around organized government. The Governor, as Chief Executive of the State, is responsible for meeting the dangers confronting the people of Texas. Chapter 421 (Homeland Security) of the Government Code provides that the Governor shall direct homeland security in the State and develop a statewide homeland security strategy that improves the state's ability to:
 - a. Detect and deter threats to homeland security;
 - b. Respond to homeland security emergencies; and

- c. Recovery from homeland security emergencies.
2. The Governor has by executive order appointed the Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security as the Director of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM) and the Chair of the State Emergency Management Council (SEMC).
3. The SEMC includes representatives of each state agency, board, or commission whose functions or capabilities relate to important phases of emergency management. The Governor also has appointed representatives of organized volunteer groups to the Council. (See *Attachment 1.*)
4. The SEMC has been authorized to issue such directives as may be necessary to effectuate the purpose of the Texas Disaster Act (Chapter 418, Government Code).
5. The SEMC has been organized into Emergency Support Functions composed of personnel and resources of SEMC agencies and organization. Coordination for each group is directed by a primary agency, which has been selected on the basis of its authority or capability in that particular functional area. The other agencies and organizations within the group are designated as support agencies and organizations based on their ability to provide equipment, personnel, and expertise in support of specific functional requirements. (See *Attachment 2.*)
 - a. ESFs identified in this plan are similar to, but not exactly the same as, the counterpart federal-level ESFs contained in the FRP and RRP. This is to facilitate better coordination between the State and its local governments while enhancing coordinated response and recovery operations jointly conducted by state and federal agencies in Texas. A matrix that identifies counterpart state and federal primary agencies for each federal ESF is provided in this plan. (See *Attachment 7.*)
 - b. The ESF organization doesn't negate legislated mandates for lead agencies in certain types of emergencies (i.e., oil spills, hazmat, radiological incidents). In those cases, the lead agency, by law, will always be the lead state responder regardless of its placement (either primary or support agency) in the ESF organization.
6. A state Critical Infrastructure Protection Council (CIPS) has been established to advise the Governor on development and coordination of the statewide critical infrastructure protection strategy and implementation of that strategy.
7. State Disaster Districts have been established to divide the State into a number of manageable emergency response/operations areas. These districts parallel the Highway Patrol districts and subdistricts of the Texas Department of Public Safety. (See *Attachment 2.*)
8. Disaster District Committees (DDCs), consisting insofar as possible of representatives of each agency/organization represented in the SEMC, are established at the Disaster District level to coordinate state emergency response operations. Commanders of Highway Patrol districts and subdistricts serve as DDC Chairs. Some SEMC agencies do not have field offices and cannot provide representatives at all DDCs.
9. DDC Chairs shall report to the Director of the Office of Homeland Security on matters relating to disasters and emergencies and shall keep the Director of the Department of Public Safety apprised on all matters as requested by the Director of that Department.

10. Regional Liaison Officers (RLOs) of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management are assigned to each of the Department of Public Safety districts and assist the DDC Chairperson within their assigned areas.
11. Typical state-local emergency management organizational arrangements in the response phase are depicted in Figure 1. The typical recovery phase organization is depicted in Figure 2.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Key Officials

a. The Governor

- 1) The Governor has ultimate responsibility for meeting the dangers to the people of Texas. The Governor may issue executive orders, proclamations, and regulations and amend or rescind them. Such actions by the Governor have the force and effect of law.
- 2) Under the provisions of Subchapter B of Chapter 418, Government Code, the Governor, by executive order or proclamation, may declare a State of Disaster if a disaster has occurred or the occurrence or threat of disaster is imminent. During and following a State of Disaster, the Governor is the commander in chief of state agencies, boards, and commissions having emergency responsibilities.
- 3) Pursuant to authority vested in the Governor under Subchapter B, the Governor may:
 - a) suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of a state agency if compliance with the provisions, orders, or rules would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster;
 - b) use all available resources of state government and any political subdivision that are reasonably necessary to cope with a disaster;
 - c) temporarily reassign resources, personnel, or functions of state executive departments and agencies or their units for the purpose of performing or facilitating emergency services;
 - d) commandeer or use any private property if the Governor finds it necessary to cope with a disaster, subject to compensation requirements of the law;
 - e) recommend the evacuation of all or part of the population from a stricken or threatened area in the State if the Governor considers the action necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response, or recovery actions;
 - f) prescribe routes and destinations in connection with an evacuation;

Figure 1

**State-Local Emergency Management Organization
(Response Phase)**

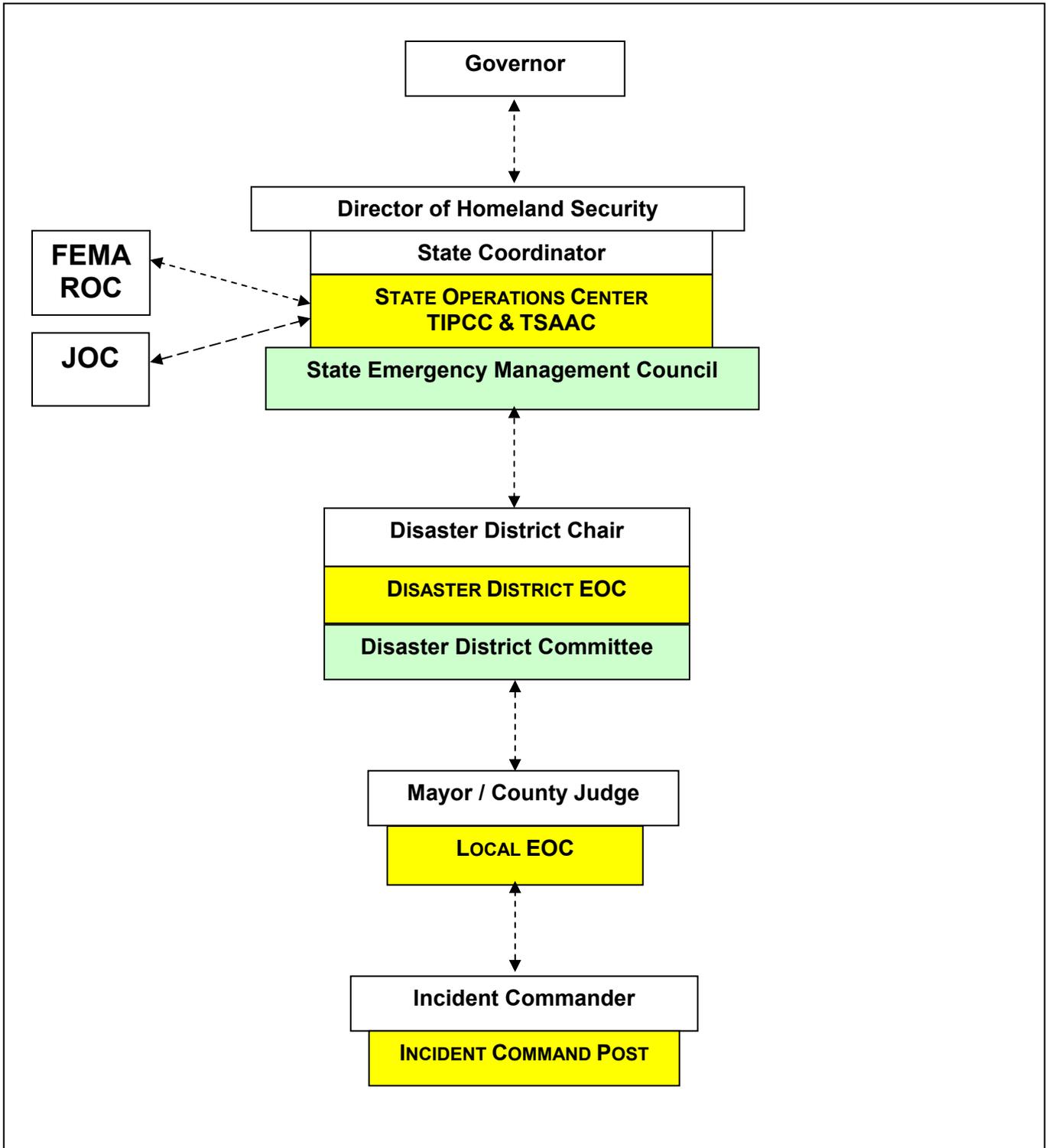
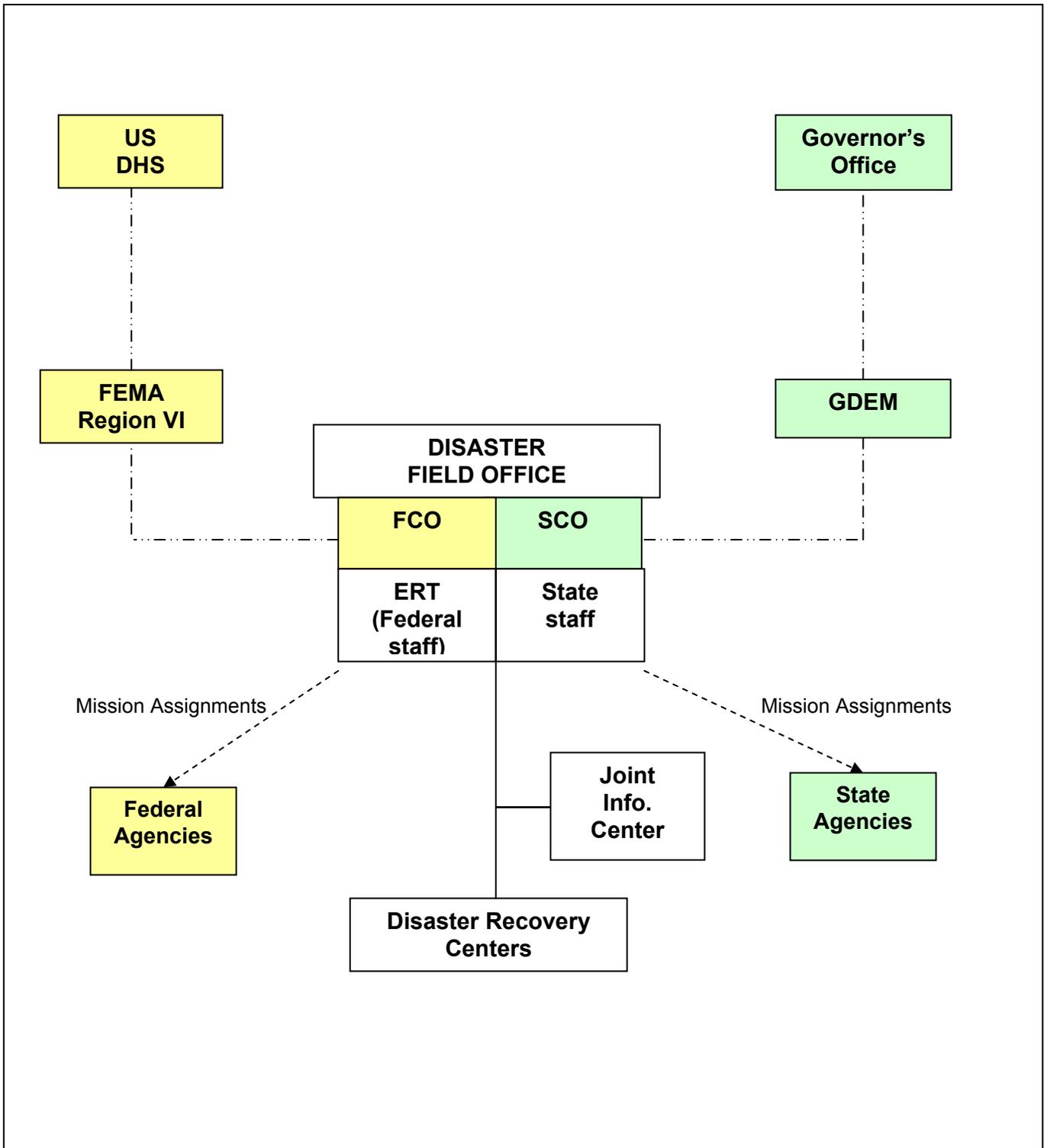


Figure 2
**State-Local Emergency Management Organization
 (Recovery Phase)**



- g) control ingress and egress of a disaster area and the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in an area;
 - h) enter into purchase, lease, or other arrangements with an agency of the United States for temporary housing units to be occupied by disaster victims, and may make units available to any political subdivision; and
 - i) through the use of any state agency or instrumentality, clear or remove debris or wreckage from public or private lands or water if it threatens public health or safety.
- b. Director of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management
- 1) By executive order, the Governor has designated the Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security as the Director of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM).
 - 2) By executive order, The Director serves as the Chair of the state Emergency Management Council.
 - 3) The Director shall advise the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House of Representatives on critical matters relating to homeland security and man-made or natural disasters.
 - 4) As the Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, the Director is responsible for overseeing and coordinating state homeland security efforts among local, state, and federal agencies.
- c. State Coordinator, Governor's Division of Emergency Management
- 1) The State Coordinator is responsible for the day-to-day management and coordination of statewide emergency management activities, for operating the SOC, and for executing direction and control of statewide resources during emergency response and recovery operations
 - 2) The Executive Order of the Governor Relating to Emergency Management provides that the State Coordinator shall serve as the Chair of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), which carries out certain planning, reporting, and public information access responsibilities relating to hazardous materials that are mandated by the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.
 - 3) §16.055 of the Water Code provides that the State Coordinator shall serve as the State Drought Manager and is responsible for managing and coordinating the drought response component of the state water plan. The State Coordinator chairs the Drought Preparedness Council.
- d. Disaster District Committee (DDC) Chairs
- 1) Disaster Districts are state regional emergency management elements responsible for managing state emergency operations within a given geographic

area. See Attachment 3 for a map of Disaster Districts. The DDC Chair, the Highway Patrol captain or command lieutenant for that Highway Patrol district or subdistrict, is responsible for monitoring and reporting on emergency situations. The DDC Chair also receives and validates requests for state emergency assistance from local governments, works with the DDC members to identify resources which can satisfy the request, coordinates arrangements for getting those resources to the place where they are needed, and monitors the use of those resources.

- 2) The DDC Chairs may activate their EOCs to monitor emergency situations and execute direction and control of state resources during emergency response and recovery operations within disaster district boundaries.
 - 3) DDC Chairpersons are responsible for overseeing SERT operations within district boundaries and exercise operational control of mission-assigned National Guard and mutual aid emergency response forces operating in the district.
- e. County Judges and Mayors
- 1) County judges and mayors are responsible for directing, controlling, and coordinating emergency operations within their jurisdictions.
 - 2) Incident management is typically delegated to local incident commander who directs operations at the scene and is supported by an EOC providing resource support, resolving problems, coordinate with other jurisdictions and agencies, and providing emergency public information.

2. Organizations

a. State Emergency Management Council (SEMC)

- 1) The Governor, by executive order, has established the SEMC, which is composed of the heads of designated state agencies, boards, and commissions, and representatives of the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army. The SEMC is responsible for providing advice and assistance in all matters relating to statewide emergency management activities in Texas. Its primary operational role is to identify, mobilize, and deploy state resources needed to respond to emergency situations, and respond to requests for information needed to conduct response and recovery operations. (See *Attachment 1 for a list of SEMC members.*)
- 2) The Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, who is also Director of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management, chairs the SEMC. The Director or the State Coordinator may convene the full SEMC or portions of it when emergency situations occur and request that SEMC members report to the SOC.
- 3) General Responsibilities. All SEMC agencies and organization will ensure that capabilities exist for their organizations to execute statewide emergency management responsibilities. Each SEMC member will:

- a) Ensure that qualified personnel are available to staff and operate state and joint direction and control and support facilities that may be activated during emergency response and recovery operations. These facilities include the SOC, Disaster District EOCs, a Joint Operations Center, on-scene command posts, the Disaster Field Office, a Joint Information Center (JIC), Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), and Resource Staging Areas (RSAs). State agency representative to the SEMC and DDCs must be knowledgeable of the type, quantity, and location of agency resources and the capabilities and limitations of those resources; they should have in place procedures to mobilize and deploy those resources in a timely manner to accomplish emergency response and recovery tasks.
- b) Designate an individual to serve as the “first call” for their agency and serve the primary point-of-contact and notification point for emergency management activities as well as at least two additional contact persons. Designations should be in writing and sent to the State Coordinator and include office address, office telephone number and fax number, pager number, and a home telephone number (or the number of a cellular phone which is available during non-duty hours) for each individual. The designation shall include the priority of notification – first call, second call, and third call.
- c) Ensure that designated points of contact notify the agency or organization senior staff of emergency situation and arrange to notify employees who may have to participate in emergency operations.
- d) Ensure qualified personnel are available to conduct extended field operations as a member of the SERT if the agency has been tasked to participate in the SERT.
- e) Develop and maintain detailed plans and operating procedures for accomplishment of agency and functional responsibilities.
- f) Provide for direction and control of agency resources, continuity of government, and the collection and reporting of situational information and;

b. Emergency Support Functions (ESFs)

State ESFs include the following:

1) *Warning ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to use available warning networks to disseminate warning of emergency situations of state, local, and federal officials and to alert the public of emergency situations and provide information and instructions. Maintains Annex A to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Department of Public Safety
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: none
- d) Council Support Agency: Governor's Division of Emergency Management

2) *Communications ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to provide required telecommunications support (including all software and hardware support for electromagnetic communications) for state emergency response and recovery efforts. Maintains Annex B to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Department of Information Resources
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 2
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. General Land Office
 - 2. Texas Building and Procurement Commission
 - 3. Governor's Division of Emergency Management
 - 4. Public Utility Commission of Texas
 - 5. Railroad Commission of Texas
 - 6. Department of Criminal Justice
 - 7. Department of Health
 - 8. Department of Public Safety
 - 9. Department of Transportation
 - 10. Texas Engineering Extension Service
 - 11. Texas Forest Service
 - 12. Adjutant General Department

3) ***Shelter and Mass Care ESF***

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to assist local governments and disaster relief agencies in providing temporary shelter, food, and first aid to disaster victims, coordinate and distribute emergency relief supplies, and feed emergency workers. Maintains Annex C to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: The Salvation Army
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 6
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. American Red Cross
 - 2. Department of Human Services
 - 3. Texas Education Agency
 - 4. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

4) ***Radiological Emergency Management ESF***

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to provide a coordinated response to emergency situations involving radioactive materials, assess the impact of such events, and to determine and recommend or implement measures to protect life, property, and the environment in a radiological emergency. Maintains Annex D to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Department of Health
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: none
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. Governor's Division of Emergency Management
 - 2. Department of Agriculture
 - 3. Department of Public Safety
 - 4. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 - 5. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

5) *Evacuation ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating development of traffic management plans and emergency actions which integrate efforts of state and local agencies to conduct orderly large-scale evacuations of the public from threatened areas to designated reception and care areas, and providing local governments with information to support evacuation planning and execution. Maintains Annex E to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Department of Public Safety
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: none
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. Governor's Division of Emergency Management
 - 2. Department of Transportation

6) *Firefighting ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to detect and suppress fires on state and private lands, coordinate firefighting operations for large wildland fires encompassing several governmental jurisdictions, and assist in large industrial/structural fires. Maintains Annex F to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Texas Forest Service
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 4
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. Adjutant General's Department
 - 2. Governor's Division of Emergency Management
 - 3. Texas Commission on Fire Protection
 - 4. Department of Criminal Justice
 - 5. Department of Insurance
 - 6. Department of Public Safety
 - 7. Department of Transportation
 - 8. Texas Engineering Extension Service
- e) Other Support Agencies: Civil Air Patrol

7) *Law Enforcement ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to carry out traffic control, maintain public order, secure designated areas, and provide other law enforcement services as needed to support state emergency response and recovery operations and assist local governments when requested. Maintains Annex G to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Department of Public Safety
- c) Applicable Federal ESF #: none
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. Office of the Attorney General
 - 2. Department of Criminal Justice
 - 3. Texas Forest Service
 - 4. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
 - 5. Department of Family & Protective Services

8) *Health and Medical Services ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to provide supplemental and technical assistance to local governments in identifying and meeting the health and medical needs of disaster victims and emergency workers. Maintains Annex H to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: [Department of Health](#)
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 8
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - [1. American Red Cross](#)
 - [2. Texas Animal Health Commission](#)
 - [3. Department of Criminal Justice](#)
 - [4. Department of Human Services](#)
 - [5. Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation](#)
 - [6. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)
 - [7. Texas Rehabilitation Commission](#)
 - [8. Department of State Health Services](#)
 - [9. Department of Aging & Disability Services](#)
 - [10. Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services](#)

9) *Public Information ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Developing, coordinating, and disseminating emergency information, instructions to the general public, and disaster preparedness educational materials, and by direct contact and through the news media using briefings, presentations, news releases and advisories, and response to public and news media queries. Maintains Annex I to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Governor's Division of Emergency Management
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: none
- d) Council Support Agencies
 - [1. Adjutant General's Department](#)
 - [2. American Red Cross](#)
 - [3. General Land Office](#)
 - [4. Office of the Attorney General](#)
 - [5. Railroad Commission of Texas](#)
 - [6. Texas Animal Health Commission](#)
 - [7. Texas Commission on Fire Protection](#)
 - [8. Texas Economic Development](#)
 - [9. Department of Health](#)
 - [10. Department of Insurance](#)
 - [11. Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation](#)
 - [12. Department of Public Safety](#)
 - [13. Department of Transportation](#)
 - [14. Texas Forest Service](#)
 - [15. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)
 - [16. The Salvation Army](#)

10) *Recovery ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating and conducting damage assessment and post-disaster recovery activities in coordination with federal agencies, processing requests for disaster assistance, and implementing state-administered disaster assistance programs when such programs are

- authorized. Maintains Annex J to the State Plan
- b) Primary Council Agency: Division of Emergency Management
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: none
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 1. American Red Cross
 2. Texas Building and Procurement Commission
 3. Office of the Attorney General
 4. State Comptroller of Public Accounts
 5. Texas Animal Health Commission
 6. Department of Housing and Community Affairs
 7. Department of Human Services
 8. Department of Insurance
 9. Department of Mental Health & Mental Retardation
 10. Department of Transportation
 11. Texas Forest Service
 12. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 13. Texas Workforce Commission
 14. The Salvation Army
- e) Other Support Agencies: Department on Aging

11) *Public Works & Engineering ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to provide coordinated engineering support services to accomplish state emergency response and recovery requirements. Maintain Annex K to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Department of Transportation
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 3
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 1. Texas Building and Procurement Commission
 2. Department of Criminal Justice
 3. Texas Forest Service
 4. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

12) *Energy and Utilities ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to provide emergency power and other energy sources to support emergency response and recovery efforts and efforts to restore non-telecommunications utility systems damaged as a result of disasters. Maintains Annex L to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Public Utility Commission
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 12
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 1. Railroad Commission of Texas
 2. Comptroller of Public Accounts (State Energy Conservation Office)

13) *Resource Support ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to provide logistical and resource support to state and local emergency response and recovery efforts. Maintains Annex M to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Texas Building and Procurement Commission

- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 7
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. Department of Criminal Justice
 - 2. Texas Forest Service
 - 3. Texas Workforce Commission
- e) Other Support Agencies: Adventist Community Services

14) *Direction and Control ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating plans and emergency actions to mobilize, deploy, direct, and control appropriate state resources to accomplish emergency response and recovery activities. Maintains Annex N to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Governor's Division of Emergency Management
- c) Applicable Federal ESF #: 5
- d) Council Support Agencies: All Emergency Management Council agencies provide support for this function.

15) *Disaster Mental Health ESF*

This ESF is being developed.

16) *Hazard Mitigation ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Planning and conducting mitigation activities intended to eliminate or reduce long-term risk to life and property from natural or man-made hazards. Maintains Annex P to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Governor's Division of Emergency Management
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: None
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. General Land Office
 - 2. Railroad Commission of Texas
 - 3. Texas Animal Health Commission
 - 4. Department of Housing and Community Affairs
 - 5. Department of Insurance
 - 6. Department of Transportation
 - 7. Texas Engineering Extension Service
 - 8. Texas Forest Service
 - 9. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 - 10. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- e) Other Support Agencies: Texas Water Development Board

17) *Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating planning for and emergency actions to carry out the state response to threatened or actual large-scale releases of hazardous materials and oil spills. Maintains Annex Q to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 10
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. General Land Office
 - 2. Railroad Commission of Texas

- 3. Texas Commission on Fire Protection
- 4. Department of Health
- 5. Department of Insurance
- 6. Department of Public Safety
- 7. Department of Transportation
- 8. Texas Engineering Extension Service
- 9. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

18) *Search and Rescue ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating planning for and emergency actions to provide trained personnel, specialized equipment, and other resources to assist local governments in search and rescue efforts. Maintains Annex R to the State Plan
- b) Primary Council Agency: Texas Engineering Extension Service
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 9
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. Governor's Division of Emergency Management
 - 2. Department of Criminal Justice
 - 3. Department of Public Safety
 - 4. Texas Forest Service
 - 5. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- e) Other Support Agencies: Civil Air Patrol

19) *Transportation ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating planning and emergency actions for the use of transportation resources for the movement of personnel, equipment, and goods via air, road, rail, or marine transportation to support emergency operations. Maintains Annex S to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Department of Criminal Justice
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 1
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 - 1. General Land Office
 - 2. Texas Building and Procurement Commission
 - 3. Railroad Commission of Texas
 - 4. Department of Health
 - 5. Department of Mental Health & Mental Retardation
 - 6. Department of Public Safety
 - 7. Department of Transportation
 - 8. Texas Education Agency
 - 9. Texas Engineering Extension Service
 - 10. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 - 11. Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

20) *Donations Management ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating the operations of the State's donations management program, to include providing information to the public on the most appropriate methods for donating; efficiently handling donations of goods and services, and assisting Texas voluntary disaster relief agencies, as needed, in receiving, storing, and distributing donated goods to disaster

- victims. Maintains Annex T to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Governor's Division of Emergency Management
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: none
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 1. Department of Information Resources
 2. Texas Building and Procurement Commission
 3. State Comptroller of Public Accounts
 4. Department of Health
 5. Texas Workforce Commission
 6. Department of Family & Protective Services
- e) Other Support Agencies
 1. Texas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
 2. Texas Association of Retired and Senior Program Directors
 3. Volunteer Center(s)
 4. Corporation of National Service

21) *Terrorist Incident Response ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Clarifying of roles and responsibilities for terrorist incident response and coordinating of emergency actions to deter threatened acts of terrorism or respond to acts that have occurred. Maintains Annex U to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Department of Public Safety
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: none
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 1. Adjutant General's Department
 2. Texas Animal Health Commission
 3. Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation
 4. Department of Transportation
 5. Texas Forest Service
 6. Texas Building and Procurement Commission
 7. Department of Health
 8. Texas Engineering Extension Service
 9. Governor's Division of Emergency Management
 10. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 11. The Salvation Army

22) *Food and Water ESF*

- a) Responsible For: providing supplemental assistance to local governments by identifying and obtaining food, water, and ice resources for distribution to areas affected by a disaster. Maintains Annex V to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Department of Human Services
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: 11
- d) Council Support Agencies:
 1. Adjutant General's Department
 2. American Red Cross
 3. Department of Agriculture
 4. Department of Criminal Justice
 5. Department of Health
 6. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 7. The Salvation Army

- e) Other Support Agencies: Texas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

23) *Military Support ESF*

- a) Responsible For: Coordinating planning for and emergency actions to activate, deployment and employ, National Guard and State Guard personnel and equipment to support civil authorities in emergency response and recovery operations as authorized by the Governor. Maintains Annex W to the State Plan.
- b) Primary Council Agency: Adjutant General's Department
- c) Applicable Federal ESF#: none
- d) Council Support Agency: none

c. Critical Infrastructure Protection Council (CIPC)

- 1) A state Critical Infrastructure Protection Council has been established pursuant to §421.021 of the Government Code.
- 2) The responsibilities of the CIPC include:
 - a) Advising the Governor on:
 - 1. the development and coordination of a statewide critical infrastructure protection strategy;
 - 2. the implementation of the Governor's homeland security strategy by state and local agencies and provide specific suggestions for helping those agencies implement the strategy; and
 - 3. other matters related to the planning, development, coordination, and implementation of initiatives to promote the Governor's homeland security strategy.
 - b) Submitting an annual report on:
 - 1. the Council's progress in developing and coordinating a statewide critical infrastructure protection strategy;
 - 2. the status and funding of state programs designed to detect and deter homeland security emergencies;
 - 3. recommendations for actions to reduce threats to homeland security, including threats related to terrorism, and
 - 4. recommendations for improving the alert, response, and recovery capabilities of state and local agencies.
- 3) CIPC membership is outlined in Attachment 3 to this Plan. Attachment 4 describes the responsibilities of various CIPC members for monitoring various types of infrastructure.

d. Disaster District Committees (DDCs)

DDCs are composed of representatives of state agencies and certain volunteer groups that operate within the District. They function as regional equivalents of the State Emergency Management Council and advise and assist the DDC Chairperson in identifying, mobilizing, deploying, and employing state resources within the

District. DDC Chairs activate DDCs and maintain a current call list for their DDC.

3. Facilities

a. State Operations Center

- 1) The SOC is located in a hardened underground facility at DPS Headquarters in Austin and is operated by GDEM.
- 2) The responsibilities of the SOC include:
 - a) Maintaining databases, maps, and other information relating to potential threats, key facilities, critical infrastructure, resources, and other planning data.
 - b) Coordinating with state agencies, local governments, volunteer groups, and industry with respect to threatened or actual emergency situations.
 - c) Responding to requests from emergency assistance from local governments and state agencies managing emergency incidents.
 - d) Supporting the emergency response coordination activities of the Emergency Management Council when it is activated during major emergencies and disasters to coordinate the use of state resources for response and recovering.
 - e) During emergency situations, providing emergency information and instructions to the public in coordination with the Governor's Press Office and state agency public information staffs.
 - f) Coordinating state Amber Alert operations.

b. Texas Infrastructure Protection Communications Center (TIPCC)

- 1) The TIPCC is the state's primary entity for planning, coordination, and integration of government communications capabilities to implement the Governor's homeland security strategy and ensure an effective response to homeland security emergencies.
- 2) The TIPCC responsibilities include:
 - a) promoting emergency preparedness;
 - b) receiving notice of and monitoring emergency threats and incidents and analyzing the impact of such threats and incidents;
 - c) making notification regarding threats and incidents to state officials and providing situation reports on ongoing emergency situations;
 - d) operating the State Warning Point, receiving warning through NAWAS and other warning systems and disseminating warning of impending threats to state agencies, federal agencies, and local governments through TEWAS, TLETS, and other means;
 - e) authorizing and facilitating cooperative efforts related to emergency response and recovery.
- 3) The TIPCC is collocated and integrated with the SOC.

c. Texas Security Alert and Analysis Center (TSAAC)

- 1) The Texas Security Alert and Analysis Center (TSAAC), staffed by DPS Special Crimes personnel, will analyze suspicious incidents relating to homeland security reported by law enforcement agencies, share information developed by the state with and respond to queries from local governments, other states, and the US Department of Homeland Security through the Joint Regional Intelligence Exploitation System (JRIES).
- 2) The TSACC is collocated with the SOC.

VI. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

A. GENERAL

1. The Governor will provide general guidance for the conduct of major emergency operations.
 - a. Under the *Texas Disaster Act of 1975*, as amended, the Governor is granted broad powers to deal with disasters. Under this Act, the Governor may issue executive orders, proclamations, and regulations and amend or rescind them. Executive orders, proclamations, and regulations have the force and effect of law.
 - b. Additional authority to issue directives calculated to protect life and property, and to control and terminate an emergency, is granted the Governor in instances when a State of Emergency is proclaimed under provisions of *Chapter 433 of the Texas Government Code*.
2. Under the auspices of the Governor, the State Emergency Management Director and State Coordinator exercise overall direction and control of state emergency response and recovery operations, usually from the State Operations Center (SOC) in Austin.
 - a. The State Director or State Coordinator establishes objectives and authorizes mission assignments to state agencies, requests commitment of federal assets and interstate mutual aid emergency response forces, and assigns operational control as required. Coordination of all state activities during emergency situations will be the primary responsibility of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management.
 - b. The Assistant State Coordinator for Operations is responsible for managing the state response. He will provide guidance to the SOC Controllers and special staff and is the single point of contact for SOC Controllers to resolve any issue that the SOC Controller cannot resolve. He will ensure that there is a continually coordinated response to achieve the objectives set by the State Coordinator.
 - c. The SOC coordinates with state agencies to identify, activate, and deploy state resources to perform specific missions need to deal with emergency situation. Once deployed, such resources are directed and controlled by the DDC Chair.
3. Disaster District Committee (DDC) Chairs exercise direction and control of State response operations within the boundaries of a Disaster District.
 - a. The DDC Chairperson issues mission assignments to state agencies and exercises operational control of National Guard, State Guard, and mutual aid emergency

response forces assigned to the District.

- b. Texas National Guard and State Guard personnel ordered to state active duty status by the Governor will at all times remain under command and control of military authorities in accordance with the military chain-of-command established by the Adjutant General of Texas. Upon direction of the Governor, the Adjutant General will designate a Task Force Commander to execute command and control of National Guard personnel and their associated resources supporting emergency response and recovery operations in a Disaster District or deployed out of the State under provisions of EMAC. Within the State, the DDC Chairperson will provide mission assignments to the designated National Guard Task Force Commander.
- c. State resources provided to assist local governments during emergency situations are provided to conduct a specific mission. They will not be employed to carry out other tasks without prior approval of the DDC Chair.

4. Tactical Direction & Control

a. Local Incident Command.

- 1) Mayors and County Judges are expected to provide direction and control of city and county emergency response operations, typically from the local EOC. Local response forces normally establish an incident command post at the scene of an emergency situation, which may operate for some time before state resources are requested and deployed. The local incident commander normally carries out the Incident Command System (ICS) function of command – making operational decisions to manage the incident – from that command post.
- 2) Responding local mutual resources and state and federal resources will normally be integrated into the ongoing incident command structure and accept tactical direction from the incident commander.
- 3) It is desirable that normal supervisors direct organized units.
- 4) In situations where multiple jurisdictions or state or federal agencies are providing significant response resources or technical assistance for an emergency, it is generally desirable to transition from the normal ICS structure to a Unified Command structure. This arrangement helps ensure that all participating agencies are involved in developing objectives and strategies to deal with the emergency.

- b. State Command Posts. State field command posts may be established for emergency situations for which the state has primary responsibility, primarily those involving state property. The lead state agency or DDC Chair shall designate a state incident commander to provide direction and control of state personnel involved in site-specific response activity. The State Incident Commander shall keep the DDC Chair informed of the emergency situation and the progress of response operations.

- 5. State Area Command (SAC) A SAC may be established in the event that an emergency or disaster area is widespread and encompasses more than one disaster district. A SAC is an organization formed to manage multiple incidents that are each being handled by

an incident management team, or very large incidents that have multiple incident management teams. Among the types of emergencies for which a SAC may be established are extensive wildfires or an ice storm that affects a large area.

- a. An SAC is expected to establish an overall strategy and priorities, allocate assigned resources based on priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and that objectives are met and strategies followed. A SAC may be located in an existing DPS regional or district office or in another facility.
- b. The State Coordinator, in conjunction with the designated lead agency and affected DDC Chairs, will determine the need to establish a SAC, and will develop and distribute an Operational Control Plan that specifies the organization, direction and control, resource allocation, and operational procedures for the incident.

B. EFFECT OF STATE DISASTER DECLARATION ON STATE RESPONSE/RECOVERY OPERATIONS

1. When the Governor issues a Declaration of a State of Disaster and requests a Presidential Emergency or Major Disaster Declaration, a Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR), and State Coordinating Officers (SCOs) will be appointed. The Governor will normally select the GAR and SCOs, along with alternates, from GDEM staff personnel.
2. The GAR, assisted by the SCOs, will exercise overall direction and control of State response/recovery operations, to include management and administration of programs authorized by the *Stafford Act*. The GAR will delegate mission assignment and federal and mutual aid resource commitment authority as needed, to insure the uninterrupted ability to conduct response and recovery operations throughout the State.

C. EFFECT OF A FEDERAL EMERGENCY OR DISASTER DECLARATION

1. If a Presidential Emergency or Major Disaster Declaration is issued, the President will appoint a Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) to exercise overall direction and control of all federal response/recovery assistance operations. The FCO, along with the Disaster Recovery Manager (DRM), who is a FEMA official responsible for management and administration of recovery assistance programs authorized by The *Stafford Act*, may initially operate from the SOC and then from the DFO once that facility is operational.
2. When activated, the DFO is a joint federal operation, with federal agencies supervised by the FCO and state staff supervised by the SCO. Once a DFO has been activated, state response operations will gradually be shifted to that facility and the SOC will reduce its operational level. Recovery operations will be conducted from the DFO until such time as the State and FEMA agree that a dedicated facility for response coordination is no longer required in the affected area.

VII. READINESS & RESPONSE LEVELS

A. STATE READINESS & RESPONSE LEVELS

1. Emergency situations occur on a daily basis throughout the State, and responder agencies/organizations such as fire departments and emergency medical services routinely respond to them. Local responders handle the vast majority of emergency

situations without external assistance. However, those potential or actual emergency situations that may produce a severe or widespread impact may create a need for state assistance or for state and federal assistance. The State uses "readiness and response levels" to match the intensity of its preparedness and response activities to the intensity of a potential threat or the impact of an actual events. As the intensity of threats or impacts increases, emergency facilities are activated or increase their operations tempo, staffing and equipment readiness is increased, and additional resources are alerted, mobilized, deployed, and employed.

2. The State uses a four-tier readiness and response level scheme. Plans and standard operating procedures provide that certain actions be taken at each response level based on the specific hazard anticipated or encounter. The state readiness and response conditions are:

- a. Normal Conditions (Readiness & Response Level 4)

During Normal Conditions:

- 1) Planning, training, drills and exercises, and other preparedness activities are conducted.
- 2) Emergency equipment and facilities are maintained.
- 3) Warning and communications systems are tested.
- 4) Current natural, technological, and homeland security threats are monitored. Criminal intelligence is collected, analyzed, and, where appropriate, reported.
- 5) Local responders generally resolve emergency incidents that occur. Additional assistance, if needed, is requested from adjacent jurisdictions or responder organizations in accordance with established mutual aid agreements. Normal operations of local government have not been affected.
- 6) Certain types of incidents reported to the SOC or the TSAAC by local governments, state agencies, other organizations, industry, or the public may be monitored until investigated or resolved.

- b. Increased Readiness (Readiness & Response Level 3)

During Increased Readiness:

- 1) Local responders generally resolve routine emergency incidents that occur.
- 2) A significant emergency situation has not yet occurred; however, a higher than normal level of readiness is warranted because of increased vulnerability to a specific hazard, such as an approaching severe storm or extreme wildfire threat.
- 3) Key staff is alerted and personnel and equipment availability reviewed. Staffing at some emergency facilities may be increased to provide additional situation monitoring.
- 4) Contingency plans and procedures are reviewed.
- 5) Equipment needs and supply shortages should be filled, if possible.
- 6) Some response units may be alerted and equipment readiness may be increased.
- 7) Coordination activities increase and extra effort is exerted to review, evaluate, and update appropriate plans and procedures to ensure ability to meet anticipated challenges of specific hazard.
- 8) Emergency public information activities should commence.

- 9) Appropriate officials and agency representatives are briefed on anticipated risk situations, expected impacts, and contingency measures. There may be limited impairment of some normal government operations because some staff members may be involved in increased readiness activities.

c. Escalated Response (Readiness & Response Level 2)

During Escalated Response:

- 1) The scope of the emergency situation has expanded beyond that which can be handled by normal responder agencies, and additional emergency support functions such as shelter and mass care and evacuation may have to be implemented.
- 2) Staffing of emergency facilities is increased, and hours of operation are expanded, and coordination is intensified.
- 3) Response units are deployed and employed.
- 4) Requests for emergency assistance may be initiated between various governments, and mutual aid resources may be summoned.
- 5) Appropriate officials and agency representatives are briefed on the current situation and anticipated impacts.
- 5) Emergency public information activities should be expanded.
- 6) There may be some impairment of normal state and local government operations.

d. Emergency Conditions (Response Level 1)

During Emergency Conditions:

- 1) The scope of the emergency has expanded to the point that all appropriate emergency response and recovery assets within some jurisdictions have been committed to the emergency situation or disaster.
- 2) The SOC and appropriate Disaster District EOCs are fully staffed by representatives from appropriate/required agencies and organizations and remains operational on a continuing basis for as long as needed.
- 3) Interagency coordination and situation reporting are increased to meet demands for information on the current situation.
- 4) The State receives requests for emergency assistance from local governments and coordinates resource assistance.
- 5) Intrastate mutual aid may be sought and federal aid may be requested.
- 6) State and local government operations in impact areas may be impaired by the evacuation of personnel or damage to facilities and equipment

B. Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS)

1. The HSAS the means the Federal government uses to disseminate information regarding the risk of terrorist acts to Federal, state, and local authorities and the general public. The Secretary of the US Department of Homeland Security determines HSAS threat conditions. Use of the system is binding on the Federal government and voluntary by other levels of government and the private sector.
2. The HSAS uses five threat conditions identified by a description and color; the higher the threat condition, the greater the risk of a terrorist attack and the greater protective

measures should be implemented. From lowest to highest, the conditions are:

- a. Low = Green. This condition is declared when there is a low risk of terrorist attacks. General preventive and protective measures should be developed and implemented.
- b. Guarded = Blue. This condition is declared when there is a general risk of terrorist attacks. General protective measures should be implemented.
- c. Elevated = Yellow. This condition is declared when there is a significant risk of terrorist attacks. Surveillance of key facilities and critical infrastructure should be increased; emergency plans may be implemented.
- d. High = Orange. This condition is declared when there is a high risk of terrorist attack. Increased security should be implemented and precautions taken at planned public events; access to key facilities and critical infrastructure may be restricted.
- e. Severe = Red. This condition reflects a severe risk of terrorist act. During this condition, staffing for emergency response and equipment readiness should be increased, and special response teams mobilized; the operation of transportation systems may be curtailed, and some public and government facilities may be closed.

C. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STATE EMERGENCY READINESS & RESPONSE LEVELS AND HSAS

1. State Readiness & Response Level 4/Normal Conditions is generally appropriate for HSAS threat condition Green/Low
2. State Readiness & Response Level 3/Increased Readiness is generally appropriate for HSAS threat conditions Blue/Guarded and Yellow/Elevated.
3. State Readiness and Response level 2/Escalated Response is generally appropriate for HSAS threat condition Orange/High.
4. State Readiness & Response Level 1/Emergency Conditions is generally appropriate for HSAS threat condition Red/Severe.

VIII. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

A. GENERAL

1. The occurrence of a disaster could impede the ability of the State and local government to provide for the safety and well being of the people of Texas. Continuity of Government (COG) consists of a variety of comprehensive activities designed to insure the preservation of our representative form of government and the continued ability of state and local governments to provide protection and essential services to the public.
2. Continuity of government requirements include key direction and control actions that must be accomplished so that State government can continue to operate effectively regardless of the emergency or disaster situation and actions necessary for the reconstruction of State government.

B. LINES OF SUCCESSION

1. *General*

Article III, Section 62 of the State Constitution provides for the prompt and temporary succession to the powers and duties of public offices, whether by election or appointment. At any time the incumbents of those offices become unavailable for carrying on the duties of such offices, the Legislature may appoint successors.

2. *Executive*

The lines of succession to the Governor are specified in the *State Constitution (Article IV, Section 3a)* and the *Emergency Interim Executive Succession Act (Title 4, Chapter 401.021 - 401.023)*. The succession order includes the Lieutenant Governor, President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Attorney General, and then the Chief Justice of each of the Courts of Appeals in the numerical order of the Supreme Judicial Districts in which they serve.

3. *Legislative*

The lines of succession for the State Legislature are detailed in the *Emergency Interim Legislative Succession Act (Title 3, Chapters 304.001 -304.011)* and extend seven deep for each Legislative position.

4. *Judiciary*

There is no automatic succession for members of the Judiciary. Vacancies of state judges or justices are temporarily filled by the Governor until the next general election occurs. (*Article V, Sections 2 and 28 of the State Constitution* detail this process.)

5. *State Agencies*

Lines of succession for state agencies are detailed in the *Emergency Interim Public Office Succession Act (Title 110A, Article 6252-10a of the Government Code)* and require a minimum of three and a maximum of seven successors for key positions. Council members are tasked to develop and maintain appropriate lines of succession for key positions and procedures for the orderly succession of responsibilities.

6. *Local Governments*

Lines of succession for local governments are detailed in appropriate state and local laws, regulations, and local government emergency management plans.

C. PRE-DELEGATION OF EMERGENCY AUTHORITIES

The *Governor's Executive Order Relating to Emergency Management*, and the *Texas Disaster Act of 1975, Government Code Chapter 418*, outline legal authorities available to the Governor during a major emergency or disaster situation affecting the State. The *State Constitution, Article III, Section 62*, outlines when and how the Governor can relocate the "seat of government" if required by a disaster situation. Council members are tasked to identify emergency legal authorities and their limits affecting their agencies and under what circumstances and by whom they may be exercised. This includes those actions that can be

carried out by that agency during a declared emergency, which couldn't be accomplished on a normal everyday basis (e.g., changing priorities, limiting/excluding the bidding process, etc.)

D. EMERGENCY ACTION STEPS

Procedures to be followed during emergencies and/or disasters affecting the State are found in this plan or associated documents. Each Council agency member is tasked to develop operating procedures that include actions to be accomplished during emergencies and/or disaster situations to include emergency assignments, responsibilities, duty stations and notification/alerting of staff members. Action Guides are included in each Annex of this plan that identify actions to be taken by each agency and the circumstances that trigger these actions.

E. ALTERNATE OPERATING FACILITIES

Primary and alternate SOC's have been identified and detailed standard operating procedures (SOPs) have been developed. Disaster District EOCs have also been selected. The Department of Public Safety will select alternate EOCs for each Disaster District and develop and maintain SOPs for each facility. Council members will prepare SOPs that detail how their agency will staff and operate from the SOC and Disaster District EOCs as appropriate. SOPs should address, but not be limited to: responsibilities; location of the EOC, emergency notification of personnel, telephone numbers, and other communications capabilities; administrative data and report requirements; security; logistical requirements; public information activities; and staffing requirements to insure 24-hour-a-day operations for a prolonged period of time.

F. PROTECTION OF GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

1. Unless government resources, specifically personnel, facilities, and equipment, remain intact and operational during crisis situations, continuity of government objectives of this plan cannot be accomplished. The emergency situation or disaster may require that state offices, facilities, work areas, or even the State's "Seat of Government" be relocated to safer locations. A relocation of this type will require an adjustment to daily operations and a concentrated effort to accomplish only mission-essential responsibilities resulting in a decreased effort devoted to non-essential functions.
2. State agencies need to develop and maintain procedures for identifying and recalling key personnel, deciding which mission functions must continue at what level of performance/output, relocating existing work areas including computer operations to pre-selected alternate work areas and/or dispersal sites, establishing applicable security protection measures both en route and at new locations, and clearly identifying those responsible for accomplishment of these tasks. The Department of Information Resources will provide assistance and guidance to state agencies concerning computer operations, specifically security and protection of computer data records.

G. PROTECTION OF VITAL RECORDS

Vital records and reports will be protected in accordance with *the Preservation of Essential Records Act (Title 4, Chapter 441.051 - 441.062)*. Council member agencies should identify those records considered essential for the recovery process following a disaster which has damaged or destroyed state facilities or systems. State agencies should also develop and maintain procedures for the identification, duplication, storage, and protection

of essential records and identify those responsible for accomplishment of these tasks.

IX. ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

A. SUPPORT

1. In most situations, requests for federal assistance will be made through the SOC to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Exceptions to this are detailed in federal, hazard-specific contingency plans and procedures and in Annexes D, F, N, and Q to this plan.
2. The process for requesting and providing interstate mutual aid is addressed in Annexes D, F, and N to this plan.

B. AGREEMENTS AND UNDERSTANDINGS

All agreements and understandings entered into for the purchase, lease, or otherwise use of equipment and services will be in accordance with the provision of state law and procedures. The declaration of a State of Disaster, issued by the Governor, may suspend selected rules and regulations that impede emergency response and recovery operations.

C. REPORTS AND RECORDS

1. In addition to individual intra-agency recording and reporting requirements, all Council member agencies will provide emergency management reports in accordance with this plan, its annexes, and procedures.
2. Based on situational requirements, operational reports will be submitted to the DDC Chairperson(s) affected by the emergency situation for review and consolidation prior to submission to the SOC in Austin. This reporting requirement is applicable to local governments, field-deployed state command posts, and all Council member agencies conducting emergency response activities within the geographical boundaries of a Disaster District.
3. Upon determination of need, the State Director, the State Coordinator, or the GAR may authorize and impose additional emergency recording and reporting requirements applicable to local governments and state agencies.

D. EXPENDITURES AND RECORD KEEPING

1. It is the intent of the Legislature, and the policy of the State, that funds to meet disaster emergencies always be available, and that the first recourse be to the funds regularly appropriated to state and local agencies.
2. Each agency is responsible for establishing administrative controls necessary to manage the expenditure of funds and to provide reasonable accountability and justification for federal reimbursement in accordance with the established federal program guidelines, or standard cost accounting procedures, if acceptable by the reimbursing federal agency.
3. Under the provisions of EMAC, Texas is responsible for the reimbursement of expenses incurred by responding states during the delivery of mutual aid or for the out-of-state

sheltering or repatriation of Texas residents. Texas is likewise responsible for the computation and submission of bills for reimbursement of expenses incurred while responding to a requesting state.

4. In accordance with established procedures, state agencies may seek financial assistance for “unreasonably great” emergency operations costs from the Disaster Contingency Fund pursuant to *section 418.073 (b) of the Disaster Act*.

E. CRITIQUES

1. “Primary” and “lead” state agencies are responsible for conducting critiques following the conclusion of a significant emergency event/incident or exercise.
2. The critique conducted will entail both written and verbal input from all appropriate participants, including field personnel.
3. In consultation with appropriate support agencies, the state agency having “primary” and/or “lead” responsibility shall develop a written critique report, which will be provided to the State Coordinator.

X. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. DEVELOPMENT

1. The Governor's Division of Emergency Management has the overall responsibility for emergency planning and coordination of state resources in the conduct of emergency operations.
2. Each member agency of the State Emergency Management Council is responsible for the development and maintenance of appropriate planning documents that address responsibilities assigned in this plan, to include standard operating procedures.
3. The State Coordinator, Governor's Division of Emergency Management, will ensure appropriate distribution of the Basic Plan and any changes thereto. Distribution of functional annexes and changes will be accomplished by the designated agency with primary responsibility for the annex.

B. MAINTENANCE

1. The State Coordinator of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management will authorize and issue changes to this plan until such time as the plan is superseded.
2. The State Coordinator will maintain and update this plan, as required. Council member representatives may recommend changes and will provide information concerning capability changes that impact their emergency management responsibilities.
3. State Emergency Management Council agencies are responsible for participating in the annual review of the plan. The State Coordinator will coordinate all review and revision efforts, and ensure that the plan is updated as necessary, based on lessons learned during actual occurrence events and exercises, and other changes in organization, technology and/or capabilities.

4. Council members have the responsibility for maintaining annexes, appendices, standard operating procedures, notification lists, and resource data to ensure prompt and effective response to emergencies. Agency resource data must be accessible to agency representatives at the SOC and at each affected Disaster District EOC to facilitate the capability of agency to support its emergency management responsibilities. Council member agencies are also required to conduct and/or participate in training activities designed to enhance their ability to accomplish their responsibilities as assigned by this plan.
5. This plan shall be exercised at least annually in the form of a simulated emergency in order to provide practical, controlled, operational experience to those who have SOC responsibilities. This requirement is applicable to the SOC and each Disaster District EOC.
6. All emergency management-related exercises will be designed so as to evaluate the effectiveness of this plan and it's associated annexes and procedures. These exercises will be coordinated with the State Coordinator of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management. The Council member agency having primary responsibility for hazard-specific tasks, in consultation with appropriate support agencies, will develop, conduct, and evaluate operational exercises of this plan. As part of the evaluation process, the primary state agency will provide written recommendations for revisions to this plan to the State Coordinator.

Attachments

1. State Emergency Management Council
2. State Emergency Management Council - Matrix of Responsibilities
3. Critical Infrastructure Protection Council
4. Critical Infrastructure Protection Council Responsibilities
5. Disaster District Boundaries
6. Channels for Requesting Emergency Assistance
7. Primary Federal & State Functional Responsibilities
8. State Plan Annex Assignments
9. Summary of Agency Emergency Responsibilities

STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (SEMC)

Chair: Director of Homeland Security/Director, Division of Emergency Management

1. Adjutant General's Department (AGD)
2. American Red Cross (ARD) **
3. Department of Information Resources (DIR)
4. General Land Office (GLO) *
5. Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM)
6. Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA)
7. Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) *
8. Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) *
9. Salvation Army (TSA)
10. State Auditor's Office (SAO)
11. State Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA)
12. Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC)
13. Texas Attorney General's Office (OAG)
14. Texas Building & Procurement Commission (BPC)
15. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) *
16. Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP)
17. Department of Aging & Disability Services (DADS) - when activated
18. Department of Agriculture (TDA) *
19. Department of Assisted & Rehabilitative Services (DARS) - when activated
20. Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ)
21. Department of Health (TDH) * - will be dissolved
22. Department of Housing & Community Affairs (TDHCA)
23. Department of Human Services (DHS) – will be dissolved
24. Department of Insurance (TDI)
25. Department of Mental Health & Mental Retardation (MHMR) - will be dissolved
26. Department of Protective & Family Services (DFPS)
27. Department of Public Safety (DPS) *
28. Department of State Health Services (DSHS) - when activated
29. Department of Transportation (TCDOT) *
30. Texas Education Agency (TEA)
31. Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) *
32. Texas Forest Service (TFS)
33. Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) *
34. Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC) Will be dissolved.
35. Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

* Indicates departments and agencies which are members of the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

** Non-governmental organizations

STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MATRIX OF RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Organizational acronyms used in the matrix that follows are defined in Attachment 1.
2. Legend:
 - P = primary agency
 - S = support agency.

Part 1 of 2

	A - WARNING	B - COMMUNICATIONS	C - SHELTER AND MASS	D - RADIOLOGICAL EMER	E - EVACUATION	F - FIRE FIGHTING	G - LAW ENFORCEMENT	H - HEALTH AND MEDICAL	I - PUBLIC INFORMATION	J - RECOVERY	K - PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING	L - ENERGY & UTILITIES	M - RESOURCE SUPPORT	N - DIRECTION & CONTROL	P - HAZARD MITIGATION	Q - HAZMAT & OIL SPILL	R - SEARCH AND RESCUE	S - TRANSPORTATION	T - DONATIONS MGMT.	U - TERRORIST INCIDENT RESPONSE	V - FOOD AND WATER	W - MILITARY SUPPORT	O - RESERVED/FUTURE USE
AGD		S				S			S					S						S	S	P	
ARC			S					S	S	S				S							S		
CPA									S		S			S					S				
GDEM	S	S		S	S	S			P	P				P	P		S			P	S		
DIR		P												S					S				
DPS	P	S		S	P	S	P		S					S		S	S	S		P			
GLO		S							S					S	S			S					
TBPC		S								S	S		P	S				S	S	S			
MHMR								S	S	S				S				S		S			
OAG							S		S	S				S									
ORCA										S				S	S								
PUC		S										P		S									
RRC		S							S			S		S	S			S					
SAO														S									
TAHC								S	S	S				S	S					S			
TCFP						S			S					S		S							
TDA				S										S								S	
TDCJ		S				S	S	S			S		S	S			S	P			S		

Part 2 of 2

	A - WARNING	B - COMMUNICATIONS	C - SHELTER AND MASS	D - RADIOLOGICAL EMER	E - EVACUATION	F - FIRE FIGHTING	G - LAW ENFORCEMENT	H - HEALTH AND MEDICAL	I - PUBLIC INFORMATION	J - RECOVERY	K - PUBLIC WORKS & ENERGY & UTILITIES	L - ENERGY & UTILITIES	M - RESOURCE SUPPORT	N - DIRECTION & CONTROL	P - HAZARD MITIGATION	Q - HAZMAT & OIL SPILL	R - SEARCH AND RESCUE	S - TRANSPORTATION	T - DONATIONS MGMT.	U - TERRORIST INCIDENT RESPONSE	V - FOOD AND WATER	W - MILITARY SUPPORT	O - RESERVED/FUTURE USE
TXED									S					S									
TDH		S		P				P	S					S		S		S	S	S	S		
DSHS		S		P				P	S					S		S		S	S	S	S		
TDADS								S															
DARS								S															
DFPS							S																
TDHCA										S				S	S								
DHS			S					S		S				S							P		
TDI						S			S	S				S	S	S							
TEA			S											S				S					
TEEX		S				S								S	S	S	P	S		S			
TFS		S				P	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S		S			S			
TCEQ				S				S	S	S	S			S	S	P		S		S	S		
TPWD			S	S			S							S	S	S	S	S					
TRC								S						S									
TSA			P						S	S				S						S	S		
TWC										S			S	S					S				
TXDOT		S			S	S			S	S	P			S	S	S		S		S			

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION COUNCIL (CIPC)

Chair: Director of Homeland Security/Director, Division of Emergency Management

1. Department of Agriculture (TDA)
2. Office of the Attorney General
3. General Land Office (GLO)
4. Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC)
5. Department of Health (TDH) - will be dissolved
6. Department of Information Resources (DIR)
7. Department of Public Safety (DPS)
8. Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM)
9. Adjutant General's Department (AGD)
10. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
11. Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
12. Texas Strategic Military Planning Commission (TSMPC)
13. Department of Transportation (TXDOT)

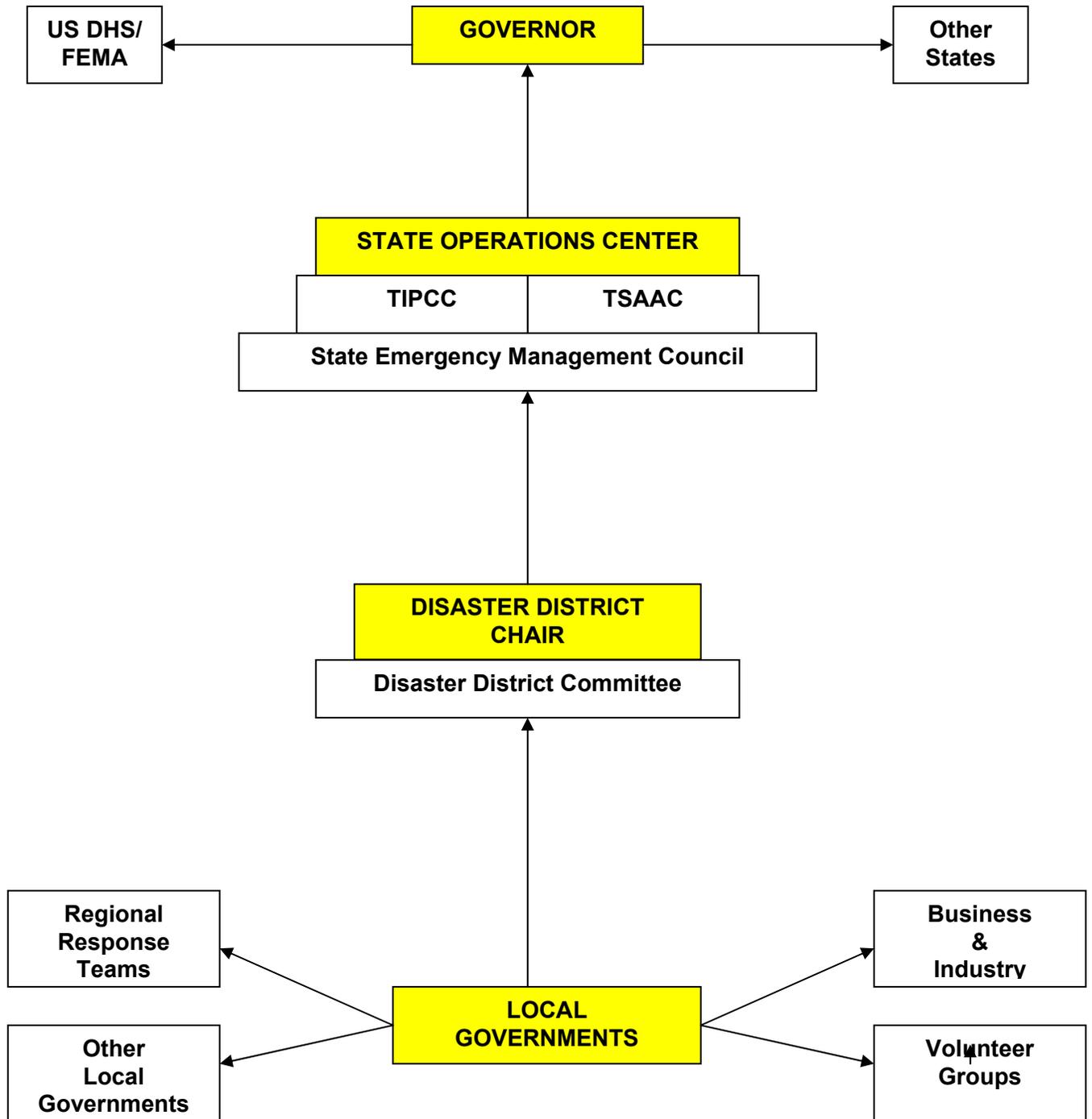
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Lead Agency</u>
Air Quality	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Agriculture	Department of Agriculture
Criminal Intelligence	Department of Public Safety
Electricity	Public Utility Commission of Texas
Emergency Services	Governor's Division of Emergency Management
Food Safety	Department of Health
Government	Governor's Office
Information Service	Department of Information Resources
Military	Texas National Guard
Oil & Gas	Railroad Commission of Texas
Public Health	Department of Health
Telecommunications	Public Utility Commission of Texas
Transportation	Department of Transportation
Water	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

STATE DISASTER DISTRICT BOUNDARIES



CHANNELS FOR REQUESTING OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE



PRIMARY FEDERAL/STATE FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

FEDERAL ESF #	FUNCTION	PRIMARY FEDERAL AGENCY	PRIMARY STATE AGENCY
1	TRANSPORTATION	Department of Transportation	Department of Criminal Justice
2	COMMUNICATIONS	Office of Science & Technology Policy	Department of Information Resources
3	PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Department of Transportation
4	FIREFIGHTING	Department of Agriculture	Texas Forest Service
5	INFORMATION & PLANNING	Federal Emergency Management Agency	Governor's Division of Emergency Management
6	MASS CARE	American Red Cross	The Salvation Army
7	RESOURCE SUPPORT	General Services Administration	Texas Building and Procurement Commission
8	HEALTH & MEDICAL SERVICES	Department of Health and Human Services	Department of Health
9	URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE	Federal Emergency Management Agency	Texas Engineering Extension Service
10	HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	Environmental Protection Agency	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
11	FOOD	Department of Agriculture	Department of Human Services
12	ENERGY	Department of Energy	Public Utility Commission

The **FEDERAL RESPONSE PLAN** assigns emergency support function (ESF) responsibilities to specific federal agencies. This chart identifies federal primary agencies for each numbered federal ESF and their counterpart state agency.

STATE PLAN ANNEX ASSIGNMENTS

ANNEX	EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION	PRIMARY STATE AGENCY	FEDERAL ESF #
Annex A	Warning	DPS	
Annex B	Communications	DIR	2
Annex C	Shelter and Mass Care	TSA	6
Annex D	Radiological Emergency Management	TDH	
Annex E	Evacuation	DPS	
Annex F	Firefighting	TFS	4
Annex G	Law Enforcement	DPS	
Annex H	Health and Medical Services	TDH	8
Annex I	Public Information	GDEM	
Annex J	Recovery	GDEM	
Annex K	Public Works and Engineering	TxDOT	3
Annex L	Energy and Utilities	PUC	12
Annex M	Resource Support	TBPC	7
Annex N	Direction and Control	GDEM	5
Annex O	(Reserved for Future Use)		
Annex P	Hazard Mitigation	GDEM	
Annex Q	Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response	TCEQ	10
Annex R	Search and Rescue	TEEX	9
Annex S	Transportation	TDCJ	1
Annex T	Donations Management	GDEM	
Annex U	Terrorist Incident Response	DPS	
Annex V	Food and Water	DHS	11
Annex W	Military Support	AGD	

SUMMARY OF AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

Adjutant General's Department	9-2
American Red Cross	9-3
Department of Information Resources	9-4
General Land Office.....	9-5
Texas Building and Procurement Commission.....	9-6
Governor's Division of Emergency Management	9-7
Office of the Attorney General.....	9-8
Office of Rural Community Affairs	9-9
Public Utility Commission of Texas	9-10
Railroad Commission of Texas	9-11
State Auditor's Office	9-12
State Comptroller of Public Accounts.....	9-13
Texas Commission on Fire Protection	9-14
Department of Aging & Disability Services	9-15
Department of Agriculture.....	9-16
Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services	9-17
Texas Economic Development	9-18
Department of Criminal Justice	9-19
Department of Family & Protective Services	9-20
Department of Health	9-21
Department of Housing & Community Affairs	9-22
Department of Human Services	9-23
Department of Insurance	9-24
Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation	9-25
Department of Public Safety.....	9-26
Department of State Health Services	9-27
Department of Transportation	9-28
Texas Education Agency.....	9-29
Texas Engineering Extension Service	9-30
Texas Forest Service.....	9-31
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	9-32
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.....	9-33
Texas Rehabilitation Commission	9-34
Texas Workforce Commission	9-35
The Salvation Army	9-36
Texas Animal Health Commission	9-37

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Adjutant General's Department (AGD)

MISSION: The *Texas National Guard (TNG)*, to include the Texas Army and Air National Guard, will:

Under command of the Governor of Texas, provide trained and equipped units to assist civil authorities in the protection of life and property and the preservation of peace, order, and public safety in the State of Texas. Support also involves assisting local authorities in civil and natural emergencies as well as community service activities.

When ordered or called into active federal service by the President of the United States, provide trained and equipped units for war or national emergencies, or at such other times as national security may require, provide augmentation of the United States Armed Forces. This includes supporting Department of Defense airlift requirements worldwide as well as 24-hour alert air defense missions on the Texas Gulf Coast and along the United States' southern border.

The *Texas State Guard*, as a state reserve force, will, when activated by the Governor, provide trained and equipped individuals to supplement the Texas National Guard and to replace the TNG when that force is called into federal service.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Government Code, Section 431.002

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Military Support

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Public Information
Direction and Control
Food and Water
Firefighting
Terrorist Incident Response
Communications

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: American Red Cross (ARC)

MISSION: ARC responds year-round to assist victims of hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, fires, hazardous material spills, transportation accidents, and other incidents. Assists the public in preventing, preparing for, and coping with disasters to include helping people plan for specific types of disasters, reducing their traumatic impact, preventing injuries, saving lives, and reducing property loss. After a disaster occurs, the ARC provides emergency shelter, food, medicine, and first aid to provide for basic human needs, and also distributes food and home clean-up items throughout the affected areas. The ARC also meets immediate emergency needs by providing cash vouchers for groceries, new clothing, temporary housing, emergency home repairs, transportation, basic household items, medicines, and tools. The ARC additionally helps when all other resources, such as insurance benefits and government assistance, are not available or are inadequate to meet disaster-related needs. Disaster relief work by the ARC includes feeding emergency workers, referring those affected by a disaster to other available resources, handling inquiries from concerned family members outside the disaster area, providing blood and blood products to disaster victims, and providing disaster-related mental health services and specialized counseling.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Act of Congress, January 5, 1905, 33 Sta. 599, as amended by 36 U.S. Code Section 1

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: (None)

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Shelter and Mass Care
Health and Medical Services
Public Information
Recovery
Direction and Control
Food and Water

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Information Resources (DIR)

MISSION: DIR provides the State of Texas with an innovative use of information resources to support better service delivery, cost-effective use of resources, and increased accountability. DIR also conducts information technology research for the State. Specifically, DIR coordinates and directs the use of information resources technologies by state agencies that provide the most cost-effective and useful retrieval and exchange of information both within and among the various agencies and branches of government to the people of Texas and their elected representatives. DIR additionally operates a disaster recovery site to prevent loss of information.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Government Code, Section 2054.004

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Communications

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Direction and Control
Donations Management

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: General Land Office (GLO)

MISSION: GLO is responsible for the management of over 20 million acres of state land and the mineral rights therein. This includes 13 million acres dedicated to the Permanent School Fund and state-owned "submerged" lands from the mean high tide line out to 10.3 miles into the Gulf of Mexico. The GLO also manages programs which offer qualified Texas veterans low-interest loans to purchase land, homes, and make home improvements; is responsible for inventorying and evaluating more than 2 million acres of property owned by state agencies to ensure highest and best use; and plays an active role in environmental and economic issues to include cleaning-up spills in state coastal waters, operating a recycling education and market development program, mobilizing thousands of volunteers to clean Texas beaches twice a year, and running an alternative fuels program that emphasizes the use of clean natural gas as a fleet vehicle fuel.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Constitution, Article IV, Section 1

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR:(None)

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Public Information
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation
Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response
Transportation

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Building and Procurement Commission (BPC)

MISSION: TBPC provides its state customers with a cost-effective central source for the timely delivery of goods, services, and facilities. This includes centralized purchasing for all state agencies and operating the state's business program; centralized services to state agencies including travel, mail and messenger, vehicle fleet management, alternative fuels, office machine repair, and the central store; providing staff support to the Council on Competitive Government; operating the state and federal surplus property programs; conducting inspections of construction projects and providing minor construction services to state agencies; managing the state's leasing program for rental of office space; overseeing asbestos abatement in the Capitol Complex; providing custodial services and building and grounds maintenance for state-owned buildings; operating the Capitol Complex recycling program; and planning, designing, managing, and operating the statewide TEX-AN communications network and the Capitol Complex Centralized Telephone System.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Revised Civil Statutes Annotated, Article 601b

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR:Resource Support

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Recovery
Public Works and Engineering
Direction and Control
Transportation
Donations Management
Terrorist Incident Response

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM)

MISSION: GDEM, as a legislated operational arm of the Governor's Office, administers a program of comprehensive emergency management throughout the State to reduce the vulnerability of citizens and communities of Texas to damage, injury, and loss of life and property from natural or man-made disasters, riots, and/or hostile military or paramilitary actions. The Governor has designated the Director of the Office of Homeland Security as the Director of GDEM who in turn has appointed a State Coordinator to manage the activities of the Division. GDEM administers a variety of emergency management programs, provides guidance and technical assistance, and coordinates emergency management activities at the State, local, and federal government level to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Disaster Act of 1975 (Government Code, Chapter 418)

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Public Information
Recovery
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation
Donations Management

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Warning
Communications
Radiological Emergency Management
Evacuation
Firefighting
Search and Rescue
Terrorist Incident Response

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Office of the Attorney General (OAG)

MISSION: The Texas Attorney General is charged to defend the laws and the Constitution of the State of Texas, represent the State in litigation, and approve public bond issues. The Attorney General also serves as legal counsel to over 300 boards and agencies of the state government. The OAG additionally serves and protects the rights of all citizens of Texas through many of its activities, including consumer and environmental protection, criminal law enforcement, financial litigation, and health and safety enforcements, to name only a few. The OAG further collects unpaid debts owed to the State as well as interpreting and defending state laws. The OAG represents the State in civil matters and in criminal cases in the federal appellate courts and may assist local prosecutors at their invitation. Civil matters include antitrust activities, sales, deceptive trade practices, and other tax collection; bond approval; insurance, banking, and securities activities; labor, agriculture, and housing activities; environmental protection and energy law; representation of the State's agencies and officials; investigation of crime victim's requests for assistance; administration of the state workers' compensation system; and investigation of Medicaid fraud. The OAG also is responsible for enforcing child support to assist the families of non-supporting parents by locating the parents, establishing paternity and court-ordered support obligations, and by enforcing collection of established obligations. The OAG additionally administers the Crime Victims' Compensation Program as well as the Court-Appointed Volunteer Advocate program, which provides volunteer guardian assistance to juveniles.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Constitution, Article IV, Section I
Texas Government Code, Chapter 402

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Law Enforcement
Public Information
Recovery
Direction and Control

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA)

MISSION: ORCA was created in 2001 during the 77th legislative session (House Bill 7) to serve as a focal agency for the state’s health, economic development, and community development programs targeting rural Texas communities.

The agency’s goal is to “assure a continuing focus on rural issues, monitor governmental actions affecting rural Texas, research problems and recommend solutions, and coordinate rural programs among state agencies.”

The Office administers programs supporting rural health care, the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) non-entitlement program, and programs designed to improve the leadership capacity of rural community leaders. The Office also coordinates and monitors the state’s effort to improve the results and cost-effectiveness of programs affecting rural communities, as well as provide an annual evaluation of the condition of rural Texas Communities.

House Bill 7 created ORCA by merging three existing programs administered by the state: the Center for Rural Health Initiatives (CRHI), previously associated with the Department of Health, the Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) and Local Government Services (LGS), both from the Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: House Bill 7, 77th Legislature

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Recovery
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC)

MISSION: The mission of the PUC is to assure the availability of safe, reliable, high quality services that meet the needs of all Texans at just and reasonable rates. To accomplish this mission, the PUC shall regulate electric and telecommunications utilities as required while facilitating competition, operation of the free market, and customer choice.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Revised Civil Statutes, Article 1446c, Section 5

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Energy and Utilities

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Direction and Control

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)

MISSION: The RRC has regulatory responsibility over oil and gas exploration, development, and production operations; gas utilities; pipeline and rail safety; the liquefied petroleum gas industry; and the surface mining of coal, uranium, and iron ore gravel. In particular, the agency administers regulations to protect public health and safety and the environment from activities associated with oil and gas exploration, development and production operations, which include pipeline transportation of crude oil and natural gas, underground storage of hydrocarbons, and management of oil and gas waste. The RRC administers an industry-funded program to plug abandoned wells and clean-up abandoned, contaminated surface sites, and manages crude oil and natural gas conservation programs. The RRC also ensures a continuous, safe supply of natural gas is available to Texas consumers at a reasonable price; administers a federally funded program to ensure the safe operation of natural gas and hazardous liquids pipeline systems; and regulates propane, compressed natural gas, and liquefied natural gas to protect public safety. The agency additionally inspects railroad operations and equipment, hazardous materials handling on railroads, signal operation, and railroad tracks within Texas. Another responsibility of the RRC is to regulate surface mining of coal, uranium, and iron ore gravel as well as to administer a program for reclaiming abandoned mine lands. Finally the Commission conducts research and educates the public about propane and other environmentally beneficial fuels and develops marketing, advertising, and information programs to increase public awareness about the fuel.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Constitution, Articles X (Sec 2) & XVI (Sec 30)
Texas Revised Civil Statutes, Article 6447

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Public Information
Energy and Utilities
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation
Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response
Transportation

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: State Auditor's Office (SAO)

MISSION: SAO is a legislative agency that functions as the independent auditor of the entities comprising state government in Texas. The Office reviews state agencies, universities, and programs for management and fiscal controls, effectiveness, efficiency, performance measures, and legal compliance. The State Auditor serves under the general guidance of, and is responsible to, the Legislative Audit Committee, a permanent standing joint committee of the State Legislature. The Office also provides other services, such as responding to legislative requests, advising state agencies, designing and developing technical training for internal auditors, and managing the state employee position classification system.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Government Code, Section 321.005

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Direction and Control

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: State Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA)

MISSION: The State Comptroller serves as the chief fiscal and revenue forecasting officer for the State of Texas. The State Comptroller administers and enforces revenue-producing tax laws; collects, processes, and deposits state revenue collections in the State Treasury; monitors and approves expenditures of appropriated state funds; provides accounting services to state agencies; and estimates state revenue for the purpose of certifying legislative appropriations. The State Comptroller also administers certain state energy programs and the oil overcharge fund. The primary functions of the Comptroller's Office are tax administration, funds management, and central administration.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Constitution, Article IV, Section 1
Texas Government Code, Chapter 403

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Recovery
Energy and Utilities
Direction and Control
Donations Management

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP)

MISSION: TCFP regulates and provides technical and financial assistance to paid fire protection personnel and fire departments of municipalities, counties, special-purpose districts, and other political subdivisions of the State. It adopts regulations for certification of marine and aircraft crash and rescue fire protection personnel. The Commission establishes minimum educational, training, physical, and mental standards for fire protection personnel and may establish standards for advanced or specialized fire-protection personnel.

The Commission inspects municipalities to assess the public firefighting services and capabilities and reviews the key rate schedule of the Department of Insurance and makes recommendations for revisions, which may affect fire insurance rates.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Government Code, Title 4, Sections 419.002 and 419.004

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Firefighting
Public Information
Direction and Control
Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Aging & Disability Services (DADS)

MISSION: To be published

ENABLING LEGISLATION: To be published

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Health & Medical Services

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Agriculture (TDA)

MISSION: TDA is involved in regulatory activities, marketing, producers outreach, public health, agricultural resource protection, agricultural research and economic analysis activities and administers more than fifty separate laws. Current duties include controlling destructive plant pests and diseases; ensuring the quality of seed sold in the State; testing and certifying the accuracy of weights and measures used in commercial transactions; regulating the sale, use, and disposal of pesticides and herbicides; promoting Texas agricultural products locally, nationally, and internationally; and providing financial assistance in agricultural and rural economic development through the Texas Agricultural Finance Authority.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Agriculture Code, Title 2, Chapter 11

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Radiological Emergency Management
Direction and Control
Food and Water

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services (DARS)

MISSION: To be published

ENABLING LEGISLATION: To be published

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Health & Medical Services

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Economic Development (TXED)

MISSION: TXED is the primary economic development and tourism agency in the State. The Department works in partnership with economic development organizations, businesses, communities, government entities, and elected officials by creating opportunities for growth among Texas companies and exhibits Texas' relative economic strengths to companies planning to relocate. TXED also provides business, economic analysis, and financial assistance to Texas communities and to businesses seeking to expand or locate in Texas; promotes Texas as an ideal international business location; and provides assistance to Texas companies seeking to export goods or services. The Department additionally promotes the State of Texas as a key travel destination through an extensive national and international media campaign which includes providing information to the travel industry to assist in selling Texas more aggressively and knowledgeably; conducting familiarization tours for travel writers, tour operators, and travel counselors; and participating in travel missions in key national and international markets.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Revised Civil Statute, Article 4413 (301)

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Public Information
Direction and Control

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ)

MISSION: The mission of TDCJ is to provide public safety, promote positive change in offender behavior, reintegrate offenders into society, and assist victims of crime.

The Department, under the operational leadership of an executive director and delegated staff, is aligned organizationally to address specialized functions. The Institutional, State Jail, Parole, and Community Justice Assistance Divisions provide either direct or indirect supervision and rehabilitative services to offenders within the criminal justice system. Eleven support divisions plan, execute, and manage the logistical functions necessary to maintain the Department's daily operations. Within this category, services range from administrative support and facility construction to industry operations, financial management, and employee recruitment.

In regard to the TDCJ program for use of offender labor for community and public service, it is the policy of the TDCJ to provide offender labor for the purposes of developing lands pursuant to a public service program; providing improvement and beautification to units/facilities; providing vocational programs for offenders; aiding offenders' transition between confinement and society thus reducing recidivism; saving taxpayer dollars; and similar purposes which serve the public interest. This program provides offender labor to state agencies, local governments and entities, and non-profit organizations. This program is in place to provide services to the general public and enhance social welfare and the general well being of the community.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Government Code, Chapter 493

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Transportation

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Firefighting
Law Enforcement
Health and Medical Services
Public Works and Engineering
Resource Support
Direction and Control
Search and Rescue
Food and Water

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Family & Protective Services (DFPS)

MISSION: The mission of DFPS is to protect the unprotected – children, elderly, and people with disabilities – from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

DFPS provides adult protective services for elderly people and those with disabilities and child protective services for children in their own homes and in foster care. The agency also licenses child care facilities, including day care homes and centers and residential child-care facilities, and manages community-based programs that prevent delinquency, abuse, neglect, and exploitation of children, the elderly, and disabled.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: To be published

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Law Enforcement

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Health (TDH)

MISSION: TDH serves as the state's primary agency for public health planning, services, and regulation. Public health programs of TDH are grouped into six major areas of responsibility: health care delivery, disease control and prevention, health care financing, special health services, environmental and consumer health, and public health regions. Services are provided both directly and by contract with local public and private providers throughout the state.

TDH provides a wide-range of public health services, operates the state's Bureau of Vital Statistics, and certifies and licenses emergency medical services (EMS) personnel and organizations.

TDH also licenses the possession and use of radioactive materials in Texas, and department field inspectors ensure that high safety standards are maintained.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 11

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Radiological Emergency Management
Health and Medical Services

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Public Information
Direction and Control
Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response
Transportation
Donations Management
Food and Water
Terrorist Incident Response

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Housing & Community Affairs (TDHCA)

MISSION: TDHCA's responsibilities are to assist local governments in providing essential public services to their residents in overcoming financial, social, and environmental problems; to provide for the housing needs of persons and families of low and moderate income; to contribute to the preservation, development, and redevelopment of neighborhoods and communities; to serve as an advocate for local governments by assisting the Governor and the Legislature in coordinating federal and state programs affecting local governments; and to provide information to federal and state offices and the public on methods by which local governments can be assisted. This includes fostering intergovernmental cooperation, regional and community services, rural community services, education and training, research, and economic opportunity; issuing bonds, notes, or other obligations to finance multi-family housing developments or single-family residential housing; providing grants to reduce malnutrition and to provide a healthier environment for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other special needs populations; providing emergency and permanent shelter, utilities, nutrition, clothing, medical, and other homeless services; providing energy-related assistance to low-income individuals for home weatherization, utility assistance, and financial intervention for energy crisis emergencies; providing affordable housing to low-income persons and providing developers of low-income housing with dollar-for-dollar reduction in federal tax liability for the purpose of promoting the production of low income rental housing; administering housing-related programs and providing funds for rental and home ownership housing to low-income and very low-income persons through housing acquisition, new construction, rehabilitation, and tenant-based assistance; providing grants to large communities for improvements to public facilities and services, physical planning, and economic development; and ensuring that manufactured homes are well constructed and safe, that homes are installed correctly, that consumers are provided fair and effective remedies, and that measures are taken to provide economic stability for the Texas manufactured housing industry.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Government Code, Section 2306.021

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Recovery
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Human Services (DHS)

MISSION: TDHS provides quality services, which have a positive impact on the lives of eligible Texans. Services include (1) financial assistance, medical benefits, food stamps, special food and nutrition programs, and assistance to victims of natural disasters; (2) case management, and support services to help Aid For Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) recipients, food stamp recipients, and low-income families become and stay self-sufficient; (3) community care for people who are aged or disabled, including meals, attendant care, nursing care, physical rehabilitation, emergency response, adult foster care, and residential care; and (4) institutional care, when appropriate, for people who are aged or disabled, including nursing facility care. DHS also exercises state responsibility for the state Repatriation Program.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Human Resource Code, Section 21.001

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Food and Water

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Shelter and Mass Care
Health and Medical Services
Recovery
Direction and Control

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Insurance (TDI)

MISSION: TDI works for the availability of quality insurance products for all Texans at reasonable prices and under reasonable terms and strives to protect the public from the adverse consequences of insurer insolvency. TDI is also tasked to enforce solvency standards and promote competition in the industry while protecting the public from fraud, misrepresentation, and unfair practices. The TDI is responsible to educate the public about insurance so that Texans can make informed choices, and the Department will insist that the industry be responsible to its customers. Specifically, TDI is responsible to ensure that insurance will be available at the lowest possible cost to all consumers who need it; that consumers' insurance assets are protected; that efforts to ensure prices are fair and reasonable; and that claims are handled fairly, promptly, and professionally.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal investigates arson and suspected arson, and administers and enforces applicable provisions of the Insurance Code and other laws. The State Fire Marshal also develops educational programs and disseminates materials for public education in fire prevention and safety.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Insurance Code, Article 1.02

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Firefighting
Public Information
Recovery
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation
Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR)

MISSION: MHMR is the mental health authority in the State of Texas. The Department operates and manages a series of residential and treatment facilities. In all, MHMR provides services through its nine (9) State Hospitals, twelve (12) State Schools, two (2) State Centers, and thirteen (13) State Operated Community Centers. The Department also contracts with thirty-six (36) Community MHMR Centers.

The Department strives to respond to the diverse needs of all people with mental illness and mental retardation by creating an accessible system of services that supports individual choices and promotes lives of dignity and independence.

The Disaster Assistance Program is located within the Office of the Medical Director. The mission of the program is to assist in reducing, alleviating and/or preventing adverse emotional reactions to all citizens in the State of Texas who may be exposed to serve traumatic events. In short, the major goal of the program is to prevent citizens from entering the MHMR system, support those who do, and assist in promoting dignity and independence of all. The program is also designed to enhance all MHMR facilities and community centers in promoting and assisting in mitigation, preparedness, planning, and recovery from facility-level emergencies.

The Disaster Assistance Program also provides, independently and as a member of the State Crisis Consortium, Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and Crisis Counseling. CISM and/or Crisis Counseling may be provided to emergency responders, recovery personnel, and other groups as requested. MHMR may be required or requested to provide state-level CISM event management and/or assist in the coordination of a situation requiring a CISM response.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Health and Safety Code, Title 7, Chapter 532

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Health and Medical Services
Public Information
Recovery
Direction and Control
Transportation
Terrorist Incident Response

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Public Safety (DPS)

MISSION: DPS has responsibilities in three major areas: traffic law enforcement (TLE), criminal law enforcement (CLE), and emergency management. TLE serves as the State's police authority and is responsible for the supervision of traffic on Texas roadways. It also administers the state driver and vehicle regulatory laws and provides key assistance in the area of criminal law enforcement, furnishes security officers for the Governor, and provides security and law enforcement for the State Capitol, Capitol Complex, and various other state office buildings. CLE is responsible for investigation of criminal activity in Texas and works closely with local law enforcement agencies to investigate crime. This includes investigating the illegal traffic of controlled substances and dangerous drugs; gathering and analyzing information to suppress, investigate, and prosecute crime and corruption in Texas; identifying stolen vehicles and apprehending individuals involved in auto theft; administering polygraph examinations; and examining and analyzing physical evidence (e.g., fingerprints, DNA, etc.). The Director of DPS is appointed as the State Director of Emergency Management by the Governor and in this capacity chairs the State Emergency Management Council and is responsible, through the State Coordinator, for all activities of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (GDEM).

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Government Code, Chapter 411

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Warning
Evacuation
Law Enforcement
Terrorist Incident Response

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Radiological Emergency Management
Firefighting
Public Information
Direction and Control
Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response
Search and Rescue
Transportation

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

MISSION: To be published

ENABLING LEGISLATION: To be published

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Health and Medical Services

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Public Information
Direction & Control
Hazardous Materials & Oil Spill Response
Transportation
Donations Management
Food & Water
Terrorist Incident Response

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Department of Transportation (TxDOT)

MISSION: TxDOT provides for the safe, effective, and efficient movement of people and goods over state-maintained highways and farm-to-market/ranch roads, via public transportation systems, and at airports throughout the State. TxDOT receives, disburses, and administers federal and state funds for general aviation airports and assists small communities in building, maintaining, and upgrading airports; supervises the design, environmental oversight, acquisition of right-of-way, materials testing and validation, construction, and maintenance of state highways; issues oversize/overweight load permits and is responsible for commercial motor carrier insurance filings and registration, vehicle storage facilities licensing, and interstate movement authority; licenses new car dealers, distributors, converters, and manufacturers doing business in Texas to include enforcement of the Lemon Law; provides financial and technical assistance to urban, rural, and elderly or disabled public transit providers; regulates outdoor advertising and junkyards; oversees programs in traffic engineering, traffic safety, railroad crossing and signals, and traffic management; supports tourism by operating travel information centers and publishing travel literature; administers the statewide system for collecting fees for motor vehicle registration and certificates of title; and advises on international transportation in the region on both sides of the 2,000-mile U.S.-Mexico border.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Revised Civil Statute, Article 6663

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Public Works and Engineering

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR:

- Communications
- Evacuation
- Firefighting
- Public Information
- Recovery
- Direction and Control
- Hazard Mitigation
- Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response
- Transportation
- Terrorist Incident Response

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Education Agency (TEA)

MISSION: TEA performs specific statutory functions relating to public education for grades pre-kindergarten through 12. The responsibility for public education in Texas is divided between local school district authorities and the State with the majority of responsibilities vested in 1000+ local school districts.

The primary state responsibility is allocating state funds to local school districts through per capita aid and payments from the Foundation School Program. TEA also handles federal funds related to public education.

TEA is organized to improve the effectiveness of school teachers and administrators; to enhance educational programs for students; to provide funding to local districts while ensuring proper use of state and federal funds; to conduct educational research; to develop and administer student and teacher testing programs; and to provide comprehensive information bases.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Constitution, Art. VII, Section 8
Texas Education Code, Section 11.01

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Shelter and Mass Care
Direction and Control
Transportation

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)

MISSION: TEEX is dedicated to serving the needs of Texans through training, retraining, continuing education, technical assistance, and technology transfer. The Agency offers more than 700 different training programs that focus on the needs of private industry or assist public agencies in complying with local policies and meeting state and federal laws.

All training is designed to increase the skills of employed workers. Special emphasis is placed on increasing safety in the workplace, protecting property, building minority-owned business, and increasing productivity in the work place across the Nation and around the world.

TEEX provides training in the following disciplines: electronics, electric power and safety, fire protection, construction equipment and public works, law enforcement and security, occupational and environmental safety, management, small businesses, transportation, telecommunications, water and wastewater. TEEX also operates the mid-continent Technology Transfer Center (one of six in the Nation) which serves a 14-state area.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Education Code, Section 88.001

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Search and Rescue

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Firefighting
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation
Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response
Transportation
Terrorist Incident Response

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Forest Service (TFS)

MISSION: TFS develops and implements a coordinated plan for effective forest fire protection for over 20 million acres in 52 East Texas counties. The agency also provides assistance and direction in the suppression of major wildland fires throughout the State as needed. TFS additionally plans and conducts a cooperative fire protection program with rural communities and neighborhood groups, providing development, organizational, and material assistance. TFS provides support and assistance in search and rescue, law enforcement, hazardous materials, evacuation, reconnaissance, communications, and direction and control as needed.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Education Code, Section 88.101

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Firefighting

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Law Enforcement
Public Information
Recovery
Public Works and Engineering
Resource Support
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation
Search and Rescue
Terrorist Incident Response

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

MISSION: TCEQ is a public agency dedicated to protecting human health and the environment through efforts to ensure clean air, clean water, and proper and safe disposal of various forms of pollutants, consistent with sustainable economic development.

The agency is actively engaged in five major activities: water resource management, air quality, waste management, legal and regulatory services, and administrative services.

One of TCEQ's primary goals is to protect public health and safety and the environment by reducing the release of pollutants and contaminants, ensuring that waste, including low-level radioactive waste, is properly managed and safely disposed of, and expediting the cleanup of contaminated sites. TCEQ is responsible for managing the State's water resources, enforcing compliance with state and federal clean air and water laws, dam safety, floodplain management activities, and for providing meteorological / climatological services.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Constitution, Article III, Section 49-C
Texas Water Code, Sections 5.001, and 5.051

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Radiological Emergency Management
Health and Medical Services
Public Information
Recovery
Public Works and Engineering
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation
Transportation
Food and Water
Terrorist Incident Response

MEMBER OF CIPC

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)

MISSION: TPWD provides outdoor recreational opportunities through managing and protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat and acquiring and managing parklands and historic areas.

TPWD administers hunter and water safety programs, protects and manages wildlife habitat and resources, enforces game, fish, and water safety laws, acquires and oversees public lands including wildlife management areas, state parks, and historic sites.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, Section 11.011

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Communications
Shelter and Mass Care
Radiological Emergency Management
Law Enforcement
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation
Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response
Search and Rescue
Transportation

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC)

MISSION: TRC is a "Human Energy Agency" that provides services to Texans with disabilities who are attempting to be more independent, more productive, and more involved in their communities.

TRC serves as the State's principal authority on the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, except those with visual impairments and those who are legally blind. The Commission administers a variety of programs and manages transitional planning and services for mentally retarded, mentally ill, and developmentally disabled offenders, and provides administrative support services to the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities.

TRC is actively involved in providing services for comprehensive medical rehabilitation, disability determination, vocational rehabilitation, extended rehabilitation, and support for independent living centers located across the State.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Human Resource Code, Section 111.011

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Health and Medical Services
Direction and Control

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

MISSION: TWC serves in a dual function as both an employment service and an agency for the payment of unemployment benefits.

TWC's primary objectives are to promote the well-being of individuals in the State's labor force, to participate in the development and full use of employment resources, and to serve employers. TWC's specific responsibilities include the operation of efficient employment and training programs that help individuals find employment and furnish employers with qualified applicants and personnel services, and the operation of an unemployment insurance program involving the collection of unemployment insurance taxes with which to pay benefits to assist the unemployed and cushion a community's economy against the detrimental effects of unemployment. TWC also develops and analyzes labor market information and related data to assess labor force characteristics and needs.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Labor Code, Chapter 202

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Recovery
Resource Support
Direction and Control
Donations Management

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: The Salvation Army (TSA)

MISSION: The Salvation Army (TSA) is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church with a mission to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs without discrimination. TSA provides temporary shelter to those individuals in financial straits; low-cost housing to those living on pensions or social security; maternity homes for unwed mothers; emergency shelters, medical and counseling services for women alcoholics and drug addicts; homes for predelinquent adolescent girls; other children's homes; and day care centers. TSA provides financial assistance to families as well as counseling regarding marriages, child/parent relationships, and the problems of adolescents. TSA works cooperatively with the judicial, prison, and probation systems to include ministering to inmates, pre-release job training, community-based rehabilitation centers, halfway houses, and work-release programs. During major disasters, The Salvation Army works cooperatively with federal, state, and local emergency management agencies to meet various emergencies by providing food, clothing, crisis counseling, and spiritual comfort to the disaster victims. The Salvation Army also accepts cases to search for missing persons in all parts of the world.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: None; founded in 1865 in London, England

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: Shelter and Mass Care

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Public Information
Recovery
Direction and Control
Food and Water
Terrorist Incident Response

**SUMMARY OF
AGENCY EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES**

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION: Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC)

MISSION: The mission of the TAHC is the prevention, surveillance, control, diagnosis, and eradication of certain diseases and conditions affecting livestock, poultry, and exotic animals, some of which have human health implications. These functions contribute to the building of a solid foundation for economic prosperity while decreasing the human health risks for the people of Texas.

The Commission is directed to protect livestock, domestic animals, and domestic fowl from all diseases recognized as communicable by the veterinary profession; may act to eradicate or control any disease or agent of transmission for any disease that affects livestock, exotic livestock, domestic animals, domestic fowl, exotic fowl, or canines, regardless of whether the disease is communicable; and may adopt any rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this action, including rules for testing, movement, inspection, and treatment.

TAHC consists of a central office in Austin and eight area offices strategically located across the State. The Commission also works in cooperation, and is partially funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (USDA-APHIS-VS). Field veterinarians and livestock inspectors are the first line of communication between TAHC and producers. They test livestock on ranches and farms, inspect livestock markets to ensure that diseased animals are shipped to proper destinations, and check livestock shipments entering the State to make certain health certificates and permits are valid. They determine when a disease or dangerous pest is present and what animals may be exposed or at risk, communicate with producers to develop epidemiological information, collect specimens, and interpret test results.

TAHC operates the Texas Emergency Response Team (TERT), which ensures adequate planning, collaboration, and coordination among the State's animal health-related agencies, agriculture industries, and other related agencies and parties including universities, other government officials, and private veterinarians regarding emergency disease situations in livestock. The TERT may also assist in responding to natural and human-caused emergencies and disasters.

ENABLING LEGISLATION: Texas Agricultural Code, Chapter 148
Texas Agricultural Code, Chapters 161-168

PRIMARY AGENCY FOR: None

SUPPORT AGENCY FOR: Health and Medical Services
Terrorist Incident Response
Recovery
Public Information
Direction and Control
Hazard Mitigation