

## DSHS Grand Rounds



Presenters:

Frank Patterson, Emergency Management Coordinator for City of Waco/McLennan County; Kelly Craine, Public Information Officer, Waco-McLennan County Public Health District; Dana Lafayette, LPC, LP-S, LCDC, Heart of Texas MHMR

## Logistics

Registration for free continuing education (CE) hours or certificate of attendance through TRAIN at:

<https://tx.train.org>

Streamlined registration  
for individuals not requesting CE hours  
or a certificate of attendance

1. webinar: <http://extra.dshs.state.tx.us/grandrounds/webinar-noCE.htm>
2. live audience: sign in at the door

For registration questions, please contact Annette Lara,  
[CE.Service@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:CE.Service@dshs.state.tx.us)

## Logistics (cont.)

### Slides and recorded webinar available at:

<http://extra.dshs.state.tx.us/grandrounds>

### Questions?

There will be a question and answer period at the end of the presentation. Remote sites can send in questions throughout the presentation by using the GoToWebinar chat box or email [GrandRounds@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:GrandRounds@dshs.state.tx.us).

For those in the auditorium, please come to the microphone to ask your question.

### For technical difficulties, please contact:

GoToWebinar 1-800-263-6317(toll free) or 1-805-617-7000

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## Disclosure to the Learner

### Requirement of Learner

Participants requesting continuing education contact hours or a certificate of attendance must register in TRAIN, attend the entire session, and complete the online evaluation within two weeks of the presentation.

### Commercial Support

This educational activity received no commercial support.

### Disclosure of Financial Conflict of Interest

The speakers and planning committee have no relevant financial relationships to disclose.

### Non-Endorsement Statement

Accredited status does not imply endorsement by Department of State Health Services - Continuing Education Services, Texas Medical Association, or American Nurses Credentialing Center of any commercial products displayed in conjunction with an activity.

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## Introductions



David Lakey, MD  
DSHS Commissioner  
is pleased to introduce today's  
DSHS Grand Rounds speakers

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## Best Practices in Local Public Health: The West Explosion



Frank Patterson  
Emergency Management Coordinator  
City of Waco/McLennan County



Dana Lafayette, LPC, LP-S, LCDC,  
Heart of Texas MHMR



Kelly Craine  
Public Information Officer  
Waco-McLennan County Public Health District

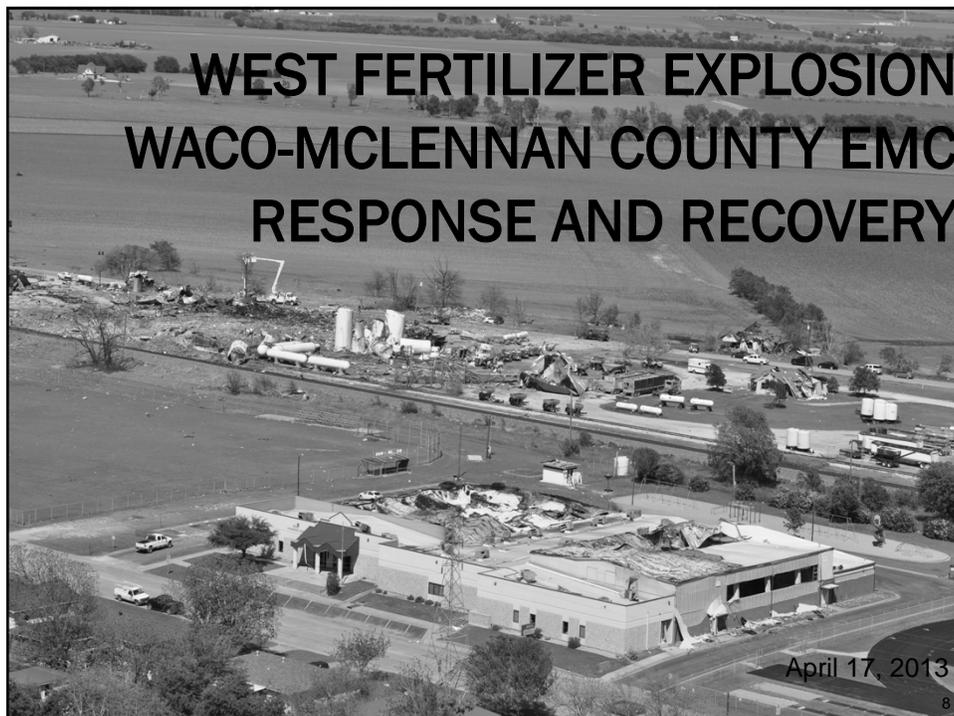
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## Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

1. Describe precipitating factors leading to the West explosion.
2. Analyze the strategic response undertaken by the local public health/emergency management partnership.
3. Examine public health issues, including mental health interventions, related to the explosion.
4. Explore lessons learned from the West explosion.

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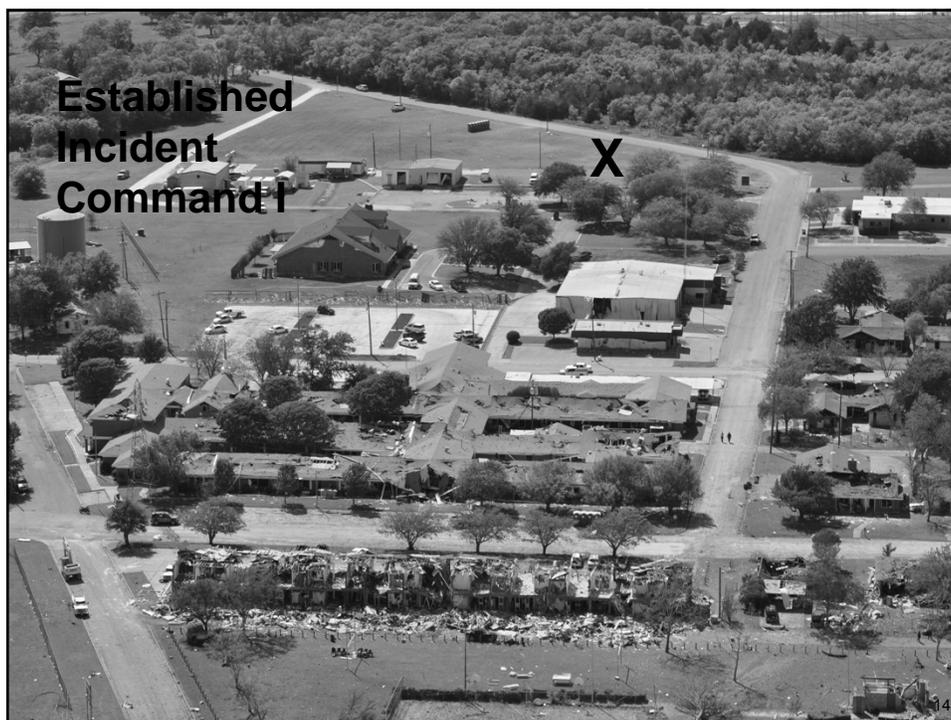
April 17, 2013

- 7:29 PM Fire Reported
- 7:32 PM West Fire Dispatched
- 7:33 PM West Fire en route
- 7:38 PM West Fire arrive on scene
- 7:41 PM request for mutual aid from Hill County departments and other local departments
- 7:51 PM Explosion occurs

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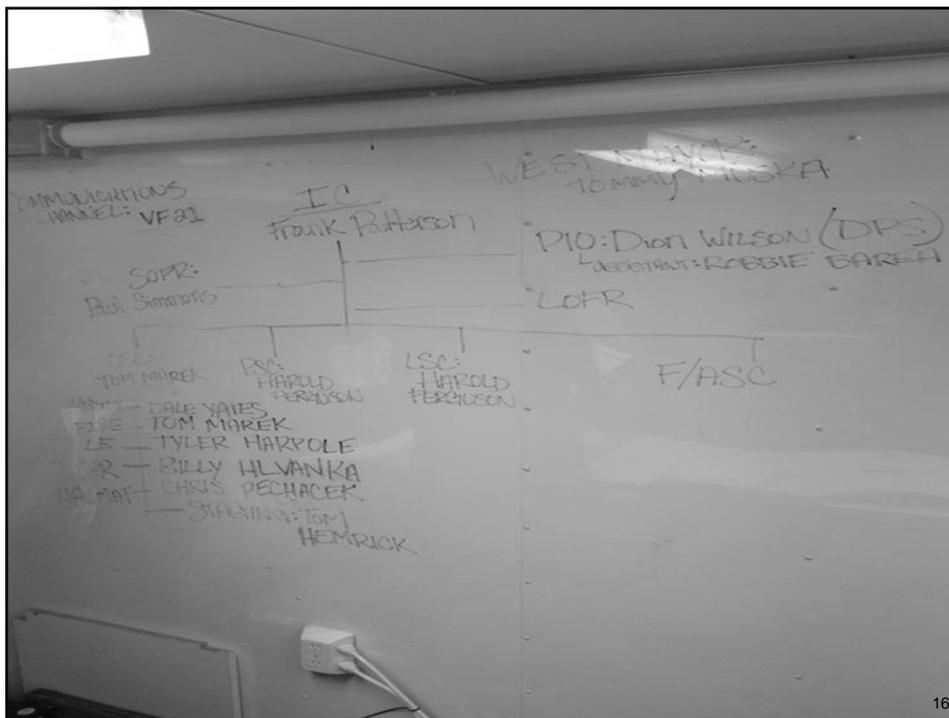


Taken by Sgt Swanton, Waco Police Dept. ©

That night we recorded 113 different agencies, many of them self dispatched.

Radio communications were an issue early on.

Most of the agencies did not get used.



COMMUNICATIONS  
HANDLER: VFAJ

IC  
FRANK PETERSEN

WEST COAST  
TOMMY MUSKA

PIO: Dion Wilson (DPS)  
ASSISTANT: ROBBIE BARETT

SOPR:  
Paul Simmonds

LCFR

CFO:  
STAN MAREK

PRO:  
HAROLD FERGUSON

LSC:  
HAROLD FERGUSON

F/ASC

- FIN - DALE YATES
- FIRE - TOM MAREK
- LE - TYLER HARPOLE
- CR - BILLY HLWANKA
- HAZMAT - CHRIS PECHACEK
- SHADING: TOM HENRICK



© Reuters



















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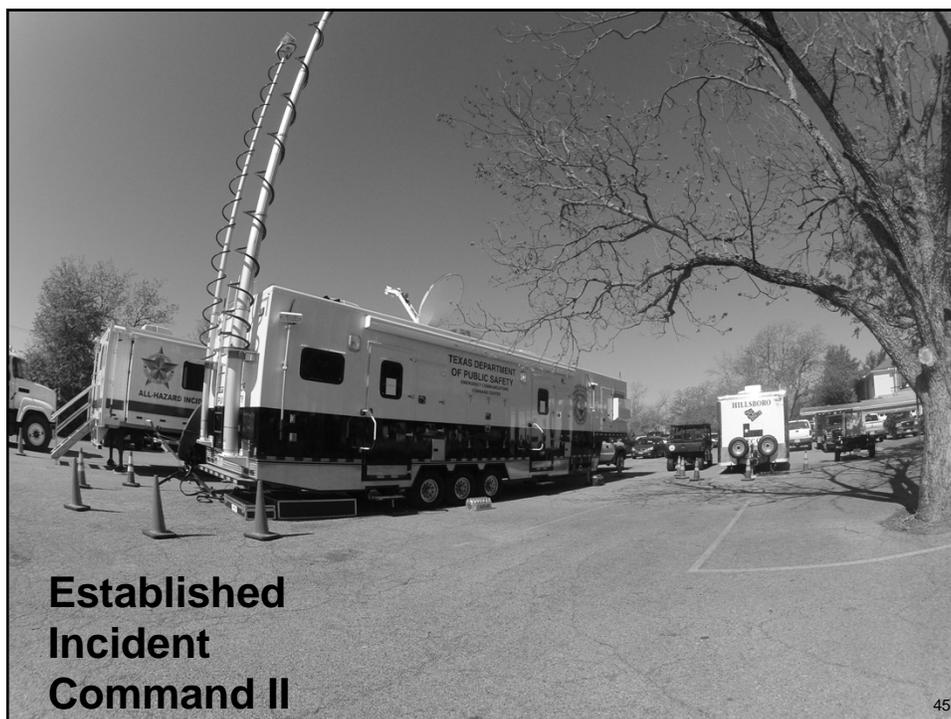
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**Established  
Incident  
Command II**





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HARRIS FF	Casket - ok OBC - Wilbur ok Cemetery ok - JK ok Book - SERVICE RECORDS - OK	Blanket - ok Plaque Flags - 6 US VIDEO - flash drive Clergy - ok	Lead car House - ok FD VANS - OK Family CARS - ok MUSIC -	SVC 4/24 WED
Pustajowski FF	Casket ok OBC - OK Cemetery - ok Book Service Records	Blanket - ok Plaque - ok Flags - 6 Clergy -	Lead car House Family - Flower Vans MUSIC	4/26 Fri
Upmoy	Casket - ok OBC - OK Cemetery Book Service Records	Blanket Plaque - ok Flags - 5 US 1 TX VIDEO Clergy FD Vans/Guns watch -	Lead car House Family Flower Vans MUSIC	4/27 SAT
Robert Sproffels FF	Casket - ok OBC - ok Cemetery Book Service Records	Blanket Plaque - ok Flags - 4 1-TX VIDEO Clergy	Lead car House Family Flower Vans MUSIC	4/29 MON
Dave Sproffels FF	Casket - ok OBC - ok Cemetery Book Service Records	Blanket Plaque - ok Flags - 3 1-TX VIDEO Clergy	Lead car House Family Flower Vans MUSIC	4/29 MON

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Divided the city into three zones. This allowed us to get people in their homes in the least impacted areas sooner and allowed us to do a complete assessment of the worst impacted area.

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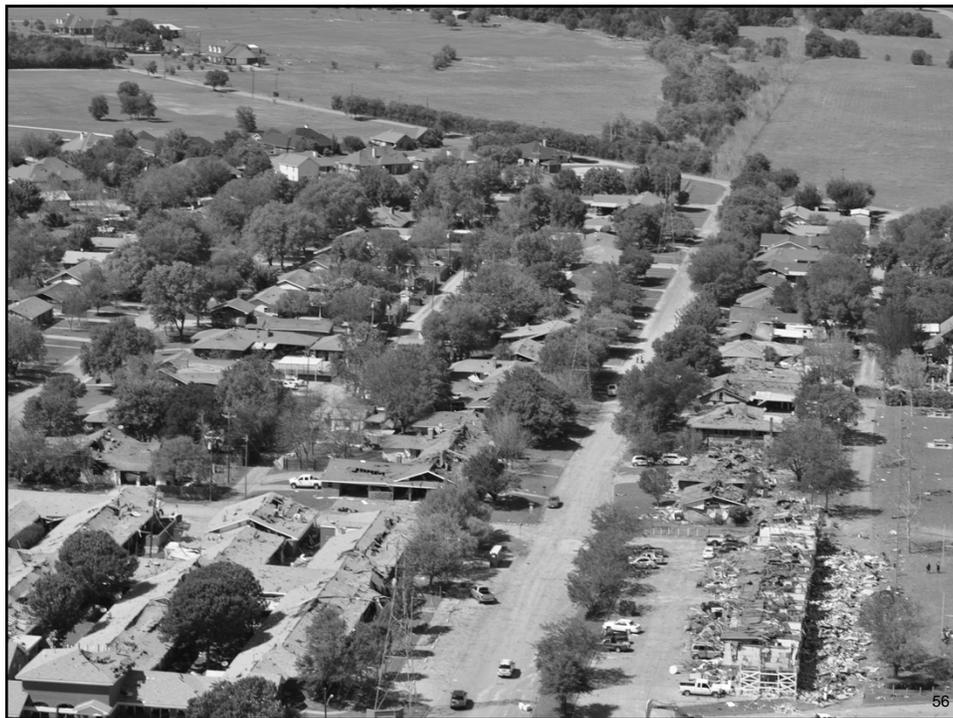


What has become known as Zone 3 had the most damage and took the longest to clear, partly due to the investigation.



# Established Incident Command III









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- Explosion caused damage to 37 block area
- Farthest piece of debris was found 2.5 miles away
- The crater was 93 feet across and 10 feet deep
- The plant was roughly 15 acres including the silos
- Estimated amount of AN that exploded was 28-34 tons equivalent to 15,000 to 20,000 pounds of TNT
- Additional 20-30 tons was in the building but didn't detonate
- 100 tons in rail car that did not detonate
- The total of 150 tons of AN onsite was less than the 270 tons reported on the Tier II Report

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**State Agencies:**

Texas Department of Public Safety  
 TDEM  
 Highway Patrol  
 Texas Rangers  
 Victim Services  
 Criminal Investigations Division  
 Driver's License  
 Office of Media and Communications  
 Aviation Division  
 Communications Division  
 Texas Department of Insurance  
 State Fire Marshal's Office-Investigation  
 Fraud Unit  
 Consumer Protection Unit  
 Texas Parks & Wildlife--Security and Law Enforcement  
 Texas Department of State Health Services  
 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality--Air/Water Quality Monitoring

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**State Agencies, continued**

Texas A&M Extension Service  
Texas A&M Forest Service  
Texas A&M Agrilife Research  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service  
Texas Animal Health Commission  
Texas A&M College of Veterinary Science  
Texas Department of Transportation  
State Attorney Generals Office  
Texas Education Agency  
Texas Military Forces

**Federal Agencies:**

Fort Hood Fire Department  
FEMA  
EPA  
NIOSH  
ATF  
OSHA  
GSA  
CSB  
FBI  
NIOSH  
USDA

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**Take Away**

- It is difficult to be the EMC and be an effective I/C
- The Incident needs a social media person
- Technology never works like you plan (communications)
- Stress will take its toll on all involved
- Volunteer, Donations Management etc...
- Each member of Command/General staff needs a scribe

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## QUESTIONS

Frank Patterson  
Waco McLennan County  
Office of Emergency Management  
[frankp@ci.waco.tx.us](mailto:frankp@ci.waco.tx.us)  
254-750-5911

Photos provided by: Waco Tribune Herald Rod Aydelotte, Texas Forest Service, Reuters,  
and Waco Police Department

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## **Heart of Texas MHMR Response**

- Support individuals and community
- Coordinate mental health providers
- Planning and coordination of re-entry process
- Provide crisis services as needed

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## **Supporting Individuals and Community**

- **Established teams in critical locations including**
  - Joint Assistance Center
  - Community Center
  - Family Assistance Center
- **Mobilizing crisis team into community as needed**
- **Providing contact information and brief information on expected reactions**
- **Attending and presenting in town hall meetings**

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## **Coordinating Mental Health Providers**

- **Many show up to assist**
- **Understanding each others' roles**
- **Determining who the key supports are (who is local and who will be leaving)**
- **Coordinating to allow people to assist but not overwhelm the community**
- **Assessing the needs and assigning the appropriate service provider**

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## **Planning and Coordination of Re-entry Process**

- **Worked closely with Public Health for this process**
- **Established teams of Mental Health professionals and chaplains**
- **Provided support without being intrusive**
- **Provided water which was much needed**
- **Carried Teddy Bears for children**

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## **Reactions We See**

- **Resilience/Coming Together**
- **Anxiety**
- **Acute Stress Reactions**
- **Grief**
- **Tearfulness**
- **Numbing**
- **Forgetfulness**
- **Anger/Irritability**
- **Problems Sleeping**

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## **Crisis Services**

- **Mobile Crisis Outreach Team**
- **Crisis Respite**
- **Triage Services**
- **Psychiatric Hospitalization**
- **Safety Planning**
- **Crisis Hotline**
- **24/7 Availability**

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## **Key Considerations**

- **Be flexible**
- **Be available**
- **Develop a strong team**
- **Offer opportunities for team to debrief**
- **Forming important relationships before the disaster – community partners are critical for success in the disaster**
- **Get organized before a disaster**

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## **Public Health Responsibilities**

- Tetanus Shots
- Sanitarians
- Family Assistance Center
- Re-Entry
- Neighborhood Resource Center

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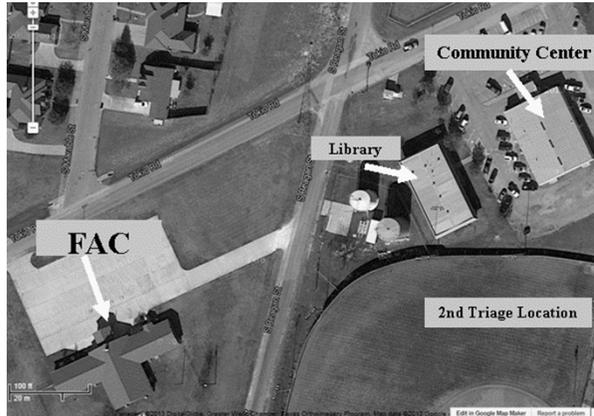
## **Public Health Key Partnerships**

- Waco-McLennan County Office of Emergency Management
- Heart of Texas MHMR
- Health Service Region 7
- Heart of Texas RAC
- Medical Reserve Corp
- Victim Relief Services

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## Family Assistance Center

- Located in West Church of Christ
- Approx. 2 Miles from Blast Site
- Approx. 1 Mile from EOC (St. Mary's)



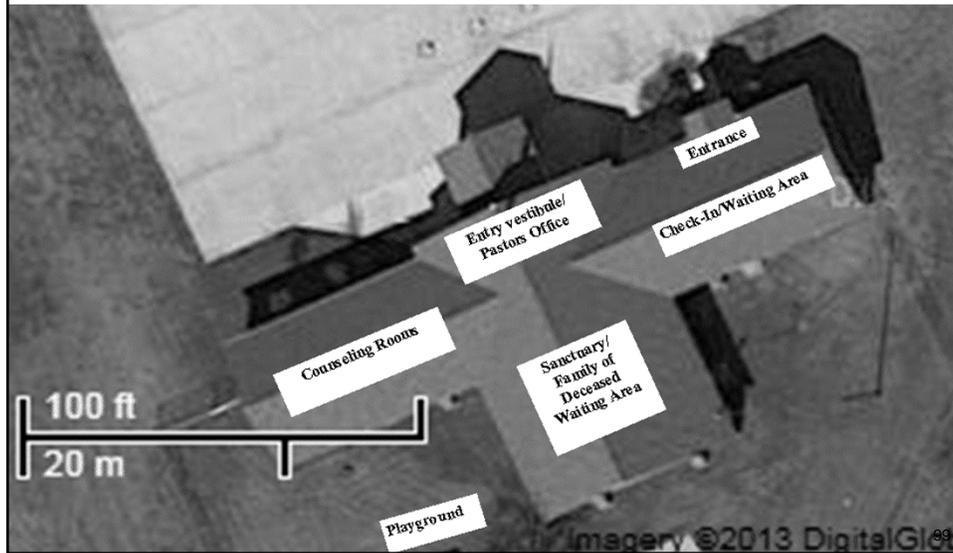
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## FAC Operations

- Management/Command Structure
- Staffing – Mental Health Staff, Chaplain, Funeral Director, and Ancillary Staff
- Hours

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## FAC Set-Up



## Key Considerations for a FAC

- Locations – Population/Community Centric
- Purpose – Define and Understand it
- Security
- Key Partners – Justices of the Peace and Funeral Home Directors
- Responder Deaths
- Public Information

## Fatality Management Resources

- **Public Health Toolkits**

- <http://www.sccgov.org/sites/sccphd/en-us/HealthProviders/BePrepared/Pages/Managing-Mass-Fatalities.aspx>

- <http://www.apctoolkits.com/family-assistance-center/>

- **DSHS Fatality Mgmt Toolkit**

- <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/commprep/planning/toolkits.aspx>

- **Annex H, App 4 – DSHS ROG**

- <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/commprep/response/ROG.aspx>

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## Re-Entry Effort and Neighborhood Resource Center



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## **Neighborhood Resource Center**

Located in Zone 3 for re-entry purposes only

- First aid
- Tetanus shots
- N-95 masks and gloves
- Ice

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## **Key Considerations**

- Relationships
- Mental Health Authority
- Community Volunteers
- Location
- Contingency, Contingency, Contingency

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## Questions and Answers



David Gruber, MBA  
Assistant Commissioner  
Regional and Local Health Services  
Department of State Health Services

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## Our Next Grand Rounds Presentation



Presenter:  
Chesley Richards, MD, MPH, Deputy Director for Public Health Scientific Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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