
LAURENS COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

SOP# E-040

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SUBJECT: DISASTER PLAN

INDEX AS: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS: DISASTER PLAN:

EFFECTIVE DATE: 2/3/2006 REVISED DATE:

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this plan is to expedite the mobilization of Department personnel in an effective and efficient manner during a disaster. A disaster will include:

A. Natural Disaster:

1. Earthquake;
2. Flooding;
3. Severe Weather;
4. Large scale Fire.

B. Man-Made Disaster:

1. Mass transportation accident;
2. Hazardous material accident;
3. Explosions.

II. POLICY:

It is the policy of this Department to effectively respond to all emergency situations occurring within the corporate limits of Laurens County and to bring these situations to a safe conclusion. Proper notification of emergency management ; fire, emergency medical and other support services will be made when necessary.

III. EMERGENCY PLANNING:

The Sheriff may assign a Department Member to coordinate emergency management planning and act as a liaison to other city and county emergency services to develop and maintain emergency operation plans for the Department.

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IV. NOTIFICATION:

When it is evident that an emergency situation has occurred or is imminent, the Sheriff shall be notified and in turn will notify the County Administrator and Chair of the County Commission.

V. COMMAND AUTHORITY:

A. In the event of manmade or natural disaster, actual enemy attack upon the United States or any other emergency which may affect the lives and property of the citizens of the county or city, the Chair of the County Commission, or in his/her absence, a legally appointed successor, may declare that a state of emergency exists and thereafter shall have and may exercise for such period as such state of emergency exists or continues, the following emergency powers:

1. To enforce all rules, laws, and regulations relating to Civil preparedness and to assume direct operational control over all Civil preparedness resources.
2. To seize, take for temporary use, or condemn any property for the protection of the public.
3. To sell, lend, give or distribute all or any such property or supplies among the inhabitants of the county and city; to maintain a strict accounting of property or supplies distributed and for funds received for such property or supplies.
4. To perform and exercise such other functions and duties, and take such emergency actions as may be necessary to promote and secure the safety, protection and well being of the inhabitants of the County and City.

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- B. If the Chair of the County Commissions invokes this right, then the Sheriff will work under his/her direction, otherwise, the Sheriff will be in Command.
- C. The Chief Deputy shall have Command Authority over all Sheriff's personnel until the arrival of the Sheriff. Coordination of activities will be made by the highest Command Officer with personnel from Emergency Management, fire and medical services.

VI. DISASTER PLAN:

In the event of a disaster, the following procedure shall be used as a guide for handling the situation in an appropriate manner.

A. Communications:

The 911 Communications Center is the primary communications center during emergency operations. Additional personnel will be assigned to the Communications Center during emergency operation as needed.

B. Field Command Post:

The Chief Deputy shall be responsible for establishing a field command post in a safe area near the emergency scene. The Chief Deputy shall coordinate field activities with support Agencies until the arrival of the Sheriff. A Central Command Post will be set up at the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center, if necessary, as directed by the Sheriff.

C. Military/Law Enforcement Support:

Mutual aid support from other Law Enforcement agencies will be required as needs arise. Support Agencies include:

1. Dublin Police Department;

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2. East Dublin Police Department;
3. Georgia State Patrol.

D. Casualty Information:

1. Emergency Medical Services are to be called for transporting casualties.
2. Fairview Park Hospital should be notified of mass casualties prior to their arrival, if possible.

E. Public Facility Security:

Fixed security posts will be established at the following locations when authorized by the Sheriff.

1. Laurens County Courthouse;
2. Fairview Park Hospital;
3. Other as designated by the Sheriff.

F. Traffic Control:

Traffic Control plans during an emergency will be made by the Patrol Captain at the field command post. Traffic will be directed away from an emergency/disaster scene in an efficient manner. All persons desiring entry will be denied access except those on official business.

G. Equipment Requirements:

Special equipment and/or emergency supplies shall be requested on a needs basis from any of the following agencies:

1. Laurens County Public Works Dept.
2. Dublin Public Works Dept.
3. Georgia National Guard.

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4. Georgia Dept. of Transportation.
5. Laurens County Emergency Management.
6. Georgia Environmental Protection Dept.

VII. RUMOR CONTROL:

In efforts to combat rumors, news media will be notified according to SOP #A-140 and shall be provided with up-to-date, factual information.

VIII. DE-ESCALATION PROCEDURES:

The following actions will be taken by Sheriff personnel to de-escalate adverse conditions as they arise during a disaster.

1. Coordinate activities of all law enforcement/support agencies involved;
2. Control crowds/disperse assembly;
3. Provide security of disaster area;
4. Assist stranded persons;
5. Direct/control traffic;
6. Assist in evacuation (if necessary).

IX. EVACUATION:

The Emergency Management Director shall have the authority to declare the necessity of evacuation. Law Enforcement personnel shall assist in evacuating persons from designated/affected areas. School buses may be obtained, if necessary, to evacuate persons who have no other transportation.

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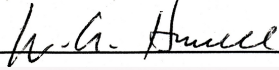
Post-occurrence duties will include the continuance of security in affected areas and the maintenance of traffic/security checkpoints.

X. DEBRIEFING:

A written report will be prepared by the Command Officer describing the incident and all actions taken by Law Enforcement personnel. With this report and other data gathered by the Sheriff, there will be a debriefing between the Sheriff and the Director of Emergency Management.

XI. MAINTENANCE OF PLAN:

The Sheriff shall be responsible for maintaining the Disaster Plan for the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center and shall review, update and make procedural changes in the plan at least annually, if necessary.


W. A. HARRELL
SHERIFF

2/3/2006

EFFECTIVE DATE: