ICS and Disaster Volunteers

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Background

- Member of Sandwich Fire Department since 1995. Currently Deputy Fire Chief of Operations.

- MS Degree in Healthcare Emergency Management from Boston University School of Medicine.

- Associate Director and Instructor at Boston University School of Medicine’s Healthcare Emergency Management Graduate Program and Guest Lecturer at Uniformed Health Services University in Bethesda, MD and UPENN School of Medicine’s Occupational Medicine Residency Program.

- Lead consultant for emergency management projects in Montgomery County, MD; Los Angeles County, CA; and Holyoke, MA.
Incident Command System

• Developed by US Forest Services in the 1970’s
• Allows for manageable span of control and resource sharing
• Eliminates duplication of efforts and resources
• Provides basic framework to handle any incident.
• Allows for Unity of Command and singular directional process

Pitfalls of not using Incident Command System

• Duplication of efforts and resources
• Multiple commands with conflicting direction and orders
• Runaway public communications
• Overspending
• Lack of accountability for equipment and personnel
ICS and You

• Follow orders and chain of command
• Swim in your lane, but be aware of who you are swimming next to and what they do.
• Use your resources around you, if you don’t have something ask for it, no one will help unless you ask!
• Take ICS 100, 700, 200 (All free and online @ FEMA.gov)

ICS and You Part II

• If you are volunteering in a response you still need to be part of a response structure.
• Accountability is important of where people are and what they are doing...
• If you are in the middle of a disaster get to a safe place 1st (PD, FD, Shelter, Large area)
Disaster Life Cycle

• Mitigation
• Preparedness
• Response
• Recovery

Disaster Life Cycle Events

• Severe Weather
• Man-Made Disasters
• Agency Specific Incident
Agency Specific Incident

- Workplace Violence
- Unexpected Death of Employee
- Power Failure
- IT Failure
- Equipment Vandalism

ICS & Volunteers

- Remember that the First Responders will be tied up with the crisis that has required your activation.

- MRC, CERT and other NGO’s will provide critical backbone for outer periphery issues to keep the incident stable.

- Follow the chain of command and always know who and report to your immediate supervisor.
ICS Organization Chart  Review

MACC IC

Branch Falmouth  Branch Sandwich  Branch DY  Branch Cape Tech  Branch Nauset
Shelter Org Chart

Branch Director

Red Cross Group
Dart Group
MRC Group
ARES Group
Facilities Group
Public Safety Group

Shelter White Board

SHELTER: ____________________ Branch Director: ____________________
OPERATIONAL PERIOD: ____________________ Shelter Count: __________
People Time
Next Shelter Briefing: ____________________ Next Shelter Staff Briefing: ____________________

Branch Director

People Shelter (Red Cross)
Animal Shelter (CCDART)
Communications (ARES)
MBC
Public Safety Police, Fire and CERT

Shelter Notes of Interest:
Conclusion

• Thank you to all of you for what you do to support our first responders in disasters!

• It takes a full team response to handle and mitigate any incident of significance.

• No one agency can handle a major incident.

Contact Information

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