

## ESF-17

### IN-PLACE PROTECTION AND EVACUATION

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## ESF-17

### IN-PLACE PROTECTION AND EVACUATION

**PRIMARY AGENCY:** City of Battlefield

**SUPPORT AGENCIES:** Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management

#### I. PURPOSE

Evacuation (for emergency planning purposes) is the concept of moving people from an area "at risk" to a safer location. In-Place Protection means staying inside the home or other building until emergency officials give an "all-clear" signal. This ESF will provide guidelines under which such an evacuation and in-place sheltering can be accomplished. This function is applicable to small localized situations, or larger situations as the need arises.

#### II. SITUATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS

##### A. Situations

1. Greene County and the City of Battlefield are subject to many hazards (**see Hazard Mitigation Plan**) that could threaten the lives and property of its citizens and require evacuation operations. Such hazards may include hazardous materials or terrorist/WMD incidents.
2. In the event of a natural or technological disaster, in most situations, in-place protective shelter may provide essential shelter to the public.
3. Potential disasters that could cause in-place sheltering in Greene County include:
  - a. Hazardous Materials Incidents - People will be advised to stay indoors and reduce the airflow into the structure (home, public facility, etc.).
  - b. Tornadoes/Severe Weather - Private homes can offer protection in basements or other interior areas of the house. Public buildings, schools, nursing homes, etc., have designated shelter locations.
  - c. Terrorism/WMD - Chemical or biological attacks may facilitate the need for in-place protection or quarantine.
4. Greene County and the City of Battlefield have a well established transportation network that will facilitate evacuation or reception of the general population.
5. There are a large number of special facilities (hospitals, nursing homes, etc.) that will require special consideration in this ESF.

##### B. Assumptions

1. In almost every emergency situation requiring evacuation, a number of people will evacuate on their own volition.
2. In some cases, such as a hazardous materials release, in-place protection may be the best alternative.

3. It can be anticipated that the majority of persons will receive and follow the evacuation instructions. However, a certain portion of the population (1) will not get the information, (2) will not understand it, or (3) will purposely not follow directions.
4. In all cases, an adequate number of City/County or mutual aid personnel will be available to accomplish the tasks necessary to complete the evacuation.
5. Panic by evacuees can be lessened if the government furnishes adequate information and direction.
6. Evacuation will be primarily by family groups using privately owned vehicles; however, transportation will be coordinated for persons without automobiles or with disabilities and no other means.
7. Looting of evacuated areas is a possibility and law enforcement should be prepared to handle such a situation with severity based on the magnitude of the event.
8. Assistance in planning for and in conducting actual evacuations will be provided by higher levels of government.

### III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

#### A. General

1. In-place protection and evacuation operations will be directed and coordinated initially from a field command post under the authority of the on-scene incident commander. At such a time as practical, direction and control will be turned over to the Battlefield EOC or a facility designated at the time in-place protection or evacuation becomes necessary.

Additional information and procedures on evacuation and in-place protection will come from door to door contact, local news networks, radio, and social media.

2. This ESF encompasses the following:
  - a. **Evacuation:** Will be considered based on the conditions at the selected destination and any risk of exposure to the disaster while en route.
  - b. **In-Place Protection:** Will depend on the relative protection from potential disaster provided by the available residential, commercial, and recreational structures in the community.
3. If people are displaced from their homes by the disaster, temporary housing and mass care must be provided. Mass Care operations are discussed under **(ESF-6)**.
4. The ultimate responsibility for ordering an evacuation rests with the local government; hence, it should only be directed by the chief elected official or a designated successor.
5. During any evacuation, close coordination will be required with the following functions:
  - a. Mass Care **(ESF-6)** -- The evacuees must have some place to go even if it's in another county.
  - b. Law Enforcement **(ESF-13)** -- Traffic control along movement routes and security for evacuated areas are an absolute necessity. Area security is important because people may not evacuate if they do not feel their property will be secure.

- c. Transportation for persons without automobiles, food, clothing, and fuel will require coordination with Transportation (**ESF-1**), Resource Management and Donations Management (**ESF-7 and 19**)
  - d. Other support agencies -- Constant interface will be required with the state and federal government and private agencies such as the American Red Cross.
5. The duration of the evacuation will be determined by the chief elected official present based on technical information furnished by Federal, State, and local agencies.
  6. Certain day-to-day governmental activities will be curtailed during evacuations. The degree to which this is necessary will depend upon the amount of local resources that are committed.
  7. Special facility populations must be identified. In-place protection may be the only available option for these facilities.
  8. Transportation can be provided for the population requiring special care or attention (**see ESF 1**). Private institutions should make all reasonable efforts to obtain feasible transportation for their clients in the event of an evacuation.
  9. During the evacuation, staging areas and pick-up points will be identified to provide transportation for those people without private automobiles or other means (**See ESF 7**).

**B. Actions to be Taken by Operating Time Frames**

**1. Mitigation**

- a. Identify potential evacuation or in-place protection areas in accordance with those hazards listed in the Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- b. Identify population groups or facilities requiring special assistance (e.g. senior citizens).
- c. Identify and make agreements with private organizations that can facilitate evacuations (service stations, garages, fuel distributors, bus companies, etc.).
- d. Develop public information packets to detail:
  - The reasons for possible evacuations;
  - The procedures for receiving evacuation instructions;
  - Items to take when evacuating;
  - Procedures to be taken by persons requiring transportation.
  - Sheltering procedures
  - Evacuation routes
- e. Coordinate all evacuation plans with the State Emergency Management Agency.

**2. Preparedness**

- a. Analyze all developing emergencies for potential evacuation or in-place protection situations to include the number of evacuees/shelters.
- b. Alert Mass Care (**ESF-6**) of possible evacuation and obtain location of available shelters.
- c. Identify necessary evacuation routes and coordinate with law enforcement and the public works or highway departments to check their status and condition.
- d. Identify population groups who may require special assistance during evacuation (senior citizens, disabled).
- e. Locate transportation for all persons in the threatened area.

- f. Through the Direction and Control (**Basic Plan**), alert all other emergency sections that an evacuation may be required.
- g. Inform the public of the potential evacuation or in-place protection, to include the nature of the problem and the movement route or procedures to use.
- h. If necessary, make plans to evacuate government and critical workers.

### 3. Response

- a. Advise citizens to evacuate or in-place protection when deemed necessary or by appropriate authority.
- b. Initiate mass care functions as needed.
- c. Notify all appropriate agencies to include state and federal agencies.
- d. Monitor the following actions to ensure the evacuation functions smoothly.
  - Traffic flow
  - Road conditions
  - Mass Care areas
  - Security for evacuated areas
  - National Weather Service
- e. Broadcast public information continuously during the evacuation or in-place protection to minimize confusion.
- f. Coordinate with and furnish information on the situation to the other emergency services.
- g. As the evacuation winds down, begin planning for the return.
- h. Provide for security and parking for Mass Care (**ESF-6**) areas.
- i. Provide for transportation for essential workers to commute to hazardous areas.
- j. Make provisions for the evacuation of handicapped and elderly persons.
- k. Arrange for continued operation or rapid restart of essential services in the hazard area as soon as possible.

### 4. Recovery

- a. Initiate return to homes/facilities when conditions allow this to be done safely.
- b. Monitor all return activities until the situation returns to normal.
- c. Those that were in-place protected will be instructed to open up their homes/facilities to air out.
- d. Prepare and present after-action reports to governing authorities.

## IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

### A. Primary Agency:

#### City of Battlefield

- 1. The responsibility for all major decisions pertaining to In-Place Protection or Evacuation measures rests with the chief elected officials of the jurisdiction. Incident commanders, during emergency circumstances have the authority to conduct emergency evacuations of areas in imminent danger. Mandatory evacuation must come from chief elected official.
- 2. Coordinate decisions on which areas should be evacuated and if applicable whether or not to open Mass Care centers.
- 3. Advise citizens to evacuate upon recommendations by on-scene command personnel and through Public Information (**ESF-15**).
- 4. Provide Public Information and press releases to the media on what areas are being evacuated or protected in-place and if applicable, where mass care centers are located.

5. Direct the relocation of essential resources (personnel, equipment, supplies, etc.) to mass care centers.
6. Identify high hazard areas and number of potential evacuees.

**B. Support Agencies**

The OEM will participate as a support agency if the City of Battlefield becomes overwhelmed by the size or complexity of the event and at the request of the city.

**C. State Support Agency:**

**State Emergency Management Agency**

1. Coordinate with Emergency Management for any sheltering or evacuation assistance.
2. Assist in planning as necessary.

**V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL**

- A. In a limited disaster or emergency situation, In-Place Protection and Evacuations will be controlled from normal day-to-day office locations, if possible, or at a site designated at the time.
- B. All evacuation operations will be coordinated through the EOC, which will serve as the source of all Direction and Control (**see Basic Plan**).
- C. The chief elected official has overall responsibility for all emergency management activities.
- D. The Battlefield Emergency Management Agency is responsible for coordination of emergency efforts among city departments or outside agencies.
- E. A disaster or potential disaster that generates a requirement for protecting people from a harmful environment will automatically require activation of the EOC.

**VI. CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS**

The key purpose of Continuity of Operations planning is to provide a framework for the continued operation of critical functions. When implemented, these plans will determine response, recovery, resumption, and restoration of Department/Agency services.

COOP Plans for the Departments/Agencies present a manageable framework, establish operational procedures to sustain essential activities if normal operations are not feasible, and guide the restoration of the critical functions of the Department/Agencies functions. The plan provides for attaining operational capability within 12 hours and sustaining operations for 30 days or longer in the event of a catastrophic event or an emergency affecting the department.

**VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS**

- A. Each jurisdiction is responsible for procurement of its own essential supplies needed for evacuation operations, through normal procurement channels.
- B. Requisition of privately owned property will be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, RSMo.
- C. All city/county-owned transportation will be utilized, as required and formal arrangements for outside resources should be made.

**VIII. ESF DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

- A. Maintenance for this ESF is the responsibility of the City of Battlefield in coordination with the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management (OEM).
- B. This ESF and its associated Appendices should be reviewed at least annually.

## ESF-17

### IN-PLACE PROTECTION AND EVACUATION

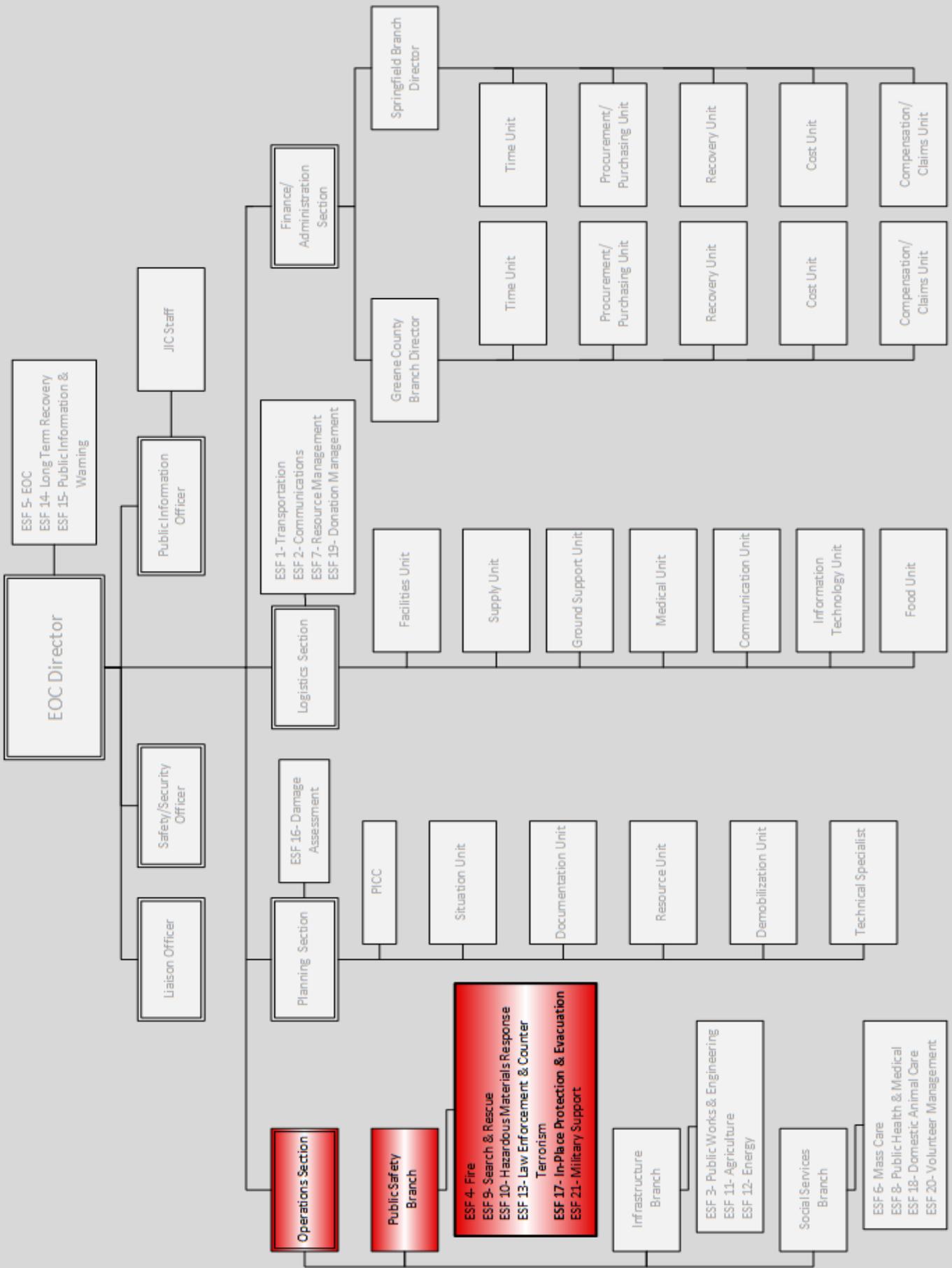
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## **APPENDIX 1**

**This is a restricted document**

# APPENDIX 2 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



**APPENDIX 3**

**EVACUATION ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

