

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION # 9 Search and Rescue Annex

PRIMARY AGENCIES

Mohave County Sheriff's Office – Lead
Incorporated City Departments as Designated in City EOP's

SUPPORT AGENCIES

Local Fire Departments/Districts
Local Law Enforcement
Mohave County Emergency Management
Phoenix Fire Department
State Fire Marshal
Department of Public Safety
Mohave County Public Health

Available through the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs

Department of Emergency and Military Affairs
Arizona National Guard
Arizona Department of Health Services
Arizona Department of Transportation
Volunteer: Civil Air Patrol

I. Purpose, Scope, Situation, and Assumptions

Purpose

- To describe the use of Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) assets within Arizona and the procedures necessary to obtain other USAR assets.

Scope

- Locating, extricating, and providing for the immediate medical treatment of victims trapped in collapsed structures.

Situation and Assumptions

- One of the first federal USAR teams to be fully trained and equipped is located within the State. The Phoenix Fire Department contains USAR, Arizona Task Force (AZTF) # 1 that is on 24-hour call.
- Disasters may cause conditions that vary widely in scope, urgency, and degree of devastation. Substantial number of persons could be in life-threatening situations requiring prompt rescue and medical care. Because the mortality rate will dramatically increase beyond 72 hours, search and rescue must begin

immediately. Rescue personnel will encounter extensive damage to buildings, roadways, public works, communications, and utilities. Fires, landslides, flooding, and hazardous materials release will compound problems.

- Local search and rescue organizations will be assigned and able to respond. Certain heavy and technical rescue operations, including the locating, extricating, and immediate medical treatment of victims trapped in collapsed structures and earthworks, may be handled by local or mutual aid fire departments/districts with the appropriate certified training and equipment capabilities.
- Residents, workers, and volunteers will initiate activities to help USAR operations and require coordination and direction.
- Access to damaged areas will be restricted. Some sites may only be accessible by air or on foot.

II. Concept of Operations

- Command and Control will preferably be exercised through a Unified Command system, with an Incident Command System as a secondary alternative.
- Some local fire departments/districts may have limited capability for heavy and technical rescue missions. Additional resources for these missions may be requested from other in-county fire departments, fire departments in adjacent counties, or through the County Fire Resource Coordinator under the Statewide Fire Service Mutual Aid Plan.
- Phoenix Fire Department USAR, Arizona Task Force (AZTF) # 1 can be requested through mutual aid protocols (Fire Service Mutual Aid Plan or Arizona Mutual Aid Compact) if not involved in operations in other locations.
- Other Federal USAR teams will be tasked through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- USAR teams will be supported as required from state agencies with tasking assigned to:
 - Department of Administration.
 - Civil Air Patrol.

- State Fire Marshal (under Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management).
- National Guard.
- Department of Public Safety; and
- Department of Transportation
- Upon arrival at the disaster site all responding units will report to the incident commander or Unified Command and will function within the ICS/UC structure for the incident.

III. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

- **Primary Agencies**
 - **The Mohave County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)** by statute is the lead agency for Search and Rescue operations anywhere in the county and will request assistance through the agencies designated below. Limited search and rescue assets are available from the MCSO upon request from cities.
 - **Incorporated cities** will designate response and support agencies in their EOP's to carry out initial response and incident command functions within their jurisdictions and request assistance as needed from the MCSO and other agencies designated below.
 - **Mohave County Risk and Emergency Management** through the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) will help coordinate USAR activities and supplement the activities of local government.
 - **Local Fire Department/Districts** shall provide urban search and rescue response in accordance with their equipment capabilities and training and may request mutual aid resources through the County Fire Resource Coordinator.
 - **Phoenix Fire Department** – USAR-AZTF #1 will:
 - Maintain AZTF #1 according to the FEMA USAR response system.

- Provide training to upgrade, develop, and renew skills required for each position; and
 - Develop, practice, and implement an internal call-out system.
- **FEMA** will provide federally designated urban search and rescue teams as requested.
- **Support Agencies**
 - **County Manager will:**
 - Supplement the administrative staff of responding departments.
 - **Mohave County Public Health Department will:**
 - Cooperate with the State to identify necessary public/private sector health care organizations and coordinate the efforts of such organizations.
 - Coordinate with the State to direct the activities of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) and their Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT);
 - Coordinate with the State, public/private health care organizations to determine necessary medical supplies and service, and coordinate with the resource support team to procure supplies and services; and
 - Implement ESF # 8 as directed by the County Manager.
 - **Mohave County Sheriff's Office will:**
 - Assist in providing security.
 - Assist with the control of ingress and egress; and
 - Implement ESF # 13 as necessary.
 - **Public Works will:**

- Provide heavy equipment and operators if unavailable from other sources.
- Implement ESF # 1 as directed by the County Manager; and
- Provide barricades and other equipment to ensure the security of the disaster area.
- **State Fire Marshal will:**
 - Provide training and certification for functional elements of the team; and
 - Monitor implementation of ESF # 4 if activated.
- **National Guard (if activated) will:**
 - Provide personnel, heavy equipment, and helicopter support.
 - Assist with the transport of rescue workers and response personnel; and
 - Provide additional security.
- **Civil Air Patrol will:**
 - Provide photo surveillance; and
 - Provide air reconnaissance.
- **City Government Departments will** provide support in accordance with the City EOP's for operations within city boundaries.

IV. Direction, Control, and Coordination

- Operations will be conducted under Unified Command or Incident Command as established by local response agencies.
- Unified Command or Incident Command will be supported by and receive overall policy guidance from the jurisdictional EOC.

V. Information Collection and Dissemination

- Information channels will be maintained between field commands and EOC with regularly established briefings via telephone or face to face meetings. EOC Sections will interface with their counterparts in field Incident Command Posts on a regular basis to ensure timely information flow. Resource requests will flow from Incident/Unified Command Sections to EOC Sections to the SEOC.

VI. Communications

- The MCEOC and the Mohave County Sheriff's Office 911 Center is responsible for identifying, maintaining and operating primary, secondary and alternate county public safety communication systems which will allow local and state government to collect and disseminate information, receive request for assistance, and direct, control and coordinate disaster response and recovery operations through continuing communications with local jurisdictions, state agencies and the federal government. Emergency Communications is handled through ESF#2 Communications.

VII. Administration, Finance, and Logistics

- All organizations, agencies, and departments are responsible for administrative and logistics arrangements to support their individual emergency response activities.
- Additional needed resources will be requested from Incident/Unified Command to supporting EOC, which will obtain resources from county resources or via request to the state while tracking and documenting resource use, delivery, and expenditures.
- All Logistics Sections and individual agencies involved in requesting or providing resources will maintain records of requests and details of fulfillment of requests.
- The Finance/Administrative Sections or individual agencies will determine value of resources being requested, obtain approval from the government or agency official with the required level of expenditure authority prior ordering or commitment of resources, and maintain records of expenditures.

- County department emergency expenditures outside of approved budgets must receive approval from the County Manager /MCEOC Director or the Board of Supervisors, depending on the level of expenditure requiring approval.
- All command posts, operations centers, and organizations involved in the emergency will maintain appropriate activity records including logs, case records, resource and personnel records, and daily situation updates for use during the event and which will be retained in files for future reference;
- For state or federally declared disasters, reimbursement for some resources and expenditures may become available; individual agencies should maintain a current accounting of resource expenditures, including personnel costs, during disaster operations and for an extended period after the end of the disaster.
- MCEM will advise if notified that reimbursements for event expenditures may be forthcoming from federal or state sources.