

# FEMA's Role in Terrorism Preparedness and Response



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### **FEMA's Mission**

"Lead America to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from disasters."



# FEMA Responsibilities In Disaster Response

- Assist State and local governments to:
  - Lessen or avert threat of catastrophe
  - Save lives and protect property, health and safety
  - Alleviate damage, loss, hardship, suffering
- Appoint Federal Coordinating Officer to:
  - Assess needs, define priorities
  - Establish interagency teams and field offices
  - Assist citizens and public officials in obtaining assistance



### Federal Response Plan Emergency Support Functions (ESFs)



**1. Transportation**Department of Transportation



**7. Resource Support**General Services Administration



**2. Communications**National Communications System



**8. Health and Medical Services**Department of Health and Human
Services



3. Public Works and Engineering
Department of Defense
Army Corps of Engineers



**9. Urban Search and Rescue**Federal Emergency Management Agency



**4. Firefighting**Department of Agriculture



**10. Hazardous Materials**Environmental Protection Agency



**5. Information and Planning**Federal Emergency
Management Agency



**11. Food**Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service



**6. Mass Care** American Red Cross



**12. Energy** Department of Energy



# Terrorism Event What Makes It Different?

- Incident scene is also a crime scene (FBI)
- Time critical response needed to save lives
- Increased psychological, emotional, fear effects
- Potential for greater chaos
- Intensity of media coverage
- Nuclear/biological/chemical contamination issues
- Greater threat to responders



#### Terrorism Preparedness Approach

- Build on existing all-hazards Federal, State, local plans, capabilities & systems
- Focus on preparing State and local emergency managers and first responders through planning, training, exercises, and grants
- Sustain initial efforts with follow-on planning, training, exercise, and equipment support
- Integrate all levels of government



# Federal Terrorism Planning and Response Guidance

FEMA and other Federal Departments and Agencies have worked in close partnership to develop:

- United States Government Interagency Domestic Terrorism Concept of Operations Plan (CONPLAN) (January 2001)
  - Describes operational interface between crisis and consequence management
- Federal Response Plan Terrorism Incident Annex (April 1999)
  - Describes coordination between crisis and consequence management responses



### National Capital Region Terrorism Planning



### National Capital Region WMD Incident Contingency Plan

 Federal-DC-VA-MD plan that addresses joint operations in event of a WMD attack

#### <u>District of Columbia</u> <u>Emergency Response Plan</u>

 Developed by Mayor's Domestic Preparedness Task Force and DC Emergency Management Agency, with assistance from FEMA



#### **Terrorism Preparedness Training**

**Emergency Management Institute**Training for State and Local Emergency Management Officials

National Fire Academy
Training for First Responders
and the Fire Community







### **Terrorism Preparedness Exercises**

- Local, State, and Federally-sponsored tabletop, functional and full field exercises
- Support other exercises focusing on crisis and consequence management interface
- Top Officials Exercises (TOPOFF)





#### **Special Events**

- A significant event representing a potential target for a terrorist attack.
- Examples of Criteria:
  - High-level government participation
  - Previous terrorist interest
  - Media attention
  - Current levels of terrorist activity
  - Symbolic or historical significance



#### **Preparation for Special Events**

**Y2K Preparation** 1999



NATO 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration 1999



World Trade Organization 1999



OPSAIL 2000



**Presidential Inauguration 2001** 



Olympic Games
Salt Lake City
2002





#### **Response to Terrorism**

Rapid Deployment of Critical Response Resources

Pre-staged "Push Packages" ready to deploy within 4 hours





**Supplies Equipment** 



**Specialized Teams** 

**Arriving on scene** 



# Joint Terrorism Preparedness Activities

- Numerous task forces at all levels of Government
- Capability Assessment for Readiness (CAR)
- Joint Assessment of Preparedness Capabilities
  - Assessment of 56 entities (States, DC & Territories)
  - FEMA survey supported by other Federal Departments and Agencies
  - Assessment highlights priorities and shortfalls
  - Results provided to Office of Homeland Security



### **Terrorism Response Lessons Learned**

- Improve Medical Response Capabilities
- Enhance Pharmaceutical Stockpiles
- Improve Information Collection
- Create Comprehensive Resource Packages
- Improve Communications Capabilities (Interoperability)
- Increase Funding for Equipment and Training





# Terrorism Response Lessons Learned (continued)

- Evacuation coordination
- Quickly establish joint operating priorities and information flow with FBI
- First responder health/safety
- Manage volunteers
- Manage donations
- Mutual aid planning





# FEMA's Office of National Preparedness

- Build and sustain national preparedness
- Support planning, training, exercises and equipment needs
- Lead President's First Responder Initiative
- Oversee Citizen Corps, part of Freedom Corps



## FEMA's Office of National Preparedness Priorities

- Strengthen state and local capabilities
  - Update emergency operations plans and procedures to address:
    - EMD response procedures
    - inventory of critical assets
    - mutual aid agreements/resource typing
    - community and family preparedness
    - Interoperable functional plans
  - Update emergency operations centers
  - Coordinate/Integrate national exercise programs
  - Remedial/Corrective actions program
- Coordinate federal terrorism preparedness programs



### FEMA's Response and Recovery Directorate

- Lead all-hazards approach to emergency management
  - Coordinate activities of 27 federal departments & agencies
  - Support recovery efforts (Public Assistance and Individuals & Households Programs)
- Enhance planning for responding to catastrophic disasters



### FEMA's Role in Terrorism Preparedness and Response



"Let the eye of vigilance never be closed."

**Thomas Jefferson, 1821**