

I. APPENDIX IX: EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 9 - SEARCH AND RESCUE

PRIMARY AGENCY: Department of Financial Services, Division of State Fire Marshal

SUPPORT AGENCIES: Florida Fire Chief's Association, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, and Florida Association of Search and Rescue

I. INTRODUCTION

To provide State support to local governments and to describe the use of State resources in both urban and non-urban search and rescue in response to actual or potential emergency/disaster events.

II. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. GENERAL

1. Urban search and rescue activities include, but are not limited to, locating, extricating, and providing immediate medical assistance to victims trapped in collapsed structures.
2. Non-urban search and rescue activities include, but are not limited to, emergency incidents that involve locating missing persons, locating boats that are lost at sea, locating downed aircraft, extrication if necessary, and treating any victims upon their rescue.
3. Wilderness Search and Rescue missions include, but are not limited to, locating overdue/missing boaters on inland bodies of water or rivers, locating overdue persons, or locating downed aircraft in wilderness areas with limited/restricted access, extrication when possible and treating any victims upon their rescue.

B. ORGANIZATION

1. The Department of Financial Services, Division of State Fire Marshal is the primary agency for Emergency Support Function 9, providing representatives on a 24 hour basis to the State Emergency Operations Center, and will activate the Department of Financial Services Emergency Operations Center, to insure full deployment and utilization of resources identified under Emergency Support Function 9.
2. During an emergency or disaster, the primary and support agencies of Emergency Support Function 9 will assign personnel to the State Emergency Operations Center. Emergency Support Function 9 will respond directly to the Emergency Services Branch Chief who reports to the Operations Section Chief (**see Section IV. A. 2. Figure 3 of the Basic Plan**).

C. NOTIFICATION

1. Upon notification by the State Warning Point of a potential or actual event requiring response, the emergency contact person for the Department of Financial Services, Division of State Fire Marshal will notify all other Emergency Support Function members by telephone, pagers, or through the communications facilities at the State Warning Point.
2. All support agency contact persons for Emergency Support Function 9 will be instructed to alert their contacts throughout the State to ensure that all-available resources are on standby.

D. ACTIONS

1. Preparedness:

Utilizing the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association Fire - Rescue Disaster Response Plan, planning, coordinating and the mobilization of the resources of the statewide fire service through the seven fire regions is accomplished. The Florida Fire Chiefs' Association and the Division of State Fire Marshal coordinate training on utilizing the Disaster Response Plan statewide.
2. Response:
 - a. State and other local resources from outside the disaster area are committed through coordination with other agencies with search and rescue resources.
 - b. Transportation will be provided, if available, or it may be the responsibility of the resource agency. This may require coordination with Emergency Support Function 1. In addition, resources may be pre-positioned, if necessary.
 - c. Agencies of Emergency Support Function 9 may serve the State Emergency Response Team in Field Operations (i.e., the Forward State Emergency Response Team, Rapid Impact Assessment Teams: Rapid Response Team, Preliminary Damage Assessment Team, Disaster Field Office operations, Recovery Center operations, intrastate and/or interstate mutual aid assistance, etc.).
3. Recovery:
 - a. Department of Financial Services, Division of State Fire Marshal personnel are members of the State's Rapid Impact Assessment Teams, utilized for damage assessment and search and rescue.
 - b. Upon request, Emergency Support Function 9 will provide search and rescue personnel and resources for recovery efforts.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. PRIMARY AGENCY – DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES, DIVISION OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

The Department of Financial Services, Division of State Fire Marshal is the primary agency in Emergency Support Function 9. As the primary agency, they coordinate with the support agencies in directing the search and rescue resources and response activities.

B. SUPPORT AGENCIES

1. Florida Fire Chiefs' Association

Will work with the Department of Financial Services by forwarding requests for Search and Rescue assistance to the five regional response zones designated in the State of Florida Fire - Rescue Disaster Response Plan (prepared by the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association).

2. Florida Wing of the Civil Air Patrol

Provide aircraft use and assistance for search and rescue.

3. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Provide aircraft, terrain vehicles, and other specialized personnel and equipment for search and rescue efforts.

4. Florida Association of Search and Rescue

Assist with the coordination of search and rescue resources available through volunteer and local governmental organizations.

IV. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

All disaster respondents, city/county or otherwise, who assist in response to a request from the Emergency Support Function 9, must submit their preliminary reimbursement request to the Department of Financial Services within 15 business days of stand down orders. The final request must include the following:

A. SALARIES

Provide a schedule for all employees; time worked, pay rates/matching rates, and separating regular time from overtime.

B. TRAVEL

Provide copies of the travel vouchers that have been paid due to disaster response. The appropriate Finance Director must certify these as true expenditures.

C. EQUIPMENT

Provide a detailed description of the equipment used to assist, detailing the type and size, pump size and horsepower, where the equipment was used, number of hours per piece, per day, and type of work each piece performed. (samples provided).

V. REFERENCES AND AUTHORITIES:

1. Federal Emergency Support Function 4 Annex
2. Fire Suppression Draft - Forestry
3. Civil Air Patrol information, 12 March 1993
4. The Florida Fire Chief's Association, Rescue Disaster Response Plan.
5. Memorandum of Understanding with Emergency Support Function 8, (March, 1999).
6. Florida Association of Search and Rescue, "Standard Operating Guidelines."