



HSEMA

Emergency Response in the District



Mission and Vision

Mission

- Lead the planning and coordination of homeland security and emergency management efforts to ensure that the District of Columbia is prepared to prevent, protect against, respond to, mitigate, and recover from all threats and hazards



Vision

- A safe and secure District of Columbia prepared for all threats and hazards

Major Threats/Hazards Facing the District

Priority Threats

■ Terrorist Threats

- Improvised Explosive Devices
- Aircraft as a Weapon
- Hostage Taking/Assassination
- Chemical and/or Biological Agents
- Cyber Attack

■ Natural Disasters

- Hurricanes
- Winter storms
- Thunderstorms
- Extreme Heat/Cold
- Earthquakes
- Tornadoes

Probable Hazards

■ Urban Issues

- Transportation Accidents
- Urban Crime
- Urban Fires
- Urban Flooding
- Utility Failures (e.g., power outages, water main breaks)

■ Other Concerns

- Demonstrations/Civil Disturbances
- Critical Resource Shortages
- Viruses and Epidemics



Unique Challenges Facing the District

- Simultaneously a city, a state, and a federal entity
- Seat for all 3 branches of the federal government
- Commuter and tourist population
District's daily population
- 190 international embassies and consulates
 - 190 different sovereign international borders
- 19 colleges and universities



Guiding Principles

■ Residents First

- All homeland security and emergency management efforts will be conducted in the best interest of all District residents and visitors

■ Risk-Based Approach

- All preparedness efforts should be based on current and comprehensive risk-based planning

■ Capabilities-Based Planning

- The District will develop plans, design training sessions, create exercises, and procure equipment based on a functional analysis of operational requirements that dictates priority preparedness capabilities

■ Performance Assessment and Accountability

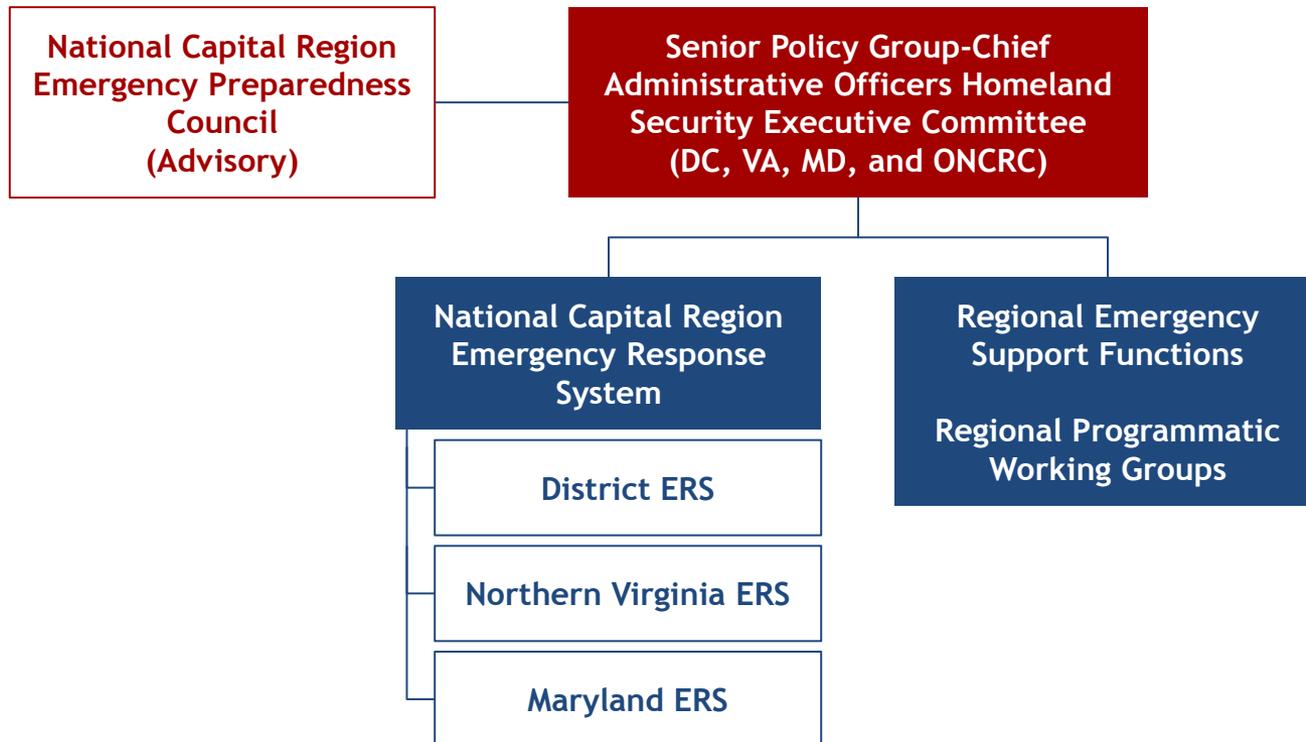
- Ensure that homeland security preparedness efforts are constantly improving and resources are allocated in an efficient manner

■ Regional Coordination

- Collaboration with regional neighbors in the National Capital Region (NCR) as well as with the federal government in order to identify shared requirements, responsibilities, and capabilities

Regional Coordination

- Through established committees and working groups, the District, regional partners, and the federal government regularly work together to coordinate preparedness efforts.



Incident Command Structure

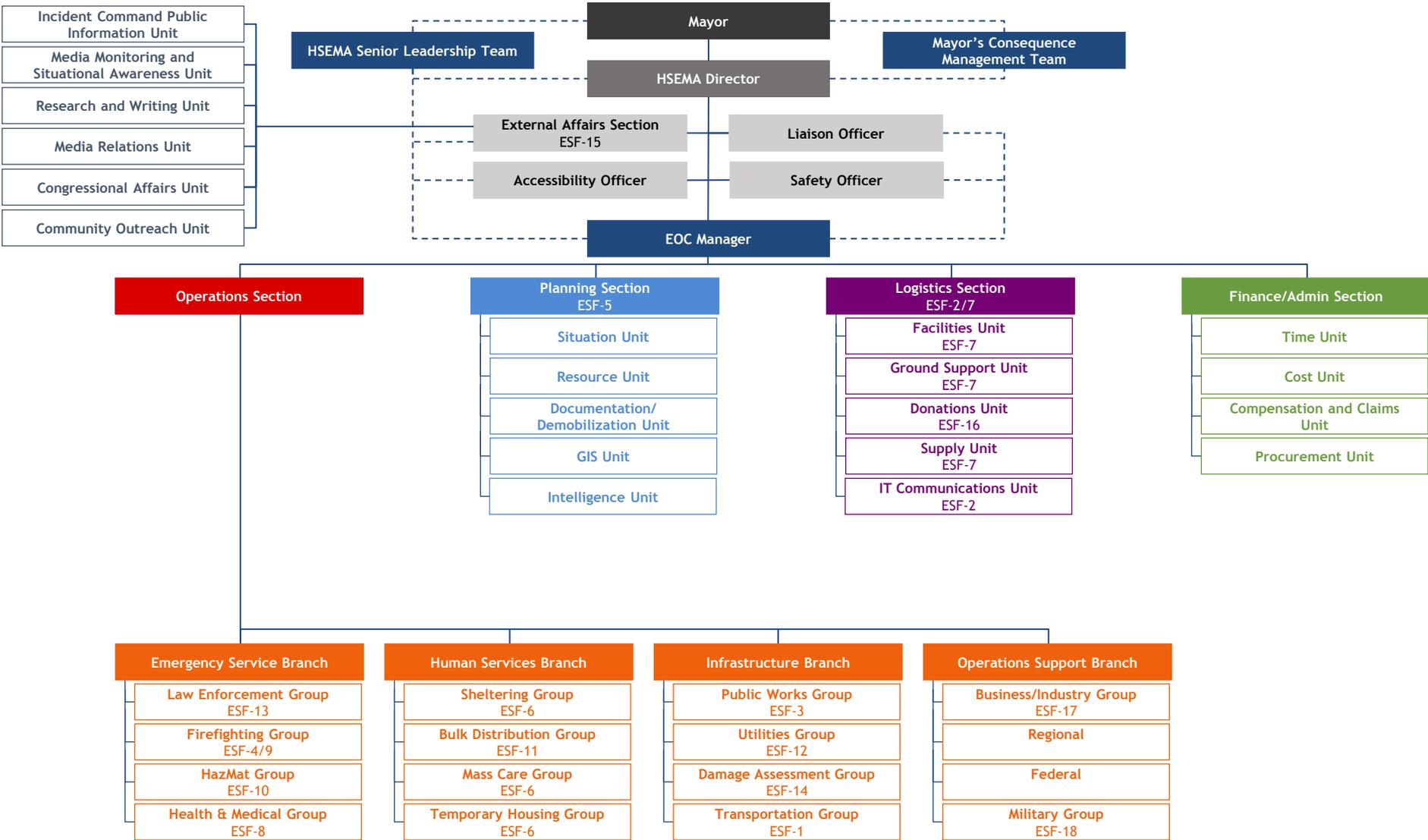
- All incidents start with communication between the first responders on-scene and the Office of Unified Communications
- Based on the “Incident complexity”, the incident commander will determine the organization construct, the need for additional resources, and if Unified Command should be established
- The Incident Commander coordinates with the JAHOC and other Department Operations Centers (DOCs) for resources and situational awareness

Emergency Response Operations

- When a significant incident occurs, the District will move to an elevated coordination structure which will include activating the District's EOC to coordinate District response efforts

Stage 1 - EOC (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Activated at all times and encompasses watch activities that are conducted on a regular basis, 365 days a year■ Activities in this stage are carried out in the JAHOC
Stage 2 - EOC (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Response will be handled by local District resources■ EOC may activate additional personnel to coordinate the response and provide the necessary resources
Stage 3 - EOC (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Response will be handled by local District resources■ EOC may activate additional personnel to coordinate the response and provide the necessary resources

Emergency Operations Center Organization



How Individuals Can Prepare

- **Get Informed**
- **Make A Plan**
- **Make an Emergency Kit**
- **Be aware**

Public Information Resources

- Website
 - hsema.dc.gov
- Twitter
 - twitter.com/DC_HSEMA
- Facebook
 - facebook.com/hsemadc
- AlertDC
 - alertdc.dc.gov
- Smartphone App
 - DC HSEMA Preparedness and Emergency Application is available on Google Play or in the Apple Store



Other Communications During an Emergency

As part of the Emergency Alert System (EAS), the District government will issue alerts through radio and TV.

Radio

- WTOP 103.5 FM
- WMAL 630 AM
- WPRS 104.1 FM
- WJZW 105.9 FM
- WKYS 93.9 FM
- WPGC 95.5
- El Zol 107.9

TV

During and After an emergency, it might be difficult to get information or instructions right away. Tune in to cable channels 13, 16, or your local news station to receive updates.

Planning for Yourself and Your Family

- Be aware of your community or neighborhood plan.
- Be aware of fire escape ladders and other escape routes out of your home or apartment building.
- Listen for EAS tests so you'll know what it will sound like during an emergency and educate your children or other relatives about the system.
- Consider purchasing a back-up generator (particularly if you have medications or breast milk that needs to be refrigerated.)
- Prepare Emergency Go-Kits for yourself, your children, and your pets.

Family Communication Planning

Set up a meeting with your family, including the kids, to discuss your preparedness plan over dinner. During the meeting, go through the [FEMA Family Communication Plan in English](#) or [Spanish](#) and fill out copies with your kids that can be kept in their backpacks, lunch boxes, or another bag they carry daily.

 **Plan de Comunicaciones Familiares**

Es probable que su familia no esté junta cuando ocurra un desastre, de modo que deben planificar cómo se van a comunicar y decidir de antemano lo que harán en diferentes situaciones.

Nombre del contacto fuera estado: _____
Correo electrónico: _____

Complete los siguientes datos sobre cada miembro de su familia y manténgalos actualizados.

Nombre: _____	Numero de teléfono: _____
Fecha de nacimiento: _____	Numero de teléfono: _____
Nombre: _____	Numero de seguro social: _____
Fecha de nacimiento: _____	Información médica importante: _____
Nombre: _____	Numero de seguro social: _____
Fecha de nacimiento: _____	Información médica importante: _____

  **Family Communication Plan**

Emergencies can happen at any time. Do you know how to get in touch with your family if you are not together?

Let them know you're OK!
Pick the same person for each family member to contact. It might be easier to reach someone who's out of town.

Text, don't talk!
Unless you are in immediate danger, send a text. Texts often have an easier time getting through during emergencies, and you don't want to tie up phone lines needed by emergency responders (like 911).



Know the Numbers!

Home: _____ Adult: _____
Parent: _____ Home: _____
Cell: _____

Emergency Go-kit Checklist

- Three-day supply of water -- one gallon per person per day
- Three-day supply of non-perishable foods
- Battery, hand-crank, or NOAA radio (don't forget batteries if battery powered)
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Copy of your Family Communications Plan - phone tree, social media
- Whistle for signaling for help
- Dust mask to filter contaminated air
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape for windows and doors if sheltering-in-place is needed
- Gloves, garbage bags, and ties for personal sanitation
- Manual can opener
- Wrench or pliers to shut off utility valves if necessary
- Maps of the local area and neighboring states
- Homeowner's insurance and other important documents (including your passport/visa)

DC Emergency Telephone Numbers

- **Police and Fire** **911**
- **City Services and Non-Emergency** **311**
- **Report Suspicious Activity** **(202) 727-9099**
- **HSEMA** **(202) 727-6161 24hr.**
TTY: 711
- **DC Animal Control** **(202) 576-6664 24hr.**
- **Poison Control Center** **(800) 222-1222**
- **Pepco Power Outage** **(877) 737-2662**
- **Washington Gas Emergency Line** **(703) 750-1400 or (800) 752-7520**
- **DC Water** **(202) 612-3400**

Questions?