



Annex F - Firefighting

PVAMU Firefighting Annex

Record of Changes

Change #	Date	Part Affected	Date Posted	Who Posted

PVAMU Firefighting Annex

A. Purpose

The purpose of this annex is to outline operational concepts and organizational arrangements for firefighting during emergency situations. The fire department also has responsibility for rescue operations.

B. Situation and Assumptions

1. Situation

- a. The university depends upon city or volunteer fire departments for fire protection.
- b. The challenges of fire prevention and control are exacerbated when other emergency situations occur simultaneously or have already impacted the local area.
- c. Uncontrolled fires may reach such proportions as to create a major emergency situation. If not promptly controlled, even small fires can threaten lives and cause significant property damage.
- d. Natural hazards and emergencies, such as flash flooding, may require fire service resources.
- e. Fire scenes may require a response by law enforcement, utilities, health authorities, or others.
- f. Large scale emergencies, disasters and acts of terrorism may adversely impact firefighting personnel, equipment, facilities and communications systems.

2. Assumptions

- a. During emergency situations, PVAMU will make appropriate use of available firefighting resources.
- b. PVAMU and local firefighting resources may prove insufficient during a major incident or disaster. State or federal resources may be available to augment PVAMU and local resources.
- c. During major emergency situations, PVAMU firefighting resources may be damaged and supplies may be depleted.

C. Concept of Operations

1. General

- a. The fire service has a primary responsibility for protecting the university community from fire hazards and hazardous materials spills. Firefighting resources include:
- b. Fire service responsibilities in emergency situations are basically the same as in daily operations. These responsibilities include fire control and hazmat spill response. The fire service is also responsible for certain rescue operations. During emergency situations, fire service teams may also be assigned to perform additional emergency tasks. These tasks may include providing fire protection for temporary shelters, assisting law enforcement personnel with guiding traffic flow or alerting citizens of hazards.

2. Implementation of NIMS/ICS

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- a. The first official responder on the scene of an emergency situation should initiate the ICS and establish an Incident Command Post (ICP). As other responders arrive, the individual most qualified to deal with the specific situation present should serve as the Incident Commander (IC). For fire and hazmat incidents at PVAMU, the senior firefighter or Campus Fire Marshal/senior Risk Management & Safety representative will generally assume the role of IC. The IC will direct and control responding resources and designate emergency operating areas. The EOC generally will not be activated.
 - b. During major emergencies or disasters it may be necessary to transition from the normal ICS structure to a multiagency coordination system. The EOC is central to this system, and functions as a conduit for coordinating information and resources. The IC will manage and direct the on-scene response from the ICP. The EOC will mobilize and deploy resources for use by the IC, coordinate external resources and technical support, research problems, provide information to administrators, disseminate emergency public information and perform other tasks as needed to support on-scene operations.
3. Protective Action Recommendations
Generally, the following outlines the most knowledgeable personnel related to the outlined posted threat:
 - Fire – Fire Services Personnel
 - Hazardous Materials – Risk Management & Safety (RMS) PersonnelTherefore they will generally be responsible for assessing threat hazards and recommending appropriate protective actions for emergency responders, including requirements for personal protective equipment. The outlined personnel are also responsible for recommending appropriate protective actions to ensure public safety in the immediate vicinity of a fire or hazardous materials incident.
4. Evacuation Operations
 - a. The IC may direct and evacuation at the incident site, isolation area or protective action area associated with a fire or hazmat spill. Fire service or other emergency responders will normally initiate the evacuation pending the arrival of additional personnel.
 - b. Major fires, hazardous material spills or a terrorist incident may require a large scale evacuation. Related evacuation information is outline in Annex E – Evacuation. During such evacuations, fire service teams may assist with alerting people of the need to evacuate and helping individuals requiring assistance.
5. Terrorist Incident Response
 - a. Crisis Management. Law enforcement agencies generally have the lead responsibility in terrorist crisis management activities. The fire service may assist as requested.
 - b. Consequence Management. Coordination of operations is critically important during terrorist incident consequence management activities due to multiagency involvement and potentially overlapping roles and responsibilities. The ranking official from the agency with primary responsibility for the incident will generally assume the position of IC. The fire service will normally have the lead role in

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consequence management for terrorist incidents involving conventional explosives, radiological materials or chemical agents. During consequence management, the IC will coordinate response and recovery operations with law enforcement authorities conducting crisis management operations.

6. Requesting External Assistance

- a. If local fire service resources are inadequate for dealing with a given emergency situation, the IC or other authorized official may request additional fire resources in keeping with mutual aid agreements.
- b. If university and local fire service resources are insufficient to deal with an emergency situation, aid can be requested from the state in accordance with the State of Texas Emergency Management Plant, Firefighting Annex, ESF-4 (<https://www.preparingtexas.org/Resources/documents/State%20and%20Fed%20Plans/State%20of%20Texas%20Firefighting%20Annex.pdf>).

7. Actions by Phases of Emergency Management

- a. Prevention
 - i. Enforce fire codes.
 - ii. Conduct fire safety education programs.
 - iii. Recommend fire prevention activities.
 - iv. Maintain current information on the types and quantities of hazardous materials present at various locations.
- b. Preparedness
 - i. Maintain a list of all firefighting resources.
 - ii. Inspect and coordinate maintenance of equipment.
 - iii. Stockpile appropriate specialized supplies.
 - iv. Ensure that appropriate personnel are properly trained on fire control, hazmat response, rescue and NIMS/ICS.
 - v. Develop procedures to ensure adequate communications between fire units, law enforcement units and other emergency responders.
 - vi. Plan and execute NIMS compliant training exercises for appropriate personnel as needed.
 - vii. Test and coordinate the maintenance and repair of fire and hazmat response equipment as scheduled.
 - viii. Revise and update response plans as scheduled.
- c. Response
 - i. Contain, control and extinguish fires.
 - ii. Initiate rescues as necessary.
 - iii. Alert and advise emergency response personnel and decision makers about the dangers associated with hazmat and fire during emergency operations.
 - iv. Control hazmat incidents within departmental capabilities giving priority to public and responder safety, and secondarily protecting property.
 - v. Initiate evacuations if necessary.
 - vi. Provide fire inspections for temporary shelter areas.
- d. Recovery

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- i. Perform fire inspections of restored or reconstructed buildings.
- ii. Perform or assist in decontamination and cleanup.
- iii. Assess damage to equipment and facilities as needed.

D. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

1. General

- a. Normally, Risk Management and Safety will coordinate firefighting or hazmat response efforts with the fire department. Fire service personnel can handle most fires, perhaps with limited support from other emergency services. The EOC will normally be activated during major emergencies and disasters involving significant fires or fires occurring at approximately the same time as other hazards.
- b. The fire service or Campus Fire Marshal/senior Risk Management & Safety representative shall generally coordinate emergency firefighting operations. The ranking firefighter or Campus Fire Marshal/senior Risk Management & Safety representative shall normally serve as IC for responses to fires, hazmat incidents or oil spills.

2. Task Assignments

- a. The Waller County Emergency Service District fire departments will:
 - i. Provide fire control and protection.
 - ii. Assist in warning members of the public.
 - iii. Provide assistance during evacuations.
 - iv. Respond to hazmat incidents per request from request from campus.
 - v. Support enforcement of fire codes.
 - vi. Conduct search and rescue operations.
- b. The IC will:
 - i. Establish an ICP and direct emergency response resources.
 - ii. Assess the incident, request any additional resources needed and provide updates to the EOC, if activated.
 - iii. Determine the need for, and implement, protective actions for emergency responders and the public in the vicinity of the incident.
 - iv. Approve the Incident Action Plan and request pertaining to the procurement and release of incident resources.
- c. Law Enforcement will:
 - i. At the request of the ICP, initiate evacuation actions and provide perimeter access control around incident sites.

E. Direction and Control

1. General

- a. In most emergency situations, an IC will establish an ICP to direct and control fire service operations at the scene. The individual most qualified to deal with the specific situation should serve as the IC. This will typically be the most senior fire service or Risk Management and Safety professional present. Personnel will carry out tasks assigned by the IC.

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- b. In some situations, the EOC may be activated without an ICP. This arrangement is most likely when:
 - i. A hazard threatens but has not yet impacted the area (e.g., an approaching hurricane).
 - ii. A generalized threat exists but there is no identifiable incident site (e.g., a terrorist threat).
- c. External response agencies are expected to conform to the general guidance provided by senior PVAMU officials and to carry out assignments as directed by the IC or EOC. However, organized units will normally operate under the immediate control of their own supervisors.

F. Administration and Support

- 1. Reporting
 - a. In addition to reports that may be required by their parent organization, fire service departments participating in emergency operations should provide appropriate reports to the IC and/or EOC. The IC will forward reports to the EOC as needed.
- 2. Records
 - a. Activity Logs: The IC and, if activated, the EOC shall maintain accurate logs recording significant operational activities, commitment of resources and other information pertaining to emergency response and recovery operations.
 - b. Documentation of Costs: Expenses incurred in carrying out emergency response operations may be recoverable in certain situations. Moreover, accountability demands that expenses be documented.
- 3. Preservation of Records
 - a. Vital records should be protected from the effects of a disaster to the extent feasible.
 - b. In the event that vital records are damaged, professional assistance in restoring the records should be obtained promptly.
- 4. Post-Incident Review
 - a. After action reviews will be conducted following major incidents.
 - b. An After Action Report will be prepared and will serve as the basis for an improvement plan.

G. Annex Development and Maintenance

- 1. The Campus Fire Marshall will prepare and maintain the Firefighting Annex of this plan and supporting SOPs.
- 2. This annex will be revised as needed.

H. References

State of Texas Emergency Management Plan