

FEMA 101: An Overview of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Roles and Responsibilities



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FEMA Mission

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards.



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FEMA Senior Leadership



Craig Fugate
Administrator



Richard Serino
Deputy Administrator



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FEMA Region 6 Senior Leadership



Tony Russell
Region 6 Administrator



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FEMA National Structure



- **National Headquarters**
- **10 Regional Offices**
 - **Caribbean Area Office**
 - **Pacific Area Office**
 - **Alaska Area Office**
- **Other Support Facilities**
 - **Emergency Management Institute**
 - **Center for Domestic Preparedness**
 - **United States Fire Administration**
 - **National Processing Service Centers**



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FEMA Region 6 Structure



FEMA Facts



- Federal disaster relief began in 1803.
- FEMA was created in 1979.
- FEMA became part of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in 2003.
- FEMA operates under the Stafford Act.
- FEMA has responded to major disasters including the 9/11 terrorist attacks and Hurricane Katrina.



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Post-Katrina Emergency Reform Act of 2006 (PKEMRA)

- FEMA became a stand-alone agency in the Department of Homeland Security.
- FEMA's Administrator became the principal advisor on all emergency management-related matters in the U.S.



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Post-Katrina Emergency Reform Act of 2006 (PKEMRA)

- **Directorates were formed: Disaster Assistance, Disaster Operations and Logistics Management**
- **Private Sector Office was created.**
- **Role of FEMA's regional offices has been enhanced.**



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Lessons Learned & Implemented Post-Katrina

- **More strategic approach to pre-positioning of Federal assets**
- **Pre-scripted mission assignments to other federal agencies for response (Over 200 presently signed)**
- **Importance of standardizing and implementing unified command structure**



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Lessons Learned & Implemented Post-Katrina



■ Executing Temporary Housing Solutions:

- Providing reimbursement for evacuees to remain in hotels/motels
- Providing reimbursement for intermediate housing through local jurisdictions
- Supporting Texas' initiative for voluntary self-relocation
- Establish temporary housing (Base Camps) for emergency managers & first-responders



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Lessons Learned & Implemented Post-Katrina

- **Need for a well-coordinated host state concept to be in place**
- **Defense Coordinating Officer/Defense Coordinating Element in place**
- **Increase in-state sheltering capacity**
- **Increased staffing and training**
- **Increased emphasis on joint planning for catastrophic events among federal, state and local partner agencies as well as with the private sector and tribal nations**



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Lessons Learned & Implemented Post-Katrina

- **Emphasis on engaging non-traditional partners**
- **More emphasis on recovery, not just response**
 - **FEMA programs too complex; FEMA is working to make the process less complex.**



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Top Ten Disasters in the U.S.

Event	Year	FEMA Funding
Hurricane Katrina (R6 states only)	2005	\$28.5 Billion
Attack on America-WTC (projected) (NY)	2001	\$9 Billion
Northridge Earthquake (CA)	1994	\$7 Billion
Florida Hurricanes (Charley, Frances, Ivan, Jeanne)	2004	\$6.3 Billion
Hurricane Ike (TX,LA)	2009	\$4.2 Billion
Hurricane Rita (TX,LA)	2005	\$3.8 Billion
Hurricane Georges (AL,FL,LA,MS,PA,VI)	1998	\$2.3 Billion
Hurricane Gustav (TX,LA)	2009	\$2.2 Billion
Hurricane Andrew (FL,LA)	1992	\$1.8 Billion
Tropical Storm Allison (FL,LA,MS,PA,TX)	2001	\$1.3 Billion



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Federal Emergency Support Functions

ESF #1 – Transportation

ESF #2 – Communications

ESF #3 – Public Works and Engineering

ESF #4 – Firefighting

ESF #5 – Emergency Management

ESF #6 – Mass Care, Housing, and Human Services

ESF #7 – Resource Support

ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical Services

ESF #9 – Urban Search and Rescue

ESF #10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response

ESF #11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources

ESF #12 – Energy

ESF #13 – Public Safety and Security

ESF # 14 – Long-Term Community Recovery

ESF #15 – External Affairs



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FEMA Roles and Missions

- Preparedness
- Response
- Recovery
- Mitigation
- Protection



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Managing Disasters

- **Local & state governmental responsibilities**
- **FEMA can provide pre-staging of resources prior to a potential disaster.**
- **FEMA can provide funding to individuals & entities only after the President issues a Major Disaster Declaration**
- **Governor's request for declaration**
- **FEMA-State Agreement**
- **Federal Coordinating Officer/State Coordinating Officer**



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Managing Disasters

National Response Coordination Center

- Coordinates National Response to a Disaster



Regional Response Coordination Center

- Coordinates Regional Response to a Disaster



State & Local Emergency Operations Center

- Coordinates State and Local Response to a Disaster



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Types of Presidential Declarations

- **Major Disaster Declarations**
 - Includes Individual Assistance, Public Assistance & Mitigation
- **Emergency Declarations**
- **Pre-Landfall Emergency Declarations**
- **Fire Management Assistance Declarations**
- **Expedited Presidential Disasters**



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Major Disaster Declaration Process

- **Local Government Responds**
- **State Responds**
- **Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments**
- **Governor Requests Major Disaster Declaration**
- **FEMA Evaluates/Recommends to White House**
- **President Approves/Denies Request**



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Whole Community Key Concepts

- **Understanding and meeting the true needs of the entire affected community**
- **Engaging all aspects of the community (public, private and civic) in both defining its needs and devising ways to meet them**
- **Strengthening the assets, institutions and social processes that work well in communities on a daily basis to improve resiliency and emergency management outcomes**



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Maximum of Maximums

- **Catastrophic planning** initiative for disasters that go beyond the capabilities of government solutions
- Bring outside resources to the table
- Better engage volunteer and non-profit partners and the private sector
- Go big, go fast, go smart!



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National Level Exercise (NLE) 2011

- **National Exercise**
 - White House directed, involved most U.S. government agencies wide strategy and policy exercise
- **First National Level Exercise that was:**
 - Not based on terrorism
 - Focused on a natural disaster
 - Involved 8 primary states – Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee
 - Involved 4 FEMA Regions (R4, R5, R6 and R7)



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New Response & Recovery Concept in Region 6

Interstate Emergency Response Plan



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Questions?



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