

REGIONAL DOMESTIC SECURITY TASK FORCE

Pursuant to FSS 943.0312, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement has established a Regional Domestic Security Task Force in each of the seven operational regions of the department. The responsibilities of these task forces include: improving Florida's ability to detect and prevent potential terrorist threats; collecting and disseminating intelligence and investigative information; facilitating and promoting ongoing security audits and vulnerability assessments to protect critical infrastructures; coordinating the delivery of training and supporting the purchase of proper equipment for public safety first responders and task force response teams; improving Florida's response and recovery capabilities; and facilitating initial response to terrorist incidences within each region.

Most communities within each region have sufficient resources to manage daily fire and rescue events. Regional response coordination, resources, equipment inventories and deployment to an event function efficiently under the Florida Fire Chief's Statewide Emergency Response Plan. This "All Hazard" document allows Florida's fire service to assist our local communities when significant natural or man-made events occur. Concerns arise when many of these same communities may be faced with a significant chemical/bio-hazardous WMD event or a barrage of potential threats or hoaxes. These concerns are based upon the potential of local community fire-rescue resources to exhaust local mutual aid agreements or require additional help or a more specialized response.

RDSTF FIRE/RESCUE SUB-COMMITTEE MISSION

Each of the seven Regional Domestic Task Forces (RDSTF) shall have a Fire Rescue subcommittee and accomplish the task of meeting deliverables outlined in the Governor's Strategy for Domestic Security. The RDSTF Fire/Rescue

chairs/Liaisons have been appointed to act as resource partners and information sources for the Task Force. Furthermore, it is the role of the fire-rescue chair/Liaison to identify and assemble sub-committee members that are well – versed in the areas of fire, EMS, Hazardous Materials, Specialized or Technical Rescue and Training. Sub-committee members will assist in meeting the above noted deliverables outlined in the state strategy as well as actively participate in local and regional initiatives related to domestic security in their region and through the Domestic Security Resource Committee and State Working Group.

KEY COMPONENTS

The Regional Domestic Security Task Force Fire/Rescue Sub-Committee will coordinate the mobilization and deployment of task force response teams participating in the State’s Terrorism Response System, to include support personnel, hazardous material response teams, emergency medical services teams, and the mutual aid communication cache units assigned to the task force’s area of responsibility. Each RDSTF Fire/Rescue Chair/ Liaison will coordinate this effort working closely with the SERP Regional Coordinator. The statewide function and utilization of the emergency support functions (ESF) 4,8, and 9 as mentioned in the July 22,2002 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The RDSTF Fire/Rescue Chair/ Liaison will function along side the SERP Regional Coordinators to maintain direct contact and cooperation when resources and equipment are required for identification and deployment. Each RDSTF sub-committee chair shall work closely within the region/county coordinator concept as described in the Florida Fire Chiefs’ Statewide Emergency Response Plan to maintain accurate accounts of equipment, resources, members trained, mission tracking and availability. Intelligence gathering and dissemination will be done through the RDSTF Chair/Liaison.

The RDSTF Fire/rescue Chair shall appoint a co-chair to assist in representation and participation in matters related to their respective RDSTF and provides monthly updates to the RDSTF committee. Periodic meetings of each regional

fire/rescue sub-committee should occur in advance of RDSTF meetings that are held quarterly in each respective region. Monthly reports shall also be submitted to the FFCA'S Domestic Security Chair for review. The RDSTF Sub-Committee coordinates with the FFCA SERP Regional Coordinator to provide assistance in listing the specialized regional resources for terrorism-WMD response within that Region.

It is the responsibility of the RDSTF to plan for the development of specialized regional resources to respond to the terrorism-WMD threat. The RDSTF, with its special disciplines of Fire-Rescue, EM, etc., is working on the development of the specialized resources, to provide the funding and training, and equipment. It is the responsibility of the RDSTF Sub-Committee to assure the listing within the Region of these specialized resources for timely response through the FFCA SERP (ESF-4 & 9, and ESF-8 with the Department of Health through the MOU) in it's support role to the State Fire Marshal's Office at the State EOC. Additionally, the RDSTF Fire-Rescue Group is also a special resource for both the Regional Coordinator and Region for advice and assistance regarding domestic security.

The procedures that delineate the way resources are requested, coordinated and deployed from the local EOC to the SEOC, request back to the Regional Coordinator for the SERP, to the County Coordinators, the back to the SEOC for Mission Numbers and deployment has not changed.

COMMUNICATIONS

It should be noted and emphasized that the strength of the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association SERP model is the unified approach to resource deployment at the strategic level for timely delivery to any community in Florida. Information flow is key with respect to providing required inventories, specialized response capability and levels of training to County Coordinators for rapid access and

notification. Conversely, it is essential that the RDSTF Sub-Committees utilize this model to provide timely information, updates and requests throughout each region using our established model.

RDSTF ORGANIZATION

The RDSTF organizational chart with functional areas of responsibility for the fire/rescue sub-committee are as follows:

