

### 3.1.3.4 Emergency Signals



YOUR ORGANIZATION  
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES

**TITLE:** Emergency Signals

**SECTION/TOPIC:** Communications

**NUMBER:** 3.1.3.4

**ISSUE DATE:**

**REVISED DATE:**

**PREPARED BY:**

**APPROVED BY:**

X

Preparer

X

Approver

These SOPs/SOGs are based on FEMA guidelines FA-197

#### 1.0 POLICY REFERENCE

CFR	
NFPA	
NIMS	

#### 2.0 PURPOSE

This standard operating procedure/guideline addresses initiation of emergency signals, radio signals, other warning signals, personnel actions.

The purpose of this annex is three fold.

1. Centralize and coordinate response activities and resources to best protect residents and property of the county on a twentyfour basis so that emergency response forces can concentrate on essential, onscene activities.
2. Facilitate the receipt and dissemination of timely warnings to the appropriate EOC officials and the general public concerning actual or potential emergency situations.
3. Provide support of recovery operations.

#### 3.0 SCOPE

This SOP/SOG pertains to all personnel in this organization.

The scope of this Annex covers actions after activation, during response, and in support of recovery.

## 4.0 DEFINITIONS

These definitions are pertinent to this SOP/SOG.

## 5.0 PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

### 5.1 Initiation of Emergency Signals:

#### Situation & Assumptions

##### A. Situation

The City warning point Emergency Alert System (EAS) is located at the associated Communications Centers. Both centers are manned around the clock and have the capability to disseminate emergency information by radio communications and EAS. In addition, The EAS shall serve as the median for the notification of emergency responders.

##### B. Assumptions

###### 1. Communications

- a. City's primary means of communication is by radio and telephone, to include both land line, cellular and TTY.
- b. Radio communications to the EOC are available from all field emergency response units. Alternate site and mobile or backup radio communications are also available.
- c. Telephone communications should be available except in major natural disaster, war related emergencies, or specific terrorist actions.
- d. Large scale emergencies or disasters usually expend communications capabilities and require the activation of emergency communication systems to support response efforts.
- e. Electronic dissemination systems are subject to loss of power and equipment failure.
- f. Large scale incidents or disasters require additional resources above and beyond standard resource capabilities.
- g. Emergency generators are available to provide 72 hours of backup power in the event of a major power failure. Extended hours of operation are possible with a refueling effort. Refer to the AFD Emergency generator refueling procedures.
- h. Internet and remote communication systems within the county and city, which are tied together, may continue to function because of dedicated line and microwave abilities, even when most of the public telephone/data network provider is down.
- i. Citizen band and amateur radio networks are operated by the local Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) and could be utilized to serve as a back up to existing networks in an emergency situation. Refer to RACES member's County call out document.
- j. Radio and telephone communications may be disrupted by an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) unless appropriate measures are taken.
- k. The PI dissemination system is highly dependant on local media resources.

- I. Local entities shall be receptive to State and Federal emergency response agencies.

## **5.2 Radio Signals:**

## **5.3 Other Warning Signals:**

### **Warning**

- a. Additional warnings, such as door to door, shall be accomplished per the associated agencies' SOP.
- b. Law Enforcement agencies shall be responsible for the evacuation of non-complying members of the general public in accordance to the associated SOP.
- c. Various types of warning systems may be utilized in the event of an emergency/disaster including but not limited to the state microwave radio network, news media via the Emergency Alert System (EAS), National warning System (NAWAS), and amateur radio operators.
- d. Large areas of the county will not have direct access to an audible warning system and will have to depend on commercial radio or television for warning information.
- e. City Police Department and County Sheriff's Department will provide warnings house to house in localized disaster incidents.

## **5.4 Personnel Actions:**