

Northampton County Emergency Operations Plan

4.6 Terrorism

Purpose

The purpose of the Terrorism-Specific Annex is to establish how activities will be coordinated to meet the needs generated by disasters affecting Northampton County. Terrorist events will occur with little or no warning and involve one or more of a variety of tactics to include but not limited to explosive, chemical, biological, and nuclear incidents, hostage taking, and other means.

Scope

This annex identifies the key policies, concepts of operations, roles and responsibilities, and capabilities associated with terrorism response in Northampton County. Specific operating procedures and protocols are addressed in documents maintained by the participating organizations.

Potential operations include the following:

- Preparing for a possible terrorist attack on critical infrastructure
- Mitigating the effects of an attack in the County
- Coordinating with state and federal officials for an ongoing investigation
- Recovering from the effects of an attack

Terrorism	Roles/Tasks
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify critical systems/facilities within the community, assess their vulnerability to terrorist actions, and develop and implement the necessary mitigation and response strategies. • Assess local and regional resource capabilities in the context of potential terrorist acts. • Identify sources of special equipment and services to address shortfalls identified in the capability assessment. • Develop protective actions for response personnel, as well as the general population at risk. • Provide guidance to follow in assessing potential terrorist targets and their vulnerability to such events, as well as in developing mitigation strategies and response capabilities. • Coordinate and integrate planning efforts of critical public and private systems and facilities. • Enhance and broaden local and regional response capabilities by developing a training program that integrates local, state, and federal resources. • Ensure local and regional capability to effectively address mass casualty and mass fatality incidents involving both uncontaminated and contaminated victims. • Develop the necessary decontamination, contamination containment, and monitoring procedures to ensure the safety of response personnel, the evacuated population, and the general population. • Identify and address potential legal, environmental, and public safety health issues that may be generated by such events. • Prepare MAAs with surrounding jurisdictions to augment local resources. • Develop and coordinate the necessary pre-scripted announcements with the public information office regarding the appropriate protective actions.

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Terrorism	Roles/Tasks
Response – Initial Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alert appropriate local, state, and federal agencies that have the expertise, resources, and responsibility in mitigating against, responding to, and recovering from such events. • Notify the public of the threat, and implement and advise the risk population of the necessary protective actions to take in context of anticipated event. • Stage resources out of harm’s way and in areas that can be effectively mobilized.
Response – Continuing Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispatch emergency response teams to the disaster area. • Establish a command post and utilize the Unified Command Management System to effectively integrate and coordinate response resources and support from all levels of government. • Provide for the security of evacuated areas, critical facilities, resources, and the impacted area to protect the crime scene and facilitate response and recovery efforts. • Develop, implement, and enforce accessibility policies. • Implement the necessary traffic control measures that will facilitate evacuation from the risk area. • Activate MAAs, as necessary. • Establish a Joint Information Center (JIC) to coordinate the timely and appropriate release of information during the response and recovery phases. • Coordinate and track resources (public, private) and document associated costs.
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon completion of crime investigation, restore the scene to the condition prior to the event. • Continue to monitor the area as necessary for any residual after-effects. • Maintain protective actions as situation dictates. • Continue to coordinate and track resources, and document costs. • Continue to keep public informed of recovery developments. • Develop and implement long-term environmental decontamination plan, as necessary, in coordination with the appropriate local, state, and federal government agencies.