TENAS A&M UNIVERSITY COMMERCE

Emergency Operation Plan

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University President</td>
<td>Ray Keck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provost &amp; Vice President for Academic Affairs</td>
<td>John Humphreys</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President for Business &amp; Administration</td>
<td>Alicia Curran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President for Student Access and Success</td>
<td>Mary Hendrix</td>
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<td>Vice President for Institutional Advancement</td>
<td>Wyman Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief of Staff and Director of Planning and Governmental Relations</td>
<td>Linda King</td>
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**Emergency Response Team**

**PRIMARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Media Relations</td>
<td>Noah Nelson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Information Officer</td>
<td>Tim Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Provost</td>
<td>Shonda Gibson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Vice President for Business and Administration</td>
<td>Paula Hanson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Vice President for Student Access and Success</td>
<td>Ricky Dobbs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Marketing Officer</td>
<td>Scott Cason</td>
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<td>Chief Human Resource Office</td>
<td>Barbara Corvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSC Facilities Manager</td>
<td>David McKenna</td>
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<tr>
<td>University Police Chief</td>
<td>Donna Spinato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Safety and Risk Management</td>
<td>Derek Preas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lieutenant/Crime Information Officer</td>
<td>Jason Bone</td>
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**SECONDARY**

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<tr>
<td>Vice Provost for Research &amp; Dean of Graduate Studies</td>
<td>Tomas Aguirre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant VP/Dean of Campus Life &amp; Student Development</td>
<td>Brent Donham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dean of Science and Engineering</td>
<td>Salvatore Attardo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dean of Humanities, Social Sciences &amp; Arts</td>
<td>Timothy Letzring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean of Education &amp; Human Services</td>
<td>Dale Funderburk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean of College of Business</td>
<td>Michael Stark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Residential Living and Learning</td>
<td>Linda Clinton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Counseling Center</td>
<td>Maxine Mendoza-Welch</td>
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<td>Director of Infrastructure Services</td>
<td>Jeff Faunce</td>
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**ALTERNATE/SUPPORT**

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<tr>
<td>Dean of University College</td>
<td>Tabetha Adkins</td>
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<td>SSC Assistant Facilities Director</td>
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<td>Dean of Honors College</td>
<td>Raymond Green</td>
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<td>Director of Alumni Relations</td>
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<td>Assistant Director of Safety</td>
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<td>Director of Athletics</td>
<td>Timothy McMurray</td>
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<td>Director of Children’s Learning Center</td>
<td>Helena Hortman</td>
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<td>Director of International Students</td>
<td>John Jones</td>
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<td>Director of International Studies Program</td>
<td>Jacques Fuqua</td>
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<td>Director of Libraries</td>
<td>Greg Mitchell</td>
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This Emergency Operation Plan has been approved by:

President ________________________

Date 9-26-16

PREPARED BY
Derek Preas
Director of Safety
Created October 5, 2008
Rev.21– September 26, 2016
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<td>Updated Names and Titles (Page numbers 13,22,23,24,25)</td>
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<td>Added page for Record of Changes (Added to CMP as last page)</td>
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<td>10-5-08</td>
<td><strong>Complete Revision of CMP</strong>&lt;br&gt;Changed to EOP-Added Members-Added more to the Appendix-Added Responsibilities-Changed Responsibilities-Added distribution notice</td>
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<td>Added Appendix 31&lt;br&gt;Data Breach Security Incident</td>
<td>Derek Preas</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>7-31-9</td>
<td>Updated Contacts and Positions</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>8-3-9</td>
<td>Added Appendix 32&lt;br&gt;Pandemic Influenza Incident</td>
<td>Derek Preas</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>12-8-09</td>
<td>Updated Contact Numbers and Command Staff Identification</td>
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<td>Removed several appendixes</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>09/26/2016</td>
<td>Added President’s Signature and updated PAC’s suggestions</td>
<td>dpreas</td>
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PURPOSE
This Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) is intended to establish policies, procedures and organizational structure for response to emergencies that are of a magnitude to cause a significant disruption of the functioning of all or portions of the university. This plan describes the roles and responsibilities of departments, agencies, and personnel during emergency situations. The basic emergency procedures are designed to protect lives and property through effective use of university and community resources. Since an emergency may be sudden and without warning, these procedures are designed to be flexible in order to accommodate contingencies of various types and magnitudes.

This Emergency Operation Plan is promulgated under the authority of The Texas A&M University System policy and of Texas A&M University-Commerce (A&M-Commerce) Procedures. This plan shall not be construed in a manner that limits the use of prudent judgment and common sense in matters not covered by the elements of this plan.

This Emergency Operation Plan will provide the foundation from which the Continuity of Operations Plan will be established and the basis from which detailed response plans will be created.

A&M-Commerce will use the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as its standard for incident management in compliance with the Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5 and the State of Texas Executive Order RP40. This will provide a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity.

The university will respond to an emergency situation in a safe, effective and timely manner. University personnel and equipment will be utilized to accomplish the following priorities:

1. Protection of Life
   a. Emergency response personnel
   b. At risk people
   c. General public

2. Stabilization of the Incident
   a. Bring the situation to a point of order.
   b. Determine course of action.
   c. Prevent the incident from expanding.
   d. Isolate the scene and deny entry.

3. Protect the Environment
   a. Confine, contain or neutralize hazardous materials that may be released.
   b. Ensure, to the extent practical, that emergency response efforts do not adversely impact the environment.
4. Protect University Property
   a. Facilities used for emergency response are high priority.
   b. Facilities necessary for shelter and care of students are a high priority.
   c. Facilities used for education and operational purposes.
   d. Critical university records, collections and research.

5. Restoration of Critical Services, Education, and Research Programs.
   a. Services necessary for emergency response are of high priority.
   b. Services critical to the well-being of students are of high priority.
   c. Services critical to the integrity of research projects and educational services.

The Texas A&M University-Commerce Emergency Operation Team (EOT) will make every effort to accomplish these goals when dealing with a critical incident situation on campus.
ABBREVIATIONS

BEC Building Emergency Coordinator

DPS Department of Public Safety

ECC Emergency Control Center

EMC Emergency Management Coordinator

EMT Executive Management Team

EOC Emergency Operations Center

EOP Emergency Operation Plan

EOT Emergency Operation Team

ERT Emergency Response Team

FCP Field Command Post

IC Incident Commander

ICP Incident Command Post

ICS Incident Command System

NIMS National Incident Management System

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NWS National Warning System

PIO Public Information Officer

A&M-Commerce Texas A&M University Commerce

UPD University Police Department
RESPONSE
When it is considered necessary to activate the Emergency Operation Plan (EOP), the university will follow the operational aspect of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS is a modular emergency management system designed for all hazards and levels of emergency response (Appendix 1). This system creates a combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communication operating within a standardized organizational structure. The system is used by the Department of Homeland Security and throughout the United States as the basis for emergency response management. Use of NIMS as a basis for its organization and response to emergency management at the university facilitates the university’s ability to communicate and coordinate response actions with other jurisdictions and external emergency response providers.

NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
NIMS is organized around five major management activities.

- **Command**
  Has overall responsibility at the incident or event. Determines objectives and establishes priorities based on the nature of the incident, available resources and agency policy. In all incidents there is an identified Incident Commander or a unified command team. These have responsibility for overall management of the incident and must be fully qualified to manage the incident.

- **Operations**
  Develops the tactical organization and directs all resources to carry out the incident objectives.

- **Planning**
  Develops the Incident Action Plan to accomplish the objectives. Collects and evaluates information, and maintains status of assigned resources.

- **Logistics**
  Provides resources and all other services needed to support the organization.

- **Finance/Administration**
  Monitors costs related to the incident, provides accounting, procurement, time recording, cost analysis, and overall fiscal guidance.

On small incidents, the five major activities may be managed by a single individual. Large incidents usually require each of these activities to be established as a separate section within the organization.

Not all sections need to be established within NIMS organization. The Incident Commander will make this decision based on the demands of the incident. Each of the primary Incident
Command System sections may be further subdivided as reflected in the organization chart shown in Appendix 1 (NIMS).

The University’s Emergency Operation Plan consists of six major elements of incident response:

- Reporting Emergencies
- Declaration of Emergency or Disaster
- Command and Control
- Emergency Facilities
- Support Functions
- Recovery and Damage Assessment

ASSUMPTIONS OF EVENTS

This Emergency Operation Plan is assembled on a realistic approach to the problems likely to be encountered during a major emergency or disaster. Hence, the following assumptions are made and should be used as general guidelines in such an event:

- An emergency or a disaster may occur at any time of the day or night, weekend, or holiday, with little or no warning.

- The succession of events in an emergency or disaster is not predictable; therefore, published operational plans, such as this plan, should serve only as a guide and a checklist and may require modifications in order to meet the requirements of the emergency.

- An emergency or a disaster may be declared if information indicates that such conditions are developing or probable.

- Disasters may be community-wide. Therefore it is necessary for the university to prepare for and carry out disaster response and short-term recovery operations in conjunction with local resources.

- Community-wide disasters may affect the entire city of Commerce. City and county emergency services may not be available to assist, particularly for the first day or two. The more severe the disaster, the more A&M-Commerce will be left on its own. Therefore, the university must be prepared to be totally self-sufficient in the event of an emergency or disaster.

PHASES OF MANAGEMENT

This plan is predicated on an all-hazard approach and acknowledges that most responsibilities and functions performed during an emergency are not hazard specific. Likewise, these guidelines account for activities before and after, as well as during emergency operations. Consequently, all phases of emergency management are addressed below.
• **Mitigation** – Mitigation activities are those which eliminate or reduce the probability of a disaster occurring. Also included are those long-term activities, which lessen the undesirable effects of unavoidable hazards.

• **Preparedness** – Preparedness activities serve to develop the response capabilities needed in the event an emergency should arise. Planning and training are among the activities conducted under this phase.

• **Response** – Response is the actual provision of emergency services during a crisis. These activities help to reduce casualties and damage, and speed recovery. Response activities include warning, fire, evacuation, rescue, and other similar operations.

• **Recovery** – Recovery is both a short-term and long-term process. Short-term operations seek to restore vital services to the university and provide for the basic needs of employees, students, and visitors. Long-term recovery focuses on restoring the university to its normal pre-disaster, or an improved, state of affairs. The recovery period is also an opportune time to institute future mitigation measures, particularly those related to the recent emergency. Examples of recovery actions would be provision of temporary housing and food, identification, assessment, and reconstruction of damaged areas, restoration of non-vital university services, application for disaster assistance, and similar required actions.

**CRISIS CLASSIFICATIONS**

**ISOLATED CRITICAL INCIDENT**

An Isolated Critical Incident is defined as an occurrence impacting only a small part of the university community or university physical property, which does not affect the overall functioning capacity of A&M-Commerce. Examples would include, but are not limited to:

- Small, localized fire
- Small, localized hazardous material spill
- Isolated power outage

Even though an isolated incident may be considered small or insignificant, it is by no means to be taken lightly. Immediate attention must be given to mitigate the situation as quickly as possible. Upon the occurrence of an isolated critical incident, the first priority is the safety of all individuals involved. This includes the safety of individuals directly affected by the incident and the safety of individuals within the area.

An isolated critical incident may not require the intervention of the Emergency Operation Team (EOT) as a whole; however, selected members of the EOT may be involved as necessary. The Incident Commander will make the decision to activate the Emergency Operation Center or not.
MAJOR CRITICAL INCIDENT
A Major Critical Incident is defined as a serious emergency, which completely disrupts one or more operations of A&M-Commerce. Examples include, but are not limited to the following:

- Major fire
- Civil disturbance
- Widespread power outage

Outside emergency services, as well as major efforts from various A&M-Commerce departments, will be required. Major policy and procedural considerations and decisions will usually be required. The Emergency Operation Center will be activated.

DISASTER
A disaster is defined as a university or city-wide, or more extensive, emergency which seriously impairs or halts the operations of A&M-Commerce. Examples include:

- Massive flooding
- Damaging tornado

Outside emergency services will likely be essential. However, they may not always be available. Major policy considerations and decisions will usually be required, and the Emergency Operation Center will be activated.

REPORTING EMERGENCIES
Any member of the A&M-Commerce community, whether faculty, staff, or student, upon learning of any emergency from any source should immediately communicate such information to the University Police Department (UPD) at extension 911 or 5111. Personnel should not assume that UPD has already learned about the emergency. As much information as possible should be communicated to UPD, but at a minimum this should include:

- Nature of emergency, including:
  - number and extent of personal injuries
  - property damage
  - possible assistance required
- Location of emergency
- How information was received
- Time the information was received

In the event of a critical incident, UPD is to be notified immediately. UPD may be contacted through one of the following:
From a CAMPUS Phone........Dial 911 or 5111
From a CELL Phone.................Dial 903-886-5111

Upon receiving notification and assessing the situation, UPD shall implement the proper notification procedures. Depending on the magnitude of the incident, all or parts of the Emergency Operation Plan shall be activated. UPD personnel shall contact the UPD Chief or designee in the initial stages of the incident.

**ALERT PROCEDURES**

- A terminal for the National Warning System is located in Hurst, at the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), District S1A. A national emergency declaration and warning of nuclear attack or enemy action will come from this source through the university or county emergency management organizations.

- Notification of severe weather, tornado, and flood watches and warnings emanate from NOAA, through the Texas Department of Public Safety office (DPS) in Hurst, as well as from the National Weather Service (NWS) in Ft. Worth.

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

In the event of any emergency, the UPD supervisor/senior officer in charge shall follow UPD standard operating procedures. If the emergency warrants, the supervisor/senior officer shall communicate immediately with the Chief of Police or designee, and depending on the
magnitude of the incident, the Chief or designee should communicate with the Emergency Management Director (EMD) or designee. After reviewing the emergency situation, a decision will be made by the Chief of Police or his/her designee in conjunction with the EMD or designee as to the classification of the incident and also which members of the EOT should be contacted.

Full plan activation begins at the discretion of the President, Emergency Management Director, Chief of Police, or the appropriate designee of each, upon the receipt of information of an emergency event or credible threat. In the case of any type of campus or declared local, state or federal emergency, a decision will be made by the Chief of Police, President, or Emergency Management Director as to the course of action. The Incident Commander is established at this time.

- The Incident Commander is the individual responsible for the command and control of all aspects of the emergency response. The Incident Commander must be able to quickly assess an emergency situation, determine the level of impact, assess the effect, contain the incident and assign the proper resources. The role of Incident Commander may be delegated through the Chief of Police, Executive Management Team, or Local Responding Agencies, depending on the emergency.

**DECLARATION OF DISASTER**

The President of the university may declare a campus state of disaster. The effect of the declaration is to activate the recovery and rehabilitation aspects of the plan and to authorize furnishing aid and assistance. When the scope of the emergency exceeds local capability to respond, outside assistance is required from neighboring jurisdictions and the state government. The following guidelines apply if outside assistance is needed:

- Texas A&M University-Commerce has the responsibility for emergency disaster operations within its jurisdiction. Other local government agencies responding to a request for assistance will normally be under the direction and control of the University.

- Whenever a large-scale emergency occurs within any of the emergency management cooperating jurisdictions and it is determined necessary that all resources in the county area are required, a joint university/cities/counties operation is initiated.

- The services of the Hunt County and City of Commerce Emergency Management Coordinator will normally be available to each political subdivision, whether the disaster is localized or countywide. He/she may serve as advisor to either: city mayor, county judge, Texas A&M-University-Commerce EOT, or other local government agency upon request and will function in an advisory or other role, on staff in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or Emergency Control Center (ECC), if requested.

- If local resources are inadequate to deal with an emergency situation, we will request assistance from the State. State assistance furnished to A&M-Commerce is intended to
supplement local resources and not substitute for such resources, including mutual aid resources, equipment purchases or leases, or resources covered by emergency service contracts. State assistance is requested only after local, city, and county resources have been exhausted. This request is made through the Emergency Management Coordinator of the city of Commerce or the EMC for Hunt County.

• Requests for state assistance should be made to the Disaster District Committee (DDC) Chairperson, who is located at the Department of Public Safety District Office in Garland, Texas. In essence, state emergency assistance to local governments begins at the DDC level and the key person to validate a request for, obtain, and provide that state assistance and support is the DDC Chairperson. A request for state assistance must be made by the Emergency Management officials of both A&M-Commerce and the City of Commerce, and may be made by telephone, fax, or teletype. The DDC Chairperson has the authority to utilize all state resources within the district to respond to a request for assistance, with the exception of the National Guard. Use of National Guard resources requires approval of the Governor.

• The Disaster District staff will forward requests for assistance that cannot be satisfied by state resources within the District to the State Operations Center (SOC) in Austin for action.

_The university assumes no liability for injury or death of volunteers in the performance of their duties as volunteers except that, which is imposed by State Law. University employees assigned to duty as part of the guidelines for emergency operations shall retain all the rights, privileges, and immunities of university employees._

**COMMAND AND CONTROL**

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM (EMT)**
The Executive Management Team (EMT) will evaluate information from various sources during the progress of the event and advise the President on appropriate actions requiring his/her decision. The EMT is also responsible for the review and approval of the EOP.

The EMTs role is that of policy and major decisions. Typically, this would be centered on planning and preparation prior to and the recovery from the incident, the long-term effects of the incident, and the need to restore the university to normal operations. The EMT would be directly involved in incident stabilization _primarily_ if major expenditures or policy decisions were needed to complete the stabilization. Accordingly, the responsibilities of this body include:

• Final plan approval and final major policy decisions.

• Allocation and direct distribution of resources required to reduce identified vulnerabilities.
• Allocation and direct distribution of resources required to accomplish the purposes of this EOP.

• Assist in the request of needed resources from outside resources that are unavailable internally.

• Delegate necessary authorities for incident stabilization and protection of life and property.

• Identify critical business functions that must quickly be restored and maintained.

• Determine long-term (greater than 30 days) effects the incident may have on the university.

• Monitor the recovery process to ensure the recovery is proceeding according to plan and to provide guidance/assistance as needed.

• Ensure the Incident Commander is functioning in a responsible manner. This process should be undertaken through joint briefings between the EMT and the Incident Commander.

In the event that an incident is deemed severe enough to require additional staff, the Incident Commander will notify the appropriate EOP staff.

• The EMT will report to the Emergency Control Center (ECC) during incidents. The ECC will be covered in later sections.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (ERT)

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) is activated, based on the type and nature of the incident, primarily to manage and assist in the operational or financial aspects of the university’s response to an emergency event.

• It should be noted that for any given incident, it might not be necessary for all members of the ERT to be part of the incident stabilization and recovery effort. The Incident Commander will be responsible for notifying members of the ERT when their services are needed.

• The ERT is comprised of senior management personnel representing functional areas of the university that have critical Emergency Operation Plan execution responsibilities.
• The ERT works under the authority of the Executive Management Team (EMT). Assignments and responsibilities will be in conjunction with the EMT listed responsibilities.

ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Assumption of Presidential Responsibilities
In the temporary absence of the President, there may be certain decisions which cannot await the President’s return. Temporary absence means that the President is away from campus and cannot immediately be reached by telephone or other means or it may not be practical to contact the President.

It shall be the responsibility of the person on campus next in line to assume this authority in the order as listed in Texas A&M University Procedure 02.05.99.R0.01 Assumption of Presidential Responsibility.

Assumption of Emergency Operation Team Responsibility
This Emergency Operation Plan consists of team members divided into the Executive Management Team and Emergency Response Team. In the absence of a Primary Emergency Response Team Member a secondary or alternate team member may be called upon to assume the departmental decision making roles for that Primary Team Member.

The Executive Management Team Members and all Primary Emergency Response Team Members will be notified when the Emergency Operation Plan is activated or when the Emergency Operation Center is opened.

Secondary and Alternate Team Members will only be notified when the emergency situation warrants further response personnel or notification. This decision of notification will be made by an Executive Management Team Member, Emergency Management Coordinator, or Incident Commander.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR (EMD)
The Emergency Management Director will provide plan oversight, emergency operation center support, organizational support for response activities, assistance as needed for the University Police Chief, exercise development oversight, and support of the universities continuity plan maintenance.

*The EMD for A&M-Commerce is the Director of Safety and Risk Management.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR (EMC)
The Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) is a member of the Emergency Response Team and is responsible for the pre-planning coordination of the Emergency Operation Plan and its annexes.
• The EMC consults with Emergency Operation Team members throughout the year to ensure resources are made available for plan knowledge, support, and execution.

• The EMC acts as a liaison between the Incident Command and EMT.

• The EMC ensures that the A&M-Commerce Emergency Operation Plan is compatible with the City of Commerce Emergency Operating Plan.

• The EMC serves as the Emergency Operation Center Controller.

• The EMC is responsible for plan maintenance and training of NIMS.

• The EMC is the university contact with local and regional emergency planning organizations.

• The EMC assists in the coordination and execution of yearly EOP drills and lessons.

• The EMC coordinates the Building Emergency Coordinators plan and review.

• The EMC is responsible for the distribution of the EOP to all team members and local agencies.

*The EMC for A&M-Commerce is the Safety Coordinator.*

INCIDENT COMMANDER (IC)
The Incident Commander (IC) is the ONLY position that is always filled. It may be filled by the first primary responder on scene, and then replaced by a superior respondent trained in ICS. In the initial response to incidents, the IC operates from the Incident Command Post (ICP). If incidents expand, the IC will activate the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and notify the necessary staff. The IC also has the following responsibilities:

• Has the overall responsibility of command and control over response management of the incident, either from the EOC or ICP.

• Ensures incident responder safety.

• Protects health and safety of the general public and the environment.

• Provides information to internal and external stakeholders.

• Maintains liaison with other agencies.
* The IC will be delegated through the Executive Management Team. Depending on the incident, the IC functions could be delegated through the Executive Management Team and responding agencies with a unified command. For most incidents either the Police Chief or Emergency Management Director (or designee of either) will fill the role of Incident Commander.

EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER CONTROLLER
The EOC Controller is responsible for the equipment operations of the EOC when it is activated. The EOC controller maintains the university’s emergency facilities throughout the year. The EOC Controller will be assigned to most EOC activations; however, the IC could decide that the incident level requires the EOC Controller to be assigned to other areas of incident stabilization.

*The EOC Controller for A&M-Commerce is the onsite representative if the Dept. of Safety.

LIAISON OFFICER
The Liaison Officer assists in the coordination of information between the EOC and Public Information Officer (PIO). Information made available to the media will only be directed through the Liaison Officer and PIO. The Liaison Officer also assists the IC in the coordination of information between IC and Mutual Aid agencies.

*The Liaison Officer for A&M-Commerce is the Crime Information Officer of the UPD.

SAFETY OFFICER
The Safety Officer ensures the safety of Operations Staff, responding agencies, and the university population during incidents in conjunction with the IC.

*The Safety Officer for A&M-Commerce is the on-site representative of the Dept. of Safety.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER (PIO)
A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media or with other agencies with incident related information requirements. The PIO follows the written crisis communication plan when an incident requires communications to the public, media, other agencies, or web-based communication. (See Appendix 1 - Crisis Communication)

*The PIO for A&M-Commerce is the Director of Media Relations.

EMERGENCY OPERATION FACILITIES
The Incident Commander (IC) will decide the classification of the incident, and based upon the IC’s assessment, all or part of the university’s emergency operation facilities will be activated. Emergency Operation Facilities include:

• Emergency Operation Center
• Emergency Control Centers
• Incident Command Post
• Field Command Post

EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (EOC)
In a major event, the University Incident Commander will summon the necessary responding agencies (UPD, Commerce Fire, Police, or Emergency Response Team Members). The responding agencies or staff will report to the University Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or other specific location as directed. Executive Management Team members might also be contacted and may also be present.

The primary EOC is located at the Building Administration Building (rm. 131). Depending upon the type of incident, the Incident Commander, at his/her discretion, may designate an alternate location as the primary EOC. If all of these EOCs are inaccessible, the backup EOC off campus will be located at the City of Commerce Police Department EOC.

EOC Functions

• Serves as a primary area for the Incident Commander to operate response activities.

• Serves as a primary area for the responding agencies to coordinate supporting activities for the incident.

• Serves as a primary area for other agencies to provide assistance with incidents on campus.

• Provides a communication base.

• Obtains local, state, and federal assistance.

• Serves as the centralized, well-supported location in which the Emergency Operating Team, lead agencies, or appropriate local agencies may gather and assume their role.

• Serves as the location for the planning, coordinating, and delegating of response activities and assignments.

• Provide Unit Log sheets for recordkeeping for each assigned staff.

The EOC will also follow an incident command system (ICS) structure. This is to ensure consistency with operations at the incident site. (See Appendix 2 - EOC Operations Procedures and Structure)
EOC Activation Priorities

- Broadcast the appropriate information through the Pride Alert system to the university community.

- Establish communications with the Incident Command Post or Field Command Post and provide resources as requested.

- Establish radio and/or telephone communications with mutual aid entities as needed.

- Establish internal telephone communications.

- Notify, if warranted by level of crisis, the DPS Garland (214-861-2155) of current status and submit an Initial Disaster Report to the DPS in Garland (Fax: 214-861-2276) and the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) in Austin (Fax: 512-424-2444/7160).

- Establish computer network links.

- Set up maps, charts, and aerial photos as required.

EMERGENCY CONTROL CENTERS (ECC)
Emergency Control Centers (ECC) are areas where the Executive Management Team (EMT) will gather and provide the necessary actions for policy, expenditures, and support functions for the incident. The location of the ECCs will be determined by the incident commander.

INCIDENT COMMAND POST (ICP)
If necessary, the Incident Commander may operate from an Incident Command Post. ICPs can be established as the only source of command for an incident if the Incident Commander decides that the incident level does not warrant full EOC activation.

- The Incident Command Post (ICP) conducts all operations using the Incident/Unified Command System (ICS).

- Upon establishment of the ICP, if the EOC is also activated, the Incident Commander establishes the reporting functions of the ICP and EOC.

- The ICP will be located at a safe distance from the incident where the incident commander, responders and technical representatives can make response decisions, deploy workers and equipment, and maintain liaison with the media and handle communications.

FIELD COMMAND POST (FCP)
The Field Command Post is established as remote areas of operations. FCPs are structured similar to Incident Command Post. If an incident involves operations that are spread out, FCPs
would support operations by establishing operations command at specified areas. The Incident Command Post would be supported by Field Command Posts.

- The FCP will be located at a safe distance from the incident where the incident commander, responders and technical representatives can make response decisions, deploy workers and equipment, and maintain liaison with ICP or EOC.

BUILDING EMERGENCY COORDINATORS (BEC)

BECs are responsible for plan implementation at their responsible area. BECs will be appointed by the appropriate VP, dean, or director (Appendix 4 – BEC List). BECs will operate under the supervision of the appropriate EOT member’s guidance. BECs will be expected to keep an updated list of staff and resources in order to facilitate the appropriate response activity for incidents. Responsibilities of the BEC include:

- Maintains the emergency first aid kit, flashlight, and/or the radio for the building.
- Completes necessary training for emergency techniques.
- Serves as the communication link with the IC during incidents.
- Assists in evacuations of the area when incident requires such.

RECOVERY AND DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

The Damage Assessment Team will consist of the following:

- Facilities Representatives
- Vice President for Business and Administration
- Chief of Police
- Director of Safety and Risk Management
- Chief Information Officer

The Damage Assessment Team will assist community agencies (i.e., Commerce Fire Department and/or Commerce Police) in conducting post emergency/disaster surveys to ascertain the damage. The Damage Assessment Team will report the findings to the President of the university.

The recovery process for A&M Commerce will be managed by the Damage Assessment Team. Depending on the nature and severity of recovery processes, the Damage Assessment Team may request additional staffing.
The university has an institutional continuity plan that provides the framework for long term recovery efforts. Support of this plan is managed by the Department of Safety. In the absence of departmental continuity plans, the management of recovery efforts will follow the guiding principles of this plan and the NIMS operating structure.

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES**

**University President**
- Retains, at all times, executive authority to make decisions concerning overall management.
- Grants the Incident Commander the authority to make executive decisions concerning the overall management of the emergency.
- Announces levels of campus evacuations. All decisions concerning the discontinuation of university functions, cancellation of classes, or cessation of operations, rests with the President or his/her designee.
- President or his/her designee shall be responsible for declaring any major institutional disaster.
- Works with the Chief of Police and the Damage Assessment Team in assessing damages from the emergency and preparing the university's specific responses.
- Informs all employees under his/her direction of the emergency situations as appropriate.
- Understands the EOP and is prepared to accept incident responsibilities as needed, as directed by the Incident Commander or Emergency Management Director, or designee.

**Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs**
- Informs all employees under his/her direction of the emergency situations as appropriate.
- Coordinates implementation of emergency procedures.
- Ensures emergency guidelines are established for appropriate departments.
- Ensures that all faculty members are aware of Emergency Operation Plan drills and participates in drills and exercises.
• Understands the EOP and is prepared to accept incident responsibilities as needed, as directed by the Incident Commander or Emergency Management Director, or designee.

**Vice-President for Business & Administration**

• Informs all employees under his/her direction of emergency situations as appropriate.

• Coordinates implementation of emergency procedures.

• Ensures emergency guidelines are established for appropriate departments.

• Coordinates financial resources for response and recovery operations.

• Serves as a member of the Damage Assessment Team.

• Understands the EOP and is prepared to accept incident responsibilities as needed, as directed by the Incident Commander or Emergency Management Director, or designee.

**Vice President for Student Access & Success**

• Assists in all incidents involving Student Housing.

• Assists in all incidents involving students.

• Coordinates activities with Student Government Association.

• Assists with emergency response within the Student Center.

• Establishes an emergency telephone information center to handle calls from parents.

• Informs all employees under his/her direction of the emergency situations as appropriate.

• Coordinates implementation of emergency procedures.

• Ensures emergency guidelines are established for appropriate departments.

• Understands the EOP and is prepared to accept incident responsibilities as needed, as directed by the Incident Commander or Emergency Management Director, or designee.

**Vice-President for Institutional Advancement**

• Informs all employees under his/her direction of the emergency situations as appropriate.

• Coordinates implementation of emergency procedures.
• Ensures emergency guidelines are established for appropriate departments.

• Ensures all employees under his/her direction attend safety training courses.

• Understands the EOP and is prepared to accept incident responsibilities as needed, as directed by the Incident Commander or Emergency Management Director, or designee.
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Agency
A division of government with a specific function offering a particular kind of assistance. In ICS, agencies are defined either as jurisdictional (having statutory responsibility for incident management) or as assisting or cooperating (providing resources or other assistance).

Agency Representative
A person assigned by a primary, assisting, or cooperating federal, state, local, or tribal government agency or private entity that has been delegated authority to make decisions affecting that agency’s or organization’s participation in incident management activities following appropriate consultation with the leadership of that agency.

Area Command (Unified Area Command)
An organization established (1) to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by an ICS organization or (2) to oversee the management of large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command has the responsibility to set overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources according to priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met and strategies followed. Area Command becomes a Unified Area Command when incidents are multi-jurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an EOC facility or at some location other than an ICP.

Chain of Command
A series of command, control, executive, or management positions in hierarchical order of authority.

Command Staff
In an incident management organization, the Command Staff consists of the Incident Command and the special staff positions of Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, Liaison Officer, and other positions as required, who report directly to the Incident Commander. They may have an assistant or assistants, as needed.

Credible Threat
A potential terrorist threat that, based on a threat assessment, is credible and likely to involve WMD.

Crisis Management
Predominantly a law enforcement function and included measures to identify, acquire, and plan the use of resources needed to anticipate, prevent, and/or resolve a threat or act of terrorism.

Critical Operations Unit Plan
A Critical Operations Unit Plan identifies emergency preparation, coordination, and response activities for specific functional units.

**Disaster**
A disaster is defined as a university, citywide or more extensive emergency which seriously impairs or halts the operations of A&M-Commerce.

**Emergency**
A situation or occurrence of a serious nature, developing suddenly and unexpectedly, and demanding immediate actions.

**Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC)**
The EMC is a member of the Emergency Operations Team and is responsible for the preplanning coordination of the Emergency Management Plan and its annexes. The EMC consults directly with the University Incident Commander during an actual emergency.

**Emergency Operations Center (EOC)**
The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support domestic incident management activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional disciplines (e.g., fire, law enforcement, and medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., federal, state, regional, county, city, tribal), or by some combination thereof.

**EOC Controller**
The EOC controller is responsible for the equipment operations of the EOC when it is activated. The EOC controller is the university Safety Manager.

**Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)**
The “steady-state” plan maintained by various jurisdictional levels for managing a wide variety of potential hazards.

**Emergency Response Team (ERT)**
The Emergency Response Team (ERT) is activated, based on the type and nature of the incident, to manage the operational aspects of the university’s response to an emergency event. The university Incident Commander heads the Emergency Operations Team.

**Emergency Response Provider**
Includes federal, state, local, and tribal emergency public safety, law enforcement, emergency response, emergency medical (including hospital emergency facilities) and related personnel, agencies, and authorities. Also known as “emergency responder.”
Emergency Support Function (ESF)
A grouping of government and certain private-sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide the support, resources, program implementation, and services that are most likely to be needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and critical infrastructure, and help victims and communities return to normal, when feasible, following domestic incidents. The ESFs serve as the primary operational-level mechanism to provide assistance to state, local, and tribal governments or to federal departments and agencies conducting missions of primary federal responsibility.

Evacuation
Organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal, or removal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.

Executive Management Team (EMT)
The Executive Management Team (EMT) will evaluate information from various sources during the progress of the event and advise the President on appropriate actions requiring his/her decision. The EMT is also responsible for the review and approval of the Emergency Operation Plan. The EMTs role is that of policy and major decisions.

Field Command Post (FCP)
The Field Command Post is established as a remote area of operations. FCPs are structured similar to Incident Command Post. If an incident involves operations that are spread out, FCPs would support operations by establishing operations command at specified areas.

First Responder
Local and non-governmental police, fire, and emergency personnel who in the early stages of an incident are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence, and the environment. First responders may include personnel from federal, state, local, tribal, or non-governmental organizations.

Incident
An occurrence or event, natural or human caused, that requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.

Incident Action Plan
An oral or written plan containing general objectives reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods.
Incident Command Post (ICP)
The field location at which the primary tactical-level, on-scene incident command functions are performed.

Incident Command System (ICS)
A standardized on-scene emergency management construction, specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating with a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. ICS is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, or organized field-level incident management operations.

Incident Commander (IC)
The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.

Incident Management Team (IMT)
The Incident Commander and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident. At A&M-Commerce, this team is comprised of the Executive Management Team and the Emergency Response Team.

Isolated Critical Incident
An Isolated Critical Incident is defined as an occurrence impacting only a small part of the university community or university physical property, which does not affect the overall functioning capacity of A&M-Commerce.

Jurisdiction
A range or sphere of authority. Public agencies have jurisdiction at an incident related to their legal responsibilities and authorities. Jurisdictional authority at an incident can be political or geographical (e.g., city, county, tribal, state, or federal boundary lines) or functional (e.g., law enforcement, public health).

Liaison Officer
A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies.

Local Government
A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments, regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government.
**Major Critical Incident**
A Major Critical Incident is defined as a serious emergency, which completely disrupts one or more operations of A&M-Commerce.

**Major Disaster**
As defined by the Stafford Act, any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought) or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this act to supplement the efforts and available resources of states, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

**Mitigation**
Activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident.

**Mobilization**
The process and procedures used by all organizations—federal, state, local, and tribal—for activating, assembling, and transporting all resources that have been requested to respond to or support an incident.

**Mobilization Center**
An off-site temporary facility at which response personnel and equipment are received from the Point of Arrival and are pre-positioned for deployment to an incident logistics base, to a local Staging Area, or directly to an incident site, as required. A mobilization center also provides temporary support services, such as food and billeting for response personnel prior to their assignment, release, or reassignment and serves as a place to out-process following demobilization.

**Multiagency Command Center (MACC)**
An interagency coordination center that serves as the focal point for interagency security planning and coordination.

**Multijurisdictional Incident**
An incident requiring action from multiple agencies that each have jurisdiction to manage certain aspects of an incident. In ICS, these incidents will be managed under Unified Command.

**Mutual Aid Agreement**
Written agreement between agencies, organizations, and/or jurisdictions that they will assist one another on request by furnishing personnel, equipment, and/or expertise in a specified manner.
**National Incident Management System (NIMS)**
A system that provides a consistent, nationwide approach for federal, state, local, and tribal governments. NIMS is a modular emergency management system designed for all hazards and levels of emergency response.

**Preparedness**
The range of deliberate, critical tasks, and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents.

**Prevention**
Actions taken to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions taken to protect lives and property.

**Public Information Officer (PIO)**
A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media or with other agencies with incident related information requirements.

**Public Works**
Work, construction, physical facilities, and services provided by governments for the benefit and use of the public.

**Recovery**
The development, coordination, and execution of service and site-restoration plans for impacted communities and the reconstitution of operations and services through individual, private-sector, non-governmental, and public assistance.

**Resources**
Personnel and major items of equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained. Resources are described by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an EOC.

**Response**
Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs.

**Span of Control**
Pertains to the number of individuals or resources that one supervisor can manage effectively during emergency response incidents or special events.

**Terrorism**
Any activity that (1) involves an act that (a) is dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources; and (b) is a violation of the criminal laws of the United
States or of any State or other subdivision of the United States; and (2) appears to be intended (a) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; (b) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or (c) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping.

**Threat**
An indication of possible violence, harm, or danger.

**Unified Command**
An application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the Unified Command to establish their designated Incident Commanders at a single ICP and to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single Incident Action Plan.

**Unit**
A unit is a department, shop, or other defined entity of the university.

**Unit Control Centers**
Unit Control Centers support operational groups of the EOP. They provide a focal point within an organization to monitor unit resources and response capability and coordinate their activities during disasters.

**Weapon of Mass Destruction (WMD)**
As defined in Title 18, U.S.C. § 2332a: (1) any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than 4 ounces, or missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, or mine or similar device; (2) any weapon that is designed or intended to cause death or serious bodily injury through the release, dissemination, or impact of toxic or poisonous chemicals or their precursors; (3) any weapon involving a disease organism; or (4) any weapon that is designed to release radiation or radioactivity at a level dangerous to human life.
Appendix
Emergency Operation Plan
APPENDIX 1 NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)

NIMS is a modular emergency management system designed for all hazards and levels of emergency response. This system creates a combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communication operating within a standardized organizational structure. The system is used by the Department of Homeland Security and throughout the United States as the basis for emergency response management. Use of the NIMS at the university facilitates the university’s ability to communicate and coordinate response actions with other jurisdictions and external emergency response agencies. As a management system, NIMS helps to mitigate the incident risks by providing accurate information, strict accountability, planning and cost-effective operations and logistical support for any incident. NIMS can be used on any kind or size of an incident. It can also be used for planned non-emergency events. Some of the kinds of incidents and events that have been managed through NIMS are listed below:

- Fires, HAZMAT, and multi-casualty incidents.
- Multi-jurisdiction and multi-agency disaster responses (natural disaster, terrorism, civil unrest).
- Search and rescue missions.
- Significant transportation accidents.
- Major planned events, e.g., celebrations, parades, concerts.

KEY PRINCIPLES OF NIMS

- Modular response model based on activating only those organizational elements required to meet current objectives.
- Common terminology applied to organization elements, position titles, facility designations and resources.
- Unified command structure so that organizational elements are linked to form a single overall structure with appropriate span-of-control limits.
- Comprehensive resource management for coordinating and inventorying resources for field responses.
- Integrated communication so that information systems operate smoothly among all response agencies involved.
- Generic positions whereby individuals are trained for each emergency response role and follow prepared action checklists.
• Consolidated action plans that contain strategy to meet objectives at both the field response and Emergency Operations Center levels.

ORGANIZATION
NIMS is organized around five major management activities.

Command
Has overall responsibility at the incident or event. Determines objectives and establishes priorities based on the nature of the incident, available resources and agency policy. In all incidents, there is an identified Incident Commander or a unified command team. These have responsibility for overall management of the incident and must be fully qualified to manage the incident.

Operations
Develops the tactical organization and directs all resources to carry out the Incident Action Plan.

Planning
Develops the Incident Action Plan to accomplish the objectives. Collects and evaluates information, and maintains status of assigned resources.

Logistics
Provides resources and all other services needed to support the organization.

Finance/Administration
Monitors costs related to the incident, provides accounting, procurement, time recording, cost analysis, and overall fiscal guidance.

• On small incidents, the five major activities may be managed by a single individual. Large incidents usually require each of these activities to be established as a separate section within the organization.

• Not all sections need to be established within NIMS organization.

• The Incident Commander will make this decision based on the demands of the incident. Each of the primary Incident Command System sections may be further subdivided as reflected in the organization chart.
The following organizational charts represent 3 examples of incident command organization for the operations section. Depending on the scale of the incident, operations can be simple to complex.
Building Emergency Coordinators (BEC) act as a liaison between their respective building occupants and Facilities Management, Department of Safety and/or the University Police Department (UPD). The BEC may report safety issues to Department of Safety and security issues to the UPD. The BEC will act as a point of contact during emergency situations to the Incident Commander and/or the Emergency Operation Center (EOC).

Operation of the Building Emergency Coordinator system is based upon the following guidelines:

1. BECs must be full-time employees of the University. They must be readily available during working hours and must have the ability to be contacted during off-working hours should an emergency arise. Students, graduate assistants, and part-time employees are not acceptable BECs as they are not generally available throughout the workday and do not bring continuity to the BEC program.

2. BECs act as the liaison between building occupants and University Police Department (UPD), Department of Safety, and Facilities Management.

3. The BECs job is mainly a position of communication. Working arrangements are made between the Building Emergency Coordinator, their dean, director or department head and UPD, Department of Safety, and Facilities.

4. BEC appointments are made by the occupying department head in cooperation with the Safety Director and the Vice President for Business & Administration. If the occupying department is unable to select a BEC, the Vice President for Business & Administration will appoint a BEC. Please notify the Safety Director when any changes in Building Emergency Coordinator assignments are made.

Authority of a Building Emergency Coordinator

- BECs are authorized to evacuate their area of responsibility or building if, in their judgment, a situation exists justifying such action.

- BECs are authorized to act as the liaison between the UPD and Department of Safety during certain emergency situations.
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<td>Alumni Center</td>
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</tr>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Whitley</td>
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</table>
APPENDIX 3  LIGHTNING PREDICTION WARNING

Lightning Prediction Warning

A Thor Guard Lightning Prediction System has been installed on campus and will sound a warning when lightning is likely to strike on or near the campus. Horns will sound for approximately 15 seconds and the system lights will continue to flash until the danger is past. When the danger is past, the horns will sound 3 blasts for 5 seconds each and the lights will turn off.

When the warning is sounded -
• Cease outdoor activities
• Seek shelter inside a building or automobile

Avoid –

• Open areas; places near water, trees, metal fences, overhead wires or power lines; or elevated ground or open vehicles
• Use of radios or cellular phones