



Regional Emergency Support Function #13 Law Enforcement

Regional Coordinating Organization

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Regional Law Enforcement Agencies

Metropolitan Transit Police

Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Police

Local and Law Enforcement Agencies

Alexandria

Arlington County

Bowie

College Park

District of Columbia

Fairfax

Fairfax County

Falls Church

Frederick County

Gaithersburg

Greenbelt

Loudoun County

Metro Transit Police

Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Police

Montgomery County

Prince George's County

Prince William County

Rockville

Takoma Park

State Law Enforcement Agencies

Maryland National Capital Park Police/Montgomery County Division

Maryland National Capital Park Police/Prince George's County Division

Maryland State Police

Virginia State Police

Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department

Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms/Washington Field Office

Bureau of Engraving and Printing Police

Central Intelligence Agency—Security Protective Service

Defense Protective Service

Drug Enforcement Administration/Washington Field Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation/Washington Field Office
Federal Protective Service
National Institutes of Health Police
Capitol Police
U.S. Marshals Service
Mint Police
U.S. Park Police
Secret Service

Military Law Enforcement Authorities

Military District of Washington/Provost Marshal
Naval District of Washington

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

Regional Emergency Support Function (R-ESF) #13—Law Enforcement facilitates communication and information coordination among regional jurisdictions concerning law enforcement issues and activities before, during, and after a regional incident or regional emergency, as defined in the RECP.

B. Scope

R-ESF #13 focuses on regional coordination of law enforcement information associated with an incident or emergency requiring inter-jurisdictional coordination and information sharing.

II. Policies

- A.** R-ESF #13 does not usurp or override the policies or mutual aid operational agreements of any local jurisdiction or government, state government, or federal agency.
- B.** The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) will facilitate coordination among participating organizations to ensure that the R-ESF #13 communication and coordination process is consistent with the stated missions and objectives of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP).
- C.** The Incident Command System (ICS) will be the organizational structure and terminology used during a response for the coordination of police services.
- D.** Essential elements of information (EIs) will be reported through the Regional Incident Communication and Coordination System (RICCS) consistent with RECP policy.
- E.** R-ESF #13 will provide an information liaison to R-ESF #5 for conference calls as necessary.

III. Situation

A. Regional Emergency Condition

R-ESF #13 provides an overall communications and coordination mechanism that builds on the existing regional infrastructure for law enforcement communication and information coordination, as defined by jurisdictional

protocols and the Police Mutual Aid Plan. Three levels of communication of incident information are identified:

1. **Level 1** covers local incidents that are within the capabilities of the primary responding jurisdiction, and that have no likely impact on other jurisdictions. For these incidents, R-ESF #13 provides for information-only notification to other agencies via the RICCS at the discretion of the Incident Commander.
2. **Level 2** encompasses incidents that affect other jurisdictions beyond the bounds of the primary responding agency or that involve existing cross-boundary mutual aid activities or that may have impact on other R-ESF activities, such as Transportation or Mass Care. For Level 2 incidents, R-ESF #13 provides for notification of the chiefs of participating agencies via the RICCS and for interagency coordination at the chief level. It may also be used for operational communication for technical consultation at the discretion of the responding jurisdiction.
3. **Level 3** incidents are those that require interagency operations beyond the scope of existing mutual aid agreements or which involve significant operations on the part of other R-ESFs. For these incidents, full implementation of the RICCS at the chief administrative officer or elected official level is indicated.

B. Planning Assumptions

1. Infrastructure damage and communications disruptions may inhibit efficient coordination of law enforcement support during the immediate response and post-event period(s).
2. Police services disruptions can occur as a result of direct impacts upon the law enforcement locations or from surges in requirements placed upon the law enforcement organizations by emergencies in other functional areas.
3. The continuity of police services must be sensitive and responsive to the national security-related law enforcement requirements.
4. There may be multiple command posts to handle the different aspects of the police services response to an event, such as an investigative command post and a response command post. There will be a need to coordinate information among these various command posts.
5. For a regional incident or regional emergency resulting from criminal acts, command and control of the criminal investigation and dissemination of non-sensitive intelligence, as necessary, will need to have communication and coordination focus.

6. Existing regional mutual aid agreements will be invoked.
7. Due to the inherent nature of the law enforcement, information flow must be sensitive to operational security.

IV. Concept of Coordination

A. General

1. Participating agencies in R-ESF #13 will use RICCS to:

Share EEI;

Tap into the larger operational picture to see how other R-ESF activities may impact law enforcement activities; and

Coordinate communications.

2. The R-ESF #13 function will establish a capability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning regional law enforcement related issues through RICCS.

B. Organization

The chief or senior operational official of the lead local, state or federal law enforcement agency will determine the need for information sharing among the jurisdictions. When it is determined that regional emergency or pre-planned event assistance or information sharing is needed, RICCS can be used for the coordination of information.

C. Notification

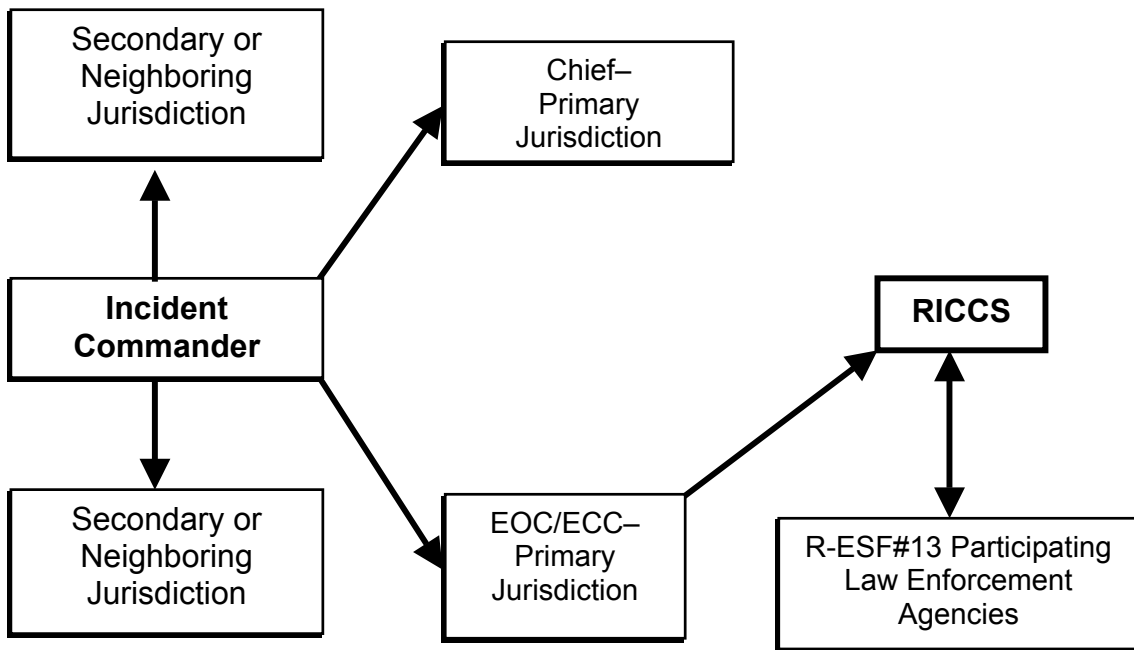
Any participating R-ESF #13 organization, agency, jurisdiction, or any jurisdiction's Emergency Communications Center/Emergency Operations Center (ECC/EOC) may use RICCS to notify the appropriate R-ESF #13 supporting agencies, jurisdictional police chiefs, or jurisdictional CAOs of a potential or actual regional incident or regional emergency requiring law enforcement support. Such notifications will be consistent with the EEI guidelines established by R-ESF #5—Information and Planning.

D. Coordination

1. Initial Actions

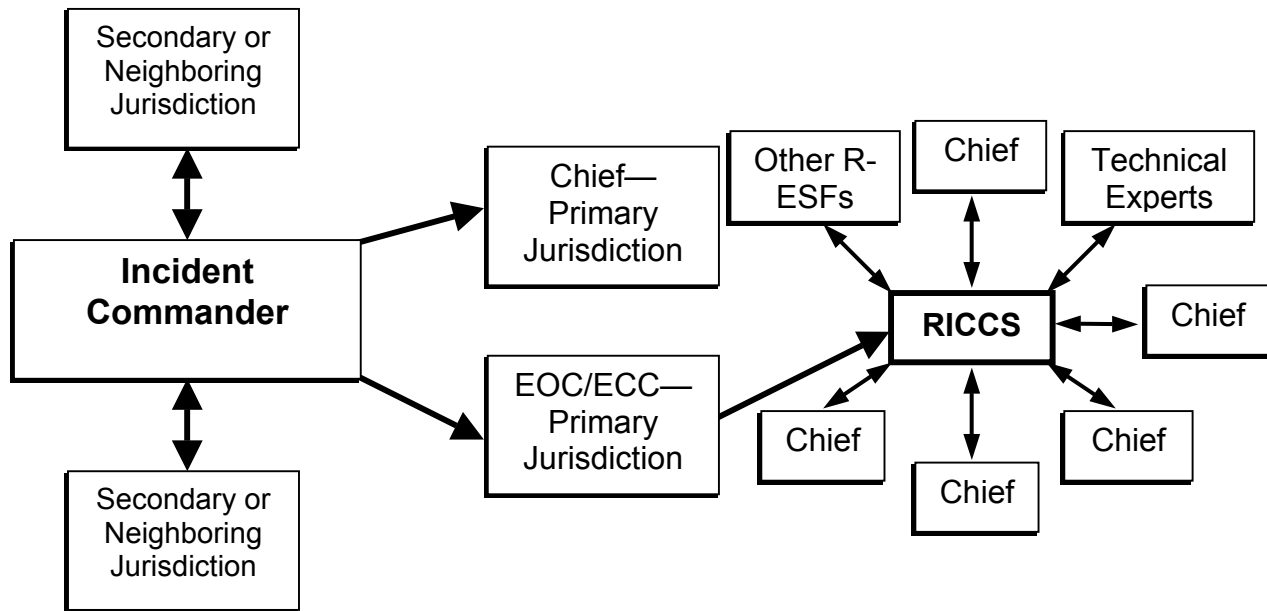
Any participating R-ESF #13—Law Enforcement organization, agency, or jurisdiction may send an initial informational notification to the participating law enforcement agencies via the Level 1 Notification process (See Figure 13-1, Level 1 Notification), informing them of a local incident of possible regional interest.

Figure 13-1: Level 1 Notification



Level 2 encompasses incidents that may affect other jurisdictions or that involve cross-boundary mutual aid activities or that may have impact on other R-ESF activities, such as Transportation or Mass Care (see Figure 13-2: Level 2 Notification). For Level 2 incidents, R-ESF #13 provides for notification of the chiefs of participating agencies via the RICCS and for interagency coordination at the chief level. It may also be used for operational communication for technical consultation at the discretion of the responding jurisdiction.

Figure 13-2: Level 2 Notification

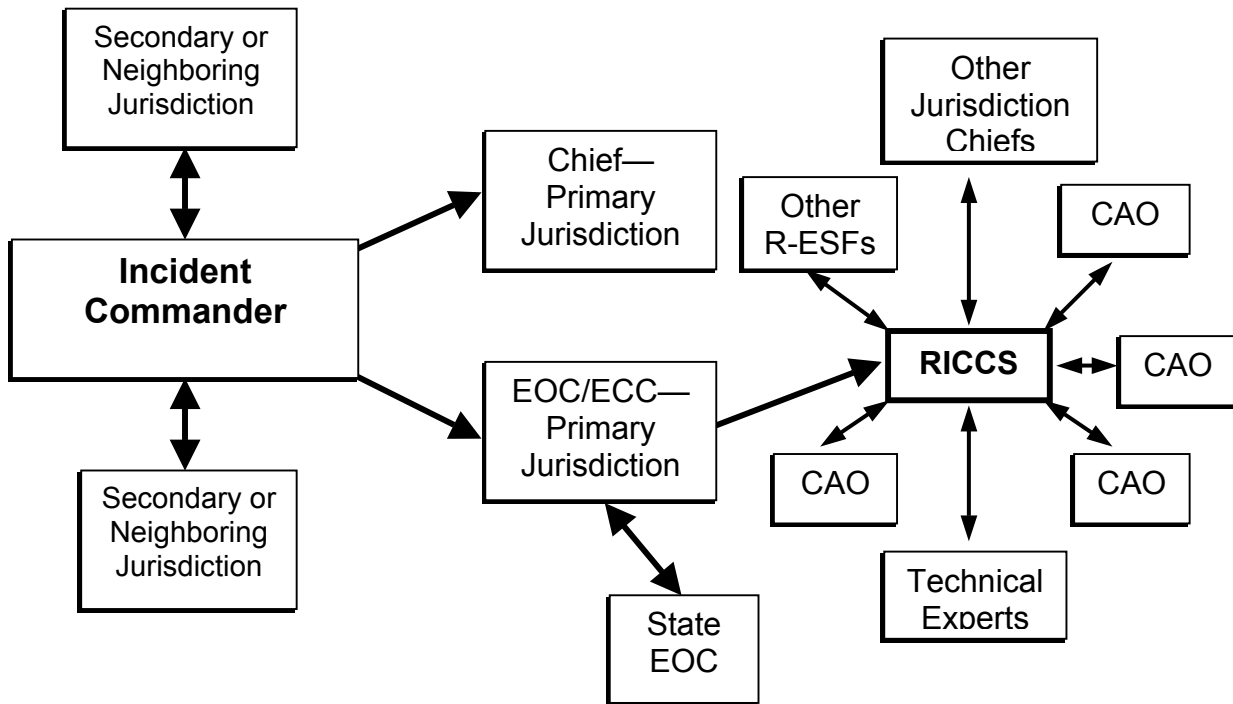


Level 3 incidents are those that require interagency operations beyond the scope of existing mutual aid agreements or that involve significant operations on the part of other R-ESFs (see Figure 13-3: Level 3 Notification). For these incidents, full implementation of the RICCS at the chief administrative officer or elected official level is indicated.

The jurisdiction in charge under the Incident Command will provide periodic updates to RICCS.

The affected jurisdiction will act as lead agency and facilitate the conference call.

Figure 13-3: Level 3 Notification



2. Continuing Actions

For major regional incidents or emergencies, RICCS will be the primary communications network for ongoing inter-jurisdictional coordination at the agency chief, CAO, and elected official level.

3. Stand Down

At the discretion of the lead jurisdiction, inter-jurisdictional communications through RICCS may be terminated via a RICCS notification and final conference call.

4. After-action Critique

Within two weeks of stand-down of the regional public emergency, participating R-ESF #13 agencies will be asked for recommendations on how R-ESF #13 can be improved. Specific incidents may require roundtable discussion if the incident is high profile and of a critical nature.

V. Responsibilities

A. R-ESF #13 Participating and Supporting Agencies

Organizations participating in a regional response will provide EEIs to RICCS as required by RECP policy.

B. Essential Elements of Information

1. One of the primary purposes of the RECP is to facilitate the exchange of information among the signatory agencies during emergency situations. R-ESF #5—Information and Planning is responsible for the exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. R-ESF #5 contains detailed information about the process of information exchange and describes regional EEIs, which have been determined as the minimum essential information categories to satisfy coordination needs among the R-ESFs and with RICCS.
2. From the perspective of R-ESF #13—Law Enforcement, the agencies are responsible for providing the following essential elements of information for regional incidents or emergencies requiring police services:

Status of transportation system;
Status of jails and courthouses;
Location of temporary holding facilities for criminals;
Location of hazardous environments;

Status of security of hazardous locations;
Status of mutual aid agreements;
Location of the command post;
Listing of law enforcement agencies on scene (federal, state, local);
Access points to emergency areas;
Location of the regional emergency;
Crowd control problems;
Jurisdictions involved; which jurisdiction has the law enforcement lead;
Status of resources, personnel, equipment and facilities impacted by the regional emergency/threat of regional emergency;
Other R-ESFs potentially impacted;
Overall resource shortfalls, response needs, and priorities;
Status of remote sensing and reconnaissance activities;
Logistical problems;
External communications capabilities for citizen access to services;
and
Internal communications capabilities within the agency/region.

VI. Preparedness Cycle

The Preparedness Cycle is a means of ensuring a high level of readiness for the RECP through continuous improvement in the plans and procedures. The cycle begins with sound planning practices, followed by training of personnel who will be engaged in executing those plans. When personnel have been trained, plans and procedures are tested through exercises or simulations designed to check planning assumptions against a range of scenarios. The performance of the respective organizations is evaluated as a means of refining the plans and the cycle repeats.

A. Planning

The Police Chiefs Committee of COG is responsible for coordinating planning under R-ESF #13, including review and recommending revisions of R-ESF #13.

B. Training

Training related to the RECP and R-ESF #13 responsibilities will be coordinated through the Police and Fire Training Subcommittees and COG.

C. Exercises

In order for the RECP to be effective, a series of law enforcement simulations/exercises are conducted on a regularly scheduled basis. The exercise series includes tabletop exercises, functional communications and

coordination drills, and field exercises conducted by COG or another organization.

D. Evaluation

To ensure continuous improvement in the law enforcement function and the RECP, the plans, policies and procedures that support operational proficiency are evaluated through real-world experience and exercises.

E. Corrective Action

Lessons learned from exercises and real world experiences will be captured in a corrective action system and the issues tracked to ensure that they are resolved and incorporated into plan revisions as appropriate.

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