

Emergency Response & Management

Overview for Executives/ Senior Officials

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Overall Priorities

All decisions made and all objectives established are based on these priorities:

#1: Life Safety

#2: Incident Stabilization

#3: Property/Environmental Conservation



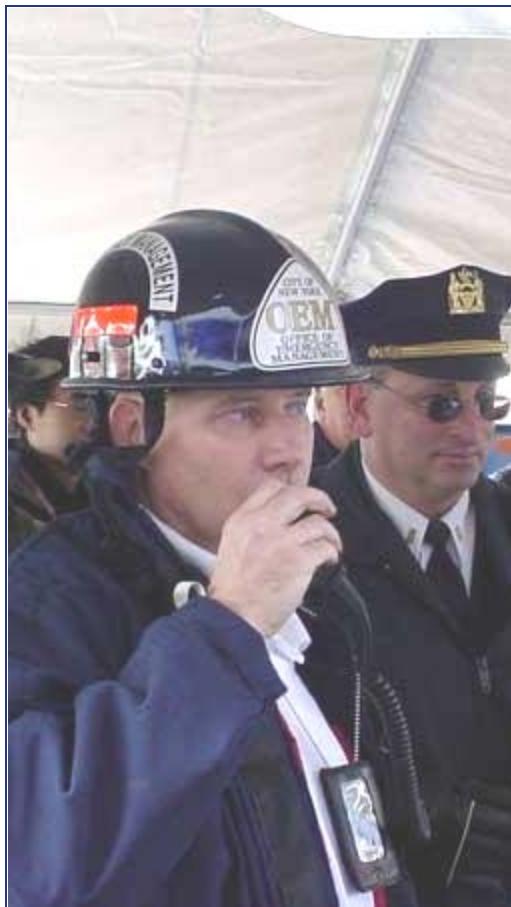
Emergency Response & Management

- **Command**
- **Support and Coordination**
- **Policy & Delegation of Authority**

Command

- **Command:** The act of directing, ordering, or controlling by virtue of explicit statutory, regulatory, or delegated authority
- **Chain of command** is an orderly line of authority within the ranks of the incident management organization.
- **Unity of command** means that every individual has a designated supervisor to whom he or she reports at the scene of the incident

Incident Commander's Role



The Incident Commander:

- **Provides overall leadership for incident response.**
- **Takes policy direction from the Executive/Senior Official.**
- **Delegates authority to others.**
- **Ensures incident safety.**
- **Provides information to internal and external stakeholders.**
- **Establishes and maintains liaison with other agencies participating in the incident.**
- **Establishes incident objectives.**
- **Directs the development of the Incident Action Plan.**

Executives'/Senior Officials' Role & Responsibilities

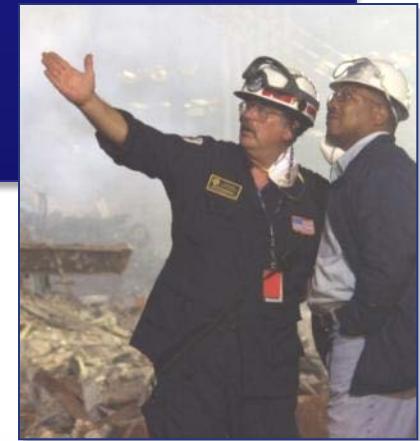
Executives/Senior Officials:

- **Provide policy guidance on priorities and objectives based on situational needs and emergency plans**
- **Assist with resource acquisition and support to the on-scene command through the Emergency Operations Center (EOC)**
- **Assist with public messaging**



Executives/Senior Officials Delegate Command Authority

- Executives/Senior Officials delegate authority to the designated Incident Commander for on-scene operations
- The Incident Commander has direct tactical and operational responsibility for conducting incident management activities



Delegation of Authority

Delegation of authority may be in writing (established in advance) or verbal, and include:

- **Legal authorities and restrictions.**
- **Financial authorities and restrictions.**
- **Reporting requirements.**
- **Demographic issues.**
- **Political implications.**
- **Agency or jurisdictional priorities.**
- **Plan for public information management.**
- **Process for communications.**
- **Plan for ongoing incident evaluation.**

**Delegation
of
Authority**



Incident Management Roles

Incident Commander's Role

The Incident Commander:

- **Commands all resources at the incident scene and manages the incident**
- **Requests & receives support & coordination services from the EOC (e.g., logistics, planning, public information)**

Agency Executives'/Senior Officials' Role

Officials provide the Incident Commander with the following:

- **Policy**
- **Mission**
- **Strategic direction**
- **Authority**
- **Political support**



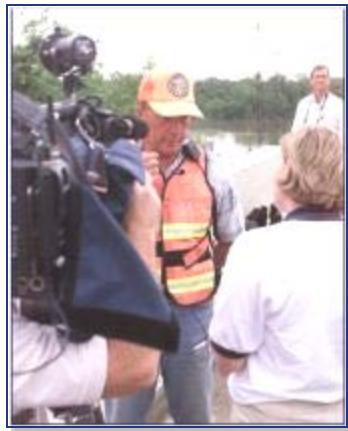
Reliance on an Incident Action Plan

The Incident Commander creates an Incident Action Plan (IAP) that:

- **Specifies the incident objectives**
- **States the activities to be completed**
- **Covers a specified timeframe, called an operational period**
- **May be oral or written**
- **Takes into account legal and policy considerations and direction**
- **Should be communicated to the Elected Officials who have delegated the authority and responsibility**



Managing Public Information



Command's Public Information Officer (PIO):

- Represents and advises the Incident Command (EOC / Emergency Management supports & coordinates)
- Manages on-scene media and public inquiries & establishes a Joint Information System (JIS) with the EOC

A Joint Information Center (JIC) is the location for the JIS participants to manage

- Critical emergency information
- Crisis messaging
- Other Public Affairs functions

Speaking With One Voice



- Executives/Senior Officials must coordinate and integrate messages with PIOs, the JIS, EOC, and other agencies
- The **Joint Information System** with its procedures and protocols is used to help ensure coordination of all public messages.

Leadership



Most importantly, Executives/Senior Officials provide leadership.

Leadership means . . .

- **Motivating and supporting trained, on-scene responders so that they can accomplish difficult tasks under dangerous, stressful circumstances.**
- **Instilling confidence in the public that the incident is being managed effectively.**

Thank you

Comments & Questions