

STATE OF VERMONT EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

STATE SUPPORT FUNCTION (SSF) 13 LAW ENFORCEMENT

PRIMARY: Department of Public Safety, State Police

SUPPORT: Office of Attorney General; Secretary of State; Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Law Enforcement Division; Agency of Transportation, Department of Motor Vehicles; Department of Corrections; Department of Liquor Control; Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, Division of Fire Safety; Department of States Attorneys & Sheriffs; Office of the Adjutant General, VT National Guard; Civil Air Patrol; Criminal Justice Training Council; Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police

I. INTRODUCTION

Effective law enforcement is essential during emergencies or disasters to ensure protection of lives, critical infrastructure and other property. Local law enforcement officials are responsible for enforcement of laws, traffic control, investigation of crimes and other public safety activities within their jurisdictions. State assets which may be committed are primarily those of the Department of Public Safety, Division of State Police, Agency of Natural Resources, and the Department of Motor Vehicles with support from several other state departments/agencies.

II. MISSION

This annex establishes procedures for the command, control and coordination of all State and local law enforcement personnel and equipment to support local law enforcement agencies during emergencies. SSF-13 also establishes procedures for the use of the Vermont National Guard in security missions requested by local law enforcement agencies.

SSF-13 activities include:

- General law enforcement activities
- Maintaining public order
- Credentialing and access control at the incident site,
- Site security,
- Traffic and crowd control,
- Assistance for evacuations,
- Securing essential facilities, utilities and supplies,
- Analyzing conditions and making public safety and security recommendations,
- Assisting in developing appropriate warnings to the affected public,
- Providing security for the Strategic National Stockpile,
- Assisting with reconnaissance and surveillance,
- Coordinating criminal investigative activity,
- Providing safety and security training for responders,
- Force protection,
- Identifying and coordinating contracted services for public safety and security missions.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATION

A. Vermont State Police (VSP) is responsible for the coordination of all SSF-13 administrative, management, planning, training, preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery activities to include developing, coordinating, and maintaining the SSF-13 annex. All SSF-13 supporting agencies will assist VSP in the planning and execution of the above.

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- B. Coordination with all supporting and other appropriate departments/agencies and organizations will be performed to ensure operational readiness in time of emergency.
- C. In coordination with, and support of, the State-Rapid Assessment & Assistance Team (S-RAAT), assess the situation (both pre- and post-event), and in coordination with local emergency management officials, develop strategies to respond to the emergency.
- D. The principal state resources available within Vermont for support of law enforcement activities during a crisis period are the assets of VSP, Agency of Natural Resources, and the Department of Motor Vehicles. Under normal operating conditions, all operate as separate entities, each having their own chain of command. During a crisis period, however, these agencies will operate collectively, with VSP through a designated point of contact.
- E. The sheriff or chief of police is responsible for law enforcement activities within his/her local jurisdiction. When state law enforcement personnel and equipment are committed, a member of the VSP will be assigned to coordinate state activities with the local law enforcement officer in charge.
- F. Should an emergency situation develop and a local government official determines the need for state law enforcement assistance, and the Governor has not declared a state of emergency, the official should coordinate this request through their local chief of police and/or sheriff. Military support for law enforcement missions will be forwarded to the VSP Public Safety District Coordinator (PSDC), or his designee, for action.
- G. When a situation has intensified to such a level that the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) becomes partially or fully activated, state law enforcement local/regional commanders shall begin to coordinate their force assignments and requests for support with their representatives at the SEOC, who in turn, are coordinating with the VSP PSDC or designee.
- H. State law enforcement resources may be deployed prior to the Governor declaring a state of emergency. Coordination with appropriate representatives at the SEOC Operations Section will be accomplished as soon as possible.
- I. The local law enforcement agency in command will retain direction and control. VSP will coordinate directly with the local level law enforcement agency in control and will coordinate activities for all other state law enforcement agencies involved as it relates to general law enforcement duties.
- J. As the lead agency for law enforcement assistance, VSP will coordinate all general law enforcement assistance from state agencies. In cooperation with the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), VSP will integrate law enforcement functions with other emergency actions.
- K. SSF-13 will receive and act on requests from local governments. Representatives from the law enforcement agencies will jointly decide on deployment of personnel and equipment. Individual agencies will maintain operational control of their resources in the field. Personnel assigned to assist local governments should inform the VSP PSDC or his designee of the conditions found and actions being taken by local and state personnel.

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- L. State law enforcement resources will continue to be regulated through the normal chain of command. State law enforcement resources will be made available to local law enforcement chiefs upon request, depending upon availability. Law enforcement agencies will provide needed personnel from officers located throughout the state to augment personnel located in or immediately adjacent to disaster areas.
- M. The Vermont Intelligence Center (VIC) continually monitors the threat of terrorist activities in coordination with the Department of Homeland Security, FBI and other federal partners as well as Canadian law enforcement and neighboring Provinces and surrounding States. The VIC advises the Commissioner of Public Safety and Director, VSP of appropriate preventive measures and protective actions. All State and Local agencies that identify a potential threat should report that information to the VIC. Agency preventive measures, protective actions or response actions in accordance with procedures outlined in respective SSF or agency annexes that relate to terrorism or weapons of mass destruction threats or incidents, will be coordinated with the VIC. Incident Annex 10D to this plan provides additional information on terrorism prevention and response actions.
- N. The Vermont National Guard is activated to State Active Duty (SAD) on approval of the Governor through an Executive Order. National Guard forces are to be deployed on a mission-by-mission basis to assist in the protection of life, property, and maintenance of law and order and will be utilized with, or accompanied by, representatives of supported law enforcement agencies.
- O. The National Guard must maintain task force, unit, and detachment integrity at all times. This ensures Guard commanders the ability to coordinate logistical support, mission support, and personnel accountability.
- P. Within the constraints outlined above, and with approval from the Governor's Authorized Representative, the National Guard unit commander may, if necessary, commit his troops to any task as the need arises; however, his assigned mission must receive top priority.
- Q. No use will be made of private security agencies or volunteers unless they are sworn and trained special deputies or auxiliary police. Such personnel will be the responsibility of the public safety agency which appoints and utilizes them.

IV. SSF ACTIONS

The emergency operations necessary for the performance of this function include but are not limited to:

- A. Preparedness
 1. Identify agencies, organizations, and individuals, capable of providing law enforcement support services and associated resource inventories.
 2. Analyze threats, hazards, critical facilities; determine law enforcement requirements, and develop plans to preposition assets.
 3. Train regular and support personnel in emergency duties.
 4. Develop plans to conduct initial damage assessment.
 5. Establish and maintain liaison with federal, state and local agencies.
 6. Develop and maintain standard operating procedures and plans, to include alerting lists of personnel and agencies.
 7. Participate in international, national and state exercises and conduct, at least annually, an SSF-13 exercise to validate this annex and supporting SOPs. Involvement in actual incidents in which the SEOP is activated satisfies this requirement.

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B. Response

1. Provide warning and communications in support of the communications and warning plans.
2. Staff the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) as directed.
3. Provide security to the SEOC.
4. Secure evacuated areas, including safeguarding critical facilities, and control entry and exit to the disaster area as requested.
5. Conduct initial damage assessment and report results to SEOC.

C. Recovery

1. Phase down operations as directed by the SEOC.
2. Continue those operations necessary to protect people and property.
3. Assist in return of evacuees.
4. Assist with reconstitution of law enforcement agencies as necessary.
5. Require SSF-13 team members or their agencies maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

D. Mitigation

1. Support and plan for mitigation or threat reduction measures.
2. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or DHS concerning threat reduction, mitigation and/or re-development activities.
3. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. State Police

1. Identify, train, and assign VSP personnel to staff SSF-13 in the SEOC.
2. Provide Public Safety District Coordinator as needed.
3. Advise Director of DEMHS regarding SSF-13 supporting agencies required to be notified upon activation.
4. Brief Director of DEMHS on threats and vulnerabilities.
5. Advise the Director of DEMHS of general and sector specific National Terrorism Advisory System Alerts.
6. Develop a consolidated law enforcement resource inventory to include alert lists.
7. Develop and coordinate a comprehensive plan to marshal and deploy state law enforcement assets during emergencies.
8. Develop a training program for all SSF-13 team members involved in emergency operations.
9. In conjunction with DEMHS, develop plans to support initial damage assessment operations.

B. Office of the Attorney General

1. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of SSF-13 during periods of activation.
2. Provide personnel during periods of activation.

C. Secretary of State

1. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of SSF-13 during periods of activation.
2. Provide personnel during periods of activation.

D. Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Law Enforcement Division

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1. Identify, train, and assign ANR personnel to staff SSF-13 in the SEOC.
 2. Provide communications, facilities, equipment, personnel, and security during periods of activation.
- E. Department of Corrections
1. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of SSF-13 during periods of activation.
 2. Provide communications, facilities, equipment, personnel, and security during periods of activation.
- F. Department of Liquor Control
1. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of SSF-13 during periods of activation.
 2. Provide personnel during periods of activation.
- G. Department of Motor Vehicles
1. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of SSF-13 during periods of activation.
 2. Provide communications, facilities, equipment, personnel, and security during periods of activation.
- H. Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS)
1. Provide communications and equipment to support operations in the SEOC.
 2. Provide personnel during periods of activation.
 3. Provide coordination for the implementation of protective actions or measures related to any National Terrorism Advisory System Alerts.
 4. Provide assistance and coordination for Critical Infrastructure preparedness, protection, response, recovery, restoration, and continuity of operations relative to the Vermont Critical Infrastructure Protection Program (VCIPP), National Response Framework (NRF) coordinating structures, National Incident Management System (NIMS) guiding principles and all Homeland Security Presidential directives.
 5. Provide assistance and coordination to expedite information sharing and analysis of actual or potential impacts to Critical Infrastructure.
 6. Facilitate requests for assistance and information from public- and private-sector partners in accordance with Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII).
 7. Provide for any necessary communication with US Department of Homeland Security.
 8. Support and facilitate the operations of the Multi Agency Coordination group.
- I. Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety
1. Provide State HAZMAT Response Team capability.
- J. Department of States Attorneys and Sheriffs' Association
1. Identify, train, and assign County Sheriff personnel to staff SSF-13 in the SEOC.
 2. Provide communications, facilities, equipment, personnel, and security during periods of activation.
- K. Office of the Adjutant General, VT National Guard
1. Identify, train, and assign VTNG personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of SSF-13 during periods of activation.

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2. Provide communications, facilities, equipment, personnel, and security during periods of activation.

L. Civil Air Patrol

1. Identify, train, and assign CAP personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of SSF-13 during periods of activation.
2. Provide communications, facilities, equipment, and personnel during periods of activation.

M. Criminal Justice Training Council

1. Provide additional training capability in support of response to large incidents.
2. Provide non-sworn personnel, as required.
3. Provide communications equipment to support incident.
4. Plan, coordinate, and execute canine operations in support of SSF-13 during periods of activation.
5. Coordinate and provide required training to Federal law enforcement officers to allow them enforcement powers at state level.

N. Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police

1. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of SSF-13 during periods of activation.
2. Provide personnel during periods of activation.

VI. FEDERAL INTERFACE

- A. This annex has a counterpart in Emergency Support Function #13 (Public Safety & Security) in the National Response Framework. Federal assistance is available from the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Justice and other federal agencies that will be identified by the State Police in their Standard Operating Procedures and accessed accordingly.
- B. Any federal assistance provided will be coordinated through the State Law Enforcement Coordinator at the SEOC. The State Law Enforcement Emergency Coordinator will ensure that the Commander of VSP is kept current of all issues involving the use of federal assistance within the State.