


Atlanta Police Department Policy Manual		Standard Operating Procedure
Effective Date September 7, 2021		APD.SOP.3181 Emergency Operations Plan
Applicable To: All Employees		Review Due: 2025
Approval Authority: Chief Rodney Bryant		
Signature: Signed by RB		Date Signed: 9/7/2021

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1. PURPOSE

To establish policy and procedure for responding to states of emergency or disasters of natural or man-made origin.

2. POLICY

In the event of a declared state of emergency or during disasters of natural or man-made origin, the Atlanta Police Department shall operate in conjunction with and in the guidelines established by the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency (AFCEMA) and the Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS), to provide law enforcement services and other assistance as necessary. The AFCEMA shall serve as the primary authority in situations of natural and man-made disasters.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 The Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency (AFCEMA) is responsible for the coordination of services and the management of states of emergency and natural or man-made disasters that occur within the City of Atlanta and Fulton County.
- 3.2 The AFCEMA Director is responsible for coordinating emergency operations and the operation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as prescribed in the AFCEMA Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).
- 3.3 The Chief of Police, or his or her designee, is responsible for the direction and coordination of Department employees during states of emergency or natural or man-made disasters.



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- 3.4 The Incident Commander is responsible for coordinating emergency operations for the Department.
- 3.5 All employees are responsible for adhering to this directive and performing as directed by their supervisors.
- 3.6 The Special Operations Section (SOS) commander is responsible for coordinating the planning function for the Department's response to states of emergency or natural or man-made disasters, for liaison with AFCEMA, for reviewing and updating those plans as necessary. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.1)
- 3.7 The Training Section commander is responsible for coordinating the training of necessary employees on the ICS and evaluating the effectiveness of that training annually.
- 4 ACTION
 - 4.1 Concept of Operations
 - 4.1.1 All emergency operations require a consistent response from the Department, regardless of the specific cause or event in question.
 - 4.1.2 The EOP outlines a method of incident management called the ICS, which includes a coordinated (multi-unit and/or multi-agency) response to incidents beyond the scope of a normal patrol response and/or tactical unit activation. The ICS is designed for use in any situation but is particularly useful in incidents that require the on-scene management of facilities, personnel, procedures, communication, and planning.
 - 4.1.3 The ICS is designed as a management system that can be used as a guide for responding to any incident or situation, regardless of size. ICS is not intended to conflict with or preclude other standard operating procedures from being utilized and shall operate within established Department guidelines. The ICS is a component of NIMS.
 - 4.1.4 The ICS shall be activated and utilized in states of emergency and natural and man-made disasters that require the emergency mobilization of employees or the reallocation of on-duty employees and involve multiple agencies.
 - 4.1.5 The ICS, based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) method of emergency management, uses a combination of facilities, equipment, employees, procedures, and communications, operating within a common organizational structure, to effectively manage incidents.
 - 4.1.6 Police response shall be proportional to the incident. Small or localized incidents may be managed from a single command post near the scene. Larger incidents or incidents with multiple locations may be managed from the Department's Joint Operations Center (JOC) or the AFCEMA EOC, with command post(s) located wherever necessary.
 - 4.1.7 The first officer on the scene shall serve as the temporary Incident Commander and shall remain on the scene to coordinate agency response activities until relieved or otherwise directed by a supervisor.
 - 4.1.8 The first supervisor on the scene shall serve as Incident Commander and shall remain on the scene to direct and coordinate all agency response activities, deploy personnel, and coordinate



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additional support as needed until a transfer of command is initiated and completed. The position of Incident Commander shall transfer upwards through the chain of command after a senior ranking supervisor arrives on scene and notifies the supervisor serving as Incident Commander that he or she is taking command. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.1)

- 4.1.9 As additional employees arrive on scene, the Incident Commander shall appoint Branch Directors as necessary for the incident. Branch Directors shall assume sole responsibility for their assigned task or tasks and remain in close contact with the incident commander. Command branches may include but are not limited to inner perimeter; outer perimeter; traffic control; evacuation; staging; tactical; logistics; planning; finance; investigations; prisoner processing; and public facility security.
- 4.1.10 Upon activation of the AFCEMA EOP, the Department's Incident Commander shall operate and coordinate all activities in conjunction with AFCEMA.
- 4.1.11 Employees assigned to the incident shall follow the chain of command established for that incident. Employees not assigned to the incident shall follow the Department's normal chain of command.
- 4.2 Emergency Operations Plan
 - 4.2.1 Initial Response and Assessment of Incident
 - 1. The first officer on the scene shall:
 - a. Perform an initial evaluation of the situation;
 - b. Provide an assessment of the situation to Communications;
(CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6a)
 - c. Request assistance as necessary, to include police, fire, ambulance, etc.; and
 - d. Establish Incident Command.
 - 2. Responding officers on the scene shall:
 - a. Stabilize the situation as much as possible;
 - b. Establish a perimeter and begin traffic control; and
 - c. Evacuate all persons on the scene not responding to the incident, when appropriate.
 - 3. The first supervisor on the scene shall:
 - a. Review and verify the initial assessment of the situation made by the first officer on the scene;
 - b. Provide an updated assessment of the situation to Communications;
(CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6a)
 - c. Request assistance as necessary, to include additional personnel, outside agencies, additional equipment, etc.;



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- d. Establish a perimeter; and
- e. Supervise employees on scene responding to the incident.
- 4. The Incident Commander shall:
 - a. Assess the situation using all available information;
 - b. Request outside assistance as necessary;
 - c. Determine the employees, equipment, or specialized units/teams needed immediately to respond to the incident; (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6e)
 - d. Establish a command post(s) and a staging area(s);
 - e. Determine if the APD JOC needs to be activated or if the AFCEMA needs to be notified
 - f. Initiate evacuation plans if necessary;
 - g. Request specialized maps, situation maps, and site plans as needed; and
 - h. Provide all information to Communications. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6a)
- 5. Communications shall: (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6a)
 - a. Notify the Chief of Police by radio, telephone, or other means;
 - b. Notify the command staff by radio, telephone, or other means;
 - c. Notify all supervisors and employees of the employee deployment decision and staging areas; and
 - d. Contact AFCEMA as necessary.

4.2.2 Secondary Response to Incident

- 1. Command Post: (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.3b)
 - a. The command post is the central coordination point for employees and is the headquarters for the Incident Commander, the command staff, and the general staff. The command post should be close to the area of occurrence, but secure from it, in the "cold" zone of the area. The Mobile Command Post may be utilized upon a request to the SOS commander. Consideration should be given to the following in establishing a command post availability and security of parking; telephones; shelter; and restroom facilities.
 - b. Depending on the size and location of the incident, the Department's JOC may be activated. For multiple incidents, or incidents that require more than one command post, the Department's JOC shall serve as the point of coordination until the AFCEMA EOC is activated.



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2. Staging (assembly) area: (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.3f)
 - a. The staging area(s) should be a part of the command post location(s) if practical. When officers are expected to report, supervisors must staff the staging area to account for, organize, and brief the officers on the occurrence. It may also be appropriate at this time to emphasize any sensitive policy areas, such as crowd control, mass arrests, and the use of force. When practical, the staging area shall also be utilized as a central location for equipment storage and issuance.
 - b. Alternate staging areas for employees to utilize in the event that they are unable to reach the primary staging area shall be provided when possible.
3. Traffic Control and Control of Ingress and Egress Points:

An outer perimeter should be established around the area affected by the incident as soon as sufficient employees become available, to prevent unauthorized or unnecessary entry into the area and to account for and provide assistance to any persons leaving the area. Employees, barricades, and/or roadblocks should be deployed at all key points. (See APD. SOP. 3180 "Unusual Occurrences", section 4.1 for incidents requiring mass arrest.)
4. Mobilization of Personnel

The Chief of Police, or his or her designee, shall determine the scope and nature of the mobilization of Department employees. In addition to those officers currently on duty, additional employees may be obtained by holding the present watch over or by calling in off-duty officers, canceling off days, or extending the watches to twelve-hour shifts. (See Section 4.7 for additional information.)
5. Public Information (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.3g)
 - a. The Public Affairs Unit shall: be responsible for the release of all public information; coordinating community relations; providing casualty information; responding to media requests; rumor control; and communicating regularly with the Chief of Police and/or the Incident Commander.
 - i. All requests for information shall be referred to the Incident Commander or the Public Affairs Unit.
 - ii. Supervisors shall keep employees informed of the incident and provide them with up to date information as practicable.
 - iii. All employees shall disseminate appropriate information to the public to promote community relations.
 - iv. The Public Affairs Unit shall provide accurate and current information to the media and the public in order to prevent and correct rumors, avoid unnecessary speculation, and provide advance warning to the public if necessary. The Public Affairs Unit shall coordinate with AFCEMA after activation of the EOP.



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6. Transportation (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6b)
 - a. The primary mode of transportation for employees responding to the scene of an incident shall be with Department vehicles. Transportation requirements that cannot be met with Department resources and/or vehicles shall be forwarded to the Incident Commander or appropriate branch director for appropriate action. Additional transportation resources may also be obtained as outlined in the AFCEMA EOP.
 - b. During emergency mobilization, employees shall be personally responsible for reporting for duty using whatever means necessary. Employees who encounter problems reporting for duty must contact the appropriate supervisor.
7. Specialized Units and Equipment Needs (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6e)
 - a. Departmental equipment, units and teams that are needed shall be available upon request, in accordance with Department policy.
 - b. Specialized equipment, units and teams that are needed and not available within the Department may be requested and/or obtained through the Incident Commander and in accordance with the AFCEMA EOP.
8. Public Facility Security

If special security arrangements are necessary for various public facilities, the Department shall provide such security when sufficient employees are available. Potential trouble spots and vulnerable security points that must be considered in relation to the nature and area of the occurrence include:

 - a. City Hall, 55 Trinity Avenue, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303;
 - b. Atlanta Pre-Trial Detention Center, 236 Peachtree Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303;
 - c. Grady Memorial Hospital Detention, 80 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, SE, Atlanta, Georgia 30303;
 - d. Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency (AFCEMA), 130 Peachtree Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303;
 - e. Atlanta Public Safety Headquarters, 226 Peachtree Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303;
 - f. Police Precincts and facilities;
 - g. Police tower sites;
 - h. Public utility facilities; schools; hospitals; medical facilities; and other locations as necessary;
 - i. Public Safety Annex, 3493 Donald Lee Hollowell Parkway, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30331 and
 - j. E911 Communications Center. (CONFIDENTIAL ADDRESS)



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9. Outside Agency Support

- a. Assistance from outside agencies may be requested by the Incident Commander in accordance with Department policy, Memorandums of Understanding (MOU), and as outlined in the AFCEMA EOP.
- b. Upon Declaration of a State of Emergency, the Mayor of Atlanta is empowered to close the streets and sidewalks in the area of occurrence; impose emergency curfews in the area of occurrence; close businesses or establishments in the area of occurrence; and do any and all acts necessary and incidental to the preservation of life, limb, and property of the citizenry of the City (Atlanta Code Section 2-181). The Mayor of Atlanta or the Director of the AFCEMA may also request the Governor of Georgia to provide Georgia National Guard assistance as outlined in the AFCEMA EOP (OCGA § 38-2-6b).
- c. Upon Declaration of a State of Emergency by the Governor of Georgia, state resources may be obtained through Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) at the State Operations Center. The Governor has the power, in case of invasion, disaster, insurrection, riot, breach of the peace, combination to oppose the enforcement of the law by force or violence, or imminent danger thereof, or other grave emergency, to order all or any part of the organized militia into the active service of the state for such period, to such extent, and in such manner as he may deem necessary. Such power includes the power to order the organized militia or any part thereof to function under the operational control of the United States Army, Navy, or Air Force commander in charge of the defense of any area within the state which is invaded or attacked or is or may be threatened with invasion or attack (OCGA 38-2-6a).
- d. Federal military assistance may be requested by the Governor of Georgia if the situation exceeds the capability of the State to respond. The Governor can impose martial law.
- e. The Incident Commander can request legal support or advice from the City Law Department, courts, and/or the district attorney's office as necessary.

10. Communications (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6a)

- a. Communications shall provide radio support for all employees; request support and assistance from outside agencies as directed; and coordinate communications with outside agencies as necessary. All employees assigned to the incident shall utilize the talk group that is designated by the Communications Section. All radio communications shall be in accordance with Department policy.
- b. All radio communications shall be in "plain talk", not using Department signals and codes, for incidents involving more than one agency.

11. Minimal Service Levels

In order to ensure sufficient employees are available for the incident, minimal service levels shall be maintained for any area not directly affected by the incident. Minimum service levels are designed to free police employees for work that is directly associated with the occurrence and other critical functions and shall be determined by the respective zone



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commander or other commander. In those areas that are not directly affected by the incident, calls for service shall be handled as follows:

- a. Priority One: calls that require immediate attention to a potentially life-threatening situation.
- b. Priority Two: calls that require attention when it is reasonably available but do not require an emergency response.
- c. Priority Three: routine calls for service that would normally require officer presence, but which may be delayed until the incident in question has been resolved.

12. Recording Personnel Time

The Incident Commander or designee may direct special forms and procedures for recording time worked by employees. He or she may designate a particular person or plan for the submission of time records. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.7a)

13. Supplies and Expenses

- a. The Incident commander or his or her designee may appoint a person and create a procedure for obtaining supplies and procuring resources.
(CALEA 6th ed. Standards 46.1.6d and 46.1.7b)
- b. The Incident commander or his or her designee may direct an employee to record the expenses of the Department's response to the incident.
(CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.7c)

14. Medical Support (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6c)

The logistics branch commander shall coordinate with ambulance services, Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFR), and emergency rooms for medical support in accordance with the AFCEMA EOP.

4.2.3 Activation of the AFCEMA EOP

1. AFCEMA is responsible for the emergency management of emergencies or natural or man-made disasters that occur within the City of Atlanta and Fulton County and shall activate the EOP as necessary during emergencies and natural and man-made disasters.
2. The AFCEMA EOC is located at 130 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 and serves as the primary operations center during states of emergency. The APD JOC located on the second floor of the Atlanta Public Safety Headquarters serves as the alternate emergency operations center.
3. The Chief of Police or his or her designee is responsible for the direction and coordination of Department employees during emergencies or natural or man-made disasters. The Chief of Police, or his or her designee, shall occupy the AFCEMA EOC and provide support and assistance as outlined in the AFCEMA EOP.
4. As outlined in the AFCEMA EOP, the Department shall have primary responsibility for law enforcement within the City of Atlanta and for incidents involving terrorism. The Department



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shall provide support and assistance as it concerns: transportation; communication and warning; mass care and shelter; search and rescue services; hazardous materials, and evacuations.

4.3 Demobilization Procedures

4.3.1 As the incident is brought under control, the Department shall perform the following functions during the transition to normal operations:

1. Assist in the safe return of evacuated persons;
2. Provide security or assistance to outside agencies if necessary;
3. Provide law enforcement services to prevent looting or other forms of disorder;
4. Release outside law enforcement agencies, National Guard, etc.; and
5. Prepare news releases and provide media with information.

4.4 Post Occurrence Procedures

4.4.1 At the conclusion of the incident, the Department shall perform the following functions:

1. Prepare an After-Action Report;
2. Participate with AFCEMA on any After Action Reports or briefings;
3. Procure, repair, replace, and/or replenish Department equipment; (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.7e)
4. Post- incident investigation;
5. Revise or update plans for future incidents; and
6. Prepare all ICS forms.

4.5 After Action Report (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.3i)

4.5.1 An After-Action Report must be prepared for by the Incident Commander and submitted to the Chief of Police, division commanders, Financial Management Unit and the Planning, Research and Accreditation Unit within 30 days after the incident. The report should include the views and experiences of others involved in the incident. Each After Action Report must contain the following information:

1. The nature of the unusual occurrence;
2. A description of the police action;
3. Injuries, deaths and liability issues;
4. Loss of equipment;



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5. Incident log (if maintained);
6. Any need for additional training;
7. Improved techniques;
8. Recommended policy changes;
9. Revision of operational procedures; and
10. Need for improved community liaison and intelligence.

4.6 Mutual Aid

- 4.6.1 Title 38 of the State Code of Georgia (OCGA) deals in depth with emergency management and the rendering of mutual aid and the establishment of mutual aid agreements.
- 4.6.2 Under the guidelines set by OCGA § 38-3-27 authorizes a political subdivision to make available police, fire, and other emergency management services and equipment to other political subdivisions.
- 4.6.3 Under the guidelines set by OCGA § 38-3-30 grants the same powers, duties, and privileges to employees of the assisting agency as if they were in their own jurisdiction.
- 4.6.4 Under the guidelines set by OCGA § 36-69-3, 36-69-3.1, 38-3-27 and 38-3-30, there are no restrictions on the use of outside aid pursuant to mutual aid.
- 4.6.5 Pursuant to OCGA, in the event that outside assistance is required or rendered, the normal chain of command shall apply. Specific information shall be required when mutual aid is either requested or being provided, and the following information must be obtained from or given to the other agency: the contact person for both assisting and requesting agencies; the nature of the occurrence and services requested; and the staging location for responding personnel.
- 4.7 Employee Mobilization Plan
 - 4.7.1 The Chief of Police or his or her designee shall determine the Department's threat level in accordance with APD.SOP.3184 "Threat Level Advisories and Responses".
 - 4.7.2 The Chief of Police, or his or her designee, shall determine the number of employees needed to respond to the incident, and whether or not to implement 12 hour shifts and/or cancel off days and vacation or compensatory time. Communications shall be responsible for notifying, via radio or telephone, all on-duty supervisors of the deployment decision and staging area(s).
 - 4.7.3 The Human Resources Unit commander shall be responsible for preparing written instructions for those who shall be calling off duty employees to standardize the information to be given; prepare a format to record the success of calls; assigning employees as designated by the Incident Commander; and planning, monitoring, and providing assistance in personnel and payroll matters. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.7a)
 - 4.7.4 The Human Recourses Unit, Communications Section, and on duty supervisors shall be responsible for notifying all persons in their command, both on and off duty, by radio, telephone, or other means, of the deployment decision, the day and time that they are to report for duty, the staging area (location) at which they are to report, and an alternate staging area if necessary.



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4.7.5 All employees shall be responsible for reporting to duty with all of the necessary equipment that has been assigned to them. The Property Control Unit commander shall be responsible for the distribution of any equipment needed that has not already been assigned to employees, to include but not limited to gas masks, riot gear, barricades, etc. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6e)

4.7.6 Specialized units shall be activated as necessary by the Chief of Police or the Incident Commander in accordance with Department policy. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.6e)

4.7.7 Key Staff Designations

The Incident Commander shall designate such staff and subordinate commanders as needed for an effective police response to the incident. A given occurrence may not require all of the following staff and subordinate assignments, and it may be appropriate to give individuals more than one assignment.

1. The Incident Commander shall designate at least one deputy incident commander, one of whom must be in the command post at all times.
2. The Chief of Police or designee shall occupy the APD JOC or the AFCEMA EOC (if activated).
3. The Chief of Staff or designee shall occupy the APD JOC or the AFCEMA EOC (if activated).
4. The Field Operations Division (FOD) commander, or his or her designee, is responsible for the following functions: inner perimeter; outer perimeter; traffic control; maintaining security of the incident scene; and evacuation (CALEA 6th ed. Standards 46.1.4 a, b, c, and e).
5. The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) commander, or his or her designee, is responsible for the following functions: staging, maintaining security of the command post; public facility security; investigations during the incident and the follow-up; and coordinating detainee transportation, processing, and confinement with the Department of Corrections (APD. SOP. 3180 "Unusual Occurrences") (CALEA 6th ed. Standards 46.1.4 c, d, and f).
6. The Support Services Division (SSD) commander, or his or her designee, is responsible for the following logistics, finance, and administration functions: communications, transportation and fleet management, medical support, supplies, specialized team and equipment needs, recording expenses, documenting injuries and liability issues, and providing a scribe to document and maintain detailed notes of all aspects of the occurrence. (CALEA 6th ed. Standards 46.1.4 a, b, c, and e)
7. The SOS commander, or his or her designee, is responsible for tactical operations.
8. The Incident Commander shall designate a planning section chief who shall be responsible for preparing the incident action plan; gathering and disseminating information and intelligence and planning post-incident de-escalation and demobilization. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.5)



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- 4.8 Emergency Equipment Readiness Inventory
(CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.8)
1. Units that maintain an inventory of emergency equipment shall provide readiness reports to the SOS commander on a quarterly basis listing each inventory item of emergency operations equipment under their control. The SSD commander shall identify those units that maintain an inventory of emergency equipment and ensure that equipment remains in a state of readiness.
 2. The readiness report shall contain the following information:
 - a. Number and type of equipment;
 - b. Condition of the equipment;
 - c. Any required repairs or replacement; and
 - d. Location of the equipment and procedure for access.
- 4.9 SOS Responsibilities
- 4.9.1 The SOS commander shall ensure that his or her staff maintains current maps of the City and surrounding areas. These maps shall be maintained in sufficient quantity by the SOS Administrative Office in order to provide for their use when necessary.
- 4.9.2 The SOS commander shall review, and update plans related to states of emergency and natural or man-made disasters as necessary at least annually. Any relevant changes shall also be requested in the AFCEMA Emergency Operations Manual. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 46.1.2)
- 4.9.3 The SOS commander shall establish and maintain liaison activities with the AFCEMA and other Emergency Management Services authorities.
- 4.9.4 The SOS commander shall ensure that the AFCEMA EOP is accessible to all command staff and key personnel.
- 4.9.5 At least once annually, the SOS commander shall coordinate, conduct, and document a training exercise, either full scale or tabletop, to include
1. Notification of command staff and key personnel;
 2. Rehearsal of the Emergency Mobilization Plan;
 3. Notification of AFCEMA and outside agencies as necessary; and
 4. Provision of resources necessary for the incident. This shall include actual contact with the applicable sources to ensure up-to-date contact procedures.
- 4.10 Legal Authority
- 4.10.1 Atlanta City Code Section 2-181; Chapter 50 Emergency Management



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- 4.10.2 Fulton County Code PART II, Chapter 26 – Environmental Protection, Chapter 30 – Fire Safety, Chapter 130 – Emergency Management.
- 4.10.3 State of Georgia, Emergency Management Act, 1981, as amended, Georgia Code Chapter 38-3.
- 4.10.4 Federal Response Plan for Public Law 93-288, as amended.
- 4.10.5 US Code, TITLE 42, Chapter 116, Subchapter 1, Sec. 110005, SARA TITLE 3, Sections 301 – 303, 304, et al.
- 5. DEFINITIONS
 - 5.1 Atlanta Fulton County Emergency Management Agency: a joint agency responsible for the development and implementation of emergency response operations for the City of Atlanta and Fulton County jurisdictions.
 - 5.2 Command Post: An area in close proximity to the location of the unusual occurrence that is used by supervisors and commanders for the coordination of the police action at the field level.
 - 5.3 Command Staff: Sworn employees at the rank of major, deputy chief, and Chief of Police
 - 5.4 Emergency Operations Center (EOC): A central facility located at 130 Peachtree St. SW designed to accommodate City and County officials for the effective coordination of emergency response operations.
 - 5.5 Emergencies or Natural or Man-made Disasters: large scale man-made or natural hazards resulting in severe property damage, injuries and/or death within a community or multi-jurisdictional area that requires local, state, and/or federal assistance to alleviate damage, loss, hardship, or suffering. Examples include: civil disturbances, earthquake, major fire, flood, hazardous materials, hurricane or tropical storm, radiological incident, terrorism, tornado, transportation accident, winter storm.
 - 5.6 Incident Commander: The person responsible for all aspects of an emergency response; including quickly developing incident objectives, managing all incident operations, application of resources as well as responsibility for all persons involved. The Incident Commander sets priorities and defines the organization of the incident response teams and the overall Incident Action Plan. The role of Incident Commander may be assumed by senior or higher qualified officers upon their arrival or as the situation dictates. Even if subordinate positions are not assigned, the Incident Commander position will always be designated or assumed. The Incident Commander may, at their own discretion, assign officers, who may be from the same agency or from assisting agencies, to subordinate or specific positions for the duration of the Emergency. Depending on the incident, the Incident Commander could also be staffed by a non-Departmental entity within the Unified Command structure, such as the Department of Fire Rescue.
 - 5.7 Incident Command System: ICS is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazard incident management concept in the United States. It is a management protocol originally designed for emergency management agencies and later federalized. ICS is based upon a flexible, scalable response organization providing a common framework within which people can work together effectively. These people may be drawn from multiple agencies that do not routinely work together, and ICS is designed to give standard response and operation procedures to reduce the problems and potential for miscommunication on such incidents. ICS has been summarized as a "first-on-scene" structure, where the first responder of a scene has charge of the scene until the incident



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has been declared resolved, a superior-ranking responder arrives on scene and assumes command, or the Incident Commander appoints another individual as Incident Commander.

- 5.8 Joint Operations Center (JOC): The Departmental facility, located on the second floor of the Public Safety Headquarters Building, designed to accommodate Departmental employees for the effective coordination of emergency response operations.
- 5.9 National Incident Management System (NIMS): While most emergency situations are handled locally, when there is a major incident help may be needed from other jurisdictions, including the state and the federal government. The NIMS was developed so responders from different jurisdictions and disciplines can work together better to respond to natural disasters and emergencies, including acts of terrorism. The NIMS benefits include a unified approach to incident management; standard command and management structures; and emphasis on preparedness mutual aid and resource management.

- 5.10 Staging Area: An area designated for the assembly of police personnel for the purpose of briefing, equipping, assignment, or deployment.

6. CANCELLATIONS

APD.SOP.3181, "Emergency Operations Plan"; issued September 15, 2017.

7. REFERENCES

Atlanta Fulton County Emergency Management Agency (AFCEMA) Emergency Operations Plan

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) 6th ed. Standards; 46.1.1, 46.1.2, 46.1.3b, f, g, and I, 46.1.4, 46.1.5, 46.1.6, 46.1.7a, b, c, and e, and 46.1.8.

Atlanta City Code Section 2-181

Fulton County Code PART II, Chapter 26 – Environmental Protection, Chapter 30 – Fire Safety, Chapter 130 – Emergency Management

Georgia Code Chapter 36-69-3, 36-69-3.1, 38-2-69a and b, 38-3-27, and 38-3-30.

Federal Response Plan for Public Law 93-288, as amended

US Code, TITLE 42, Chapter 116, Subchapter 1, Sec. 110005, SARA TITLE 3, Sections 301 – 303, 304, et al

APD.SOP.3180, "Unusual Occurrences"

APD.SOP.3184, "Threat Level Advisories and Responses"

8. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No changes made to content. Only minor formatting changes were made.