



U.S. General Services Administration

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GENERAL

The General Services Administration (GSA) provides logistic and telecommunications support to federal agencies. During an emergency situation, GSA quickly responds to aid state and local governments as directed by other federal agencies. The type of support provided might include leasing and furnishing office space, setting up telecommunications and transportation services, and advisory assistance. In November 2006, GSA established the Office of Emergency Response and Recovery to better assist the country during national disasters.

Mission and Goals

The GSA leverages the buying power of the federal government to acquire best value for taxpayers and our federal customers. They exercise responsible asset management and deliver workplaces, quality acquisition services, and expert business solutions. We develop innovative and effective management policies.

The strategic goals of GSA include:

- **Stewardship:** Lead federal agencies in the economical and efficient management of federal assets by spearheading effective policy development and by the exemplary management of the buildings/workplaces, motor vehicles, and personal property provided by GSA.
- **Superior Workplaces:** Deliver and maintain productive workplaces consisting of office space, furnishings, technology supplies, and related services.
- **Best Value:** Develop and deliver timely, accurate, and cost-effective acquisition services and business solutions.
- **Innovation:** Develop new and better ways of conducting business that result in more productive and effective federal policies and administrative operations.

The mission of GSA's Office of Emergency Response and Recovery is to promote planning and coordination of disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery against natural or man-made incidents.

The office, comprised of four divisions and one team, reports directly to GSA's Chief of Staff:

- **Policy and Plans Division** develops and implements agency-wide policies, plans and procedures, performance standards and measures related to GSA's roles and responsibilities.
- **Training and Exercise Division** develops and implements agency-wide disaster readiness programs and also serves as the lead for the coordination of agency participation in international, national, state and local disaster exercise programs.
- **Disaster Support Division** provides emergency acquisition support, emergency real property management and on-the-ground liaison between GSA field organizations and headquarters during disasters.
- **Communications and Security Division** coordinates internal, interagency and external communication regarding planning, response and recovery and develops strategic security plans and policies.
- **Historic Preservation Team** integrates emergency historic preservation requirements in all response and recovery plans and operations.

Role/Responsibility

During a response, under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (NCP) for oil and hazardous materials, under the Stafford Act for presidentially declared disasters or emergency, or under the National Response Framework, GSA plays a significant role in the federal response. Their primary strategic role is to provide resource support as requested to meet the needs of the affected population.

Laws/Authorities Governing their Response (to be reviewed)

- The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)
- National Response Framework (NRF)
- Executive Order 12472 — Assignment of national security and emergency preparedness telecommunications functions
- Executive Order 12656 — Assignment Of Emergency Preparedness Responsibilities
- Executive Order 12148 — Federal Emergency Management



Laws/Authorities Governing their Response (con't) (to be reviewed)

- Executive Order 12777 - Outlines the responsibilities of certain Federal agencies in preventing and containing discharges of oil and hazardous substances
- The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
- The Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act
- Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies Act
- The Defense Production Act of 1950 as Amended
- The National Emergencies Act
- HSPD-5 - Management of Domestic Incidents
- HSPD-7 - Critical Infrastructure
- HSPD-8 - National Preparedness
- HSPD-9 - Defense of United States Agriculture and Food

Response Requirements

During times of national threat or a Presidential Declaration, the Department of Homeland Security serves as the planning integrator for the President for a more robust federal incident management capability and in order to coordinate all Federal incident Management Activities in support of our State and local partners. All Federal departments and agencies may play significant roles in incident management and response activities, depending on the nature and size of an event. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) coordinates response support from across the Federal Government and certain non-governmental organizations (NGOs) by calling up, as needed, one or more of the 15 Emergency Support Functions (ESFs).

Each of these functions are coordinated by a single agency (Primary ESF Coordinating Agency) but may rely on other agencies (Support Agencies) to provide resources for each functional area. The mission of the ESFs is to provide the greatest possible access to capabilities of the Federal Government regardless of which agency has those capabilities. Under the National Response Framework (formerly known as the National Response Plan), GSA and its member offices and services play a role (either as the Primary or as a Support agency) for the following ESFs:

ESF #	Primary Agency	Support Agency
1 Transportation		X
2 Communications		X
3 Public Works & Engineering		X
4 Firefighting		
5 Emergency Management		X
6 Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Services		X
7 Logistics Management and Resource Support	X	
8 Public Health and Medical Services		X
9 Search and Rescue		
10 Oil and Hazardous Materials Response		X
11 Agriculture and Natural Resources		X
12 Energy		
13 Public Safety and Security		
14 Long-Term Community Recovery		
15 External Affairs		X