

Massachusetts Emergency Support Function 9

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Responsible Agencies

State Agencies

Primary State Agency

Department of Fire Services

Supporting State Agencies

Massachusetts State Police

Massachusetts Environmental Police

Massachusetts Task Force 1

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Massachusetts National Guard

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Supporting Federal Agencies

United States Coast Guard

United States Air Force

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Civil Air Patrol - Massachusetts Wing

1.0. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Purpose

Massachusetts Emergency Support Function 9 (MAESF-9) *Search and Rescue* provides a framework for coordination and cooperation across state agencies and response partner organizations to support and assist local jurisdictions in technical and non-technical search and rescue operations before, during, and after a disaster or emergency in the Commonwealth when needs exceed available local resources or capabilities. Operations may include searches for missing persons, aircraft and/or marine vessels, extrication of victims from confined spaces, and immediate medical support of located victims.

1.2. Scope

This annex is applicable to agencies and departments of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as well as affiliated response partners with a role in supporting search and rescue response activities.

The following are the objectives of MAESF-9:

- Establish a framework for coordinating state-level assistance to local communities related to emergency search and rescue preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery activities.
- Coordinate resources to support search and rescue operations at the state level to protect life and maximize the efficient use of the available resources.
- Share information and coordinate response activities across pertinent state-level agencies and response partner organizations regarding search and rescue related requests for assistance in a manner that ensures consistency with established state search and rescue policies and procedures.
- Provide state-level situational awareness and expertise on the status of pertinent search and rescue operations.
- Coordinate personnel and equipment resources to support and assist local communities in search and rescue operations to include:

1.3. Policies

- This Annex supports and does not supplant existing local, state, or federal search and rescue plans or policies.
- As an incident requires, or at the direction of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Director, MAESF-9 will be activated to coordinate resources to support search and rescue response.
- MAESF-9 will operate from the State Emergency Operations Center. The MEMA SEOC will provide overall direction and control for coordination of resources in support of the incident.

- Local search and rescue assets will remain the control of the respective jurisdiction.
- MAESF-9 will coordinate search and rescue assistance to cities and towns through resource support including personnel, equipment, facilities, materials, supplies, and technical support/subject matter expertise as needed and available.
- Responsible agencies under MAESF-9 will coordinate to make available search and rescue resources wherever possible to perform mission assignments.
- The life safety of victims and rescuers is the priority for state assistance.
- Search and rescue operations will be conducted using the principles of NIMS and ICS.
- All agencies assigned responsibilities within MAESF-9 will develop and maintain any necessary search and rescue plans, standard operating procedures, mutual aid agreements and model contracts to successfully accomplish their tasks.
- Requests for State or Federal search and rescue assets will be made through the MEMA SEOC or MEMA Regional Emergency Operations Centers (REOCs).
- In accordance with current agreements, MEMA has the authority to activate the Massachusetts Task Force 1 (MA-TF 1) as a state resource, as needed.
- FEMA will activate the National Search and Rescue Response System, as needed.

2.0 SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

2.1. Situation

A major or emergency disaster may result in large numbers of displaced, stranded, lost, or trapped individuals needing prompt rescue and medical attention. Because the first 72 hours of an incident that may require search and rescue operations are crucial to the survivability of victims, search and rescue must begin as soon as possible. In addition, secondary events or disasters may threaten survivors as well as search and rescue personnel.

Search and rescue personnel may deal with extensive damage to buildings, roadways, bridges, and public works or other utility structures. Fires, explosions, flooding, and hazardous materials spills or releases may compound problems and threaten both survivors of the disaster and rescue personnel alike. In the event of an act of terrorism, search and rescue operations may need to be conducted in close coordination with law enforcement crime scene investigation procedures.

In addition, search and rescue missions may be required when an Emergency Landing Transmitter (ELT) signals and/or Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reports of an overdue aircraft is received, a request is made by local government officials for assistance in locating a missing person, or to locate survivors of natural or man-made emergencies.

2.2. Planning Assumptions

- Local cities and towns have resources, plans and procedures in place to support emergency management response.
- Many search and rescue related incidents will be local in scope and can be addressed by local or state agencies as part of normal day to day operations using resources readily available to them.
- When an incident occurs, local governments will use all available resources, including those available through mutual aid or private sector assets, before making a request for state or federal resources.
- The State has resources and expertise that can be used to supplement local efforts. Federal assistance may be requested to support state and local efforts if an incident exceeds state and local capabilities
- Local governments will request state assistance only when an incident exceeds local resources and capabilities.
- When the SEOC is activated in anticipation of or response to emergency/disaster with impacts to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, MAESFs needed to support response are activated.
- Agencies and organizations with roles and responsibilities under MAESF-9 will designate and deploy appropriate representatives to the SEOC to coordinate the functions of MAESF-9.
- MAESF-9 will coordinate with local government, state agencies, and other MAESFs to address emergency search and rescue needs.
- Individuals representing agencies that are staffing the SEOC should have extensive knowledge of the resources and capabilities of their respective agency and have access to the appropriate authority for committing such resources.
- State, local and federal government, private sector and volunteer agencies assigned responsibilities involving emergency/disaster search and rescue issues have established operating procedures specifying their emergency support service actions and will be able to communicate and coordinate these actions in an emergency to best utilize available capabilities.
- Coordination and direction of volunteers that may support a search and rescue operation will be required.

3.0. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

3.1. General

This annex will be activated at the direction of MEMA when there is potential for or an actual disaster situation involving search and rescue operations in Massachusetts. MEMA will notify the primary agency at the time of State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) activation to provide overall coordination with MAESF-9. All other agencies with responsibilities under MASEF 9 will serve as support agencies. The primary agency will provide direction and work in conjunction with the support agencies to cohesively coordinate the activities of MAESF-9.

During an emergency or disaster, MAESF-9 will coordinate search and rescue support to local operations through coordination of State personnel and equipment from support organizations and volunteer agencies. Supporting agencies will provide additional staff support for the MAESF-9 in the SEOC as needed.

Responsibility for situation assessment and determination of resource needs rests with the local jurisdiction in coordination with MAESF-9 and the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). State assets will assist and augment the local on search and rescue responsibilities and efforts.

MAESF-9 reports to the SEOC Operations Section, with an indirect report to the Planning Section. Depending on the size, scope, and complexity of the incident, the SEOC organizational chart may be expanded, to ensure proper Span of Control is maintained. To accommodate this, the ESFs may be aligned in appropriate Branches, with similar MAESF's grouped together. In this scenario, MAESF-9 will be organized under the Emergency Services Branch, together with MAESF's 4 and 13.

3.2. Organization

- All personnel and activities associated with MAESF-9 will operate under the Incident Command System.
- The Department of Fire Services (DFS) has been designated the primary agency for MAESF-9.
- The primary agency will staff the MAESF-9 work station, identify which support agencies for MAESF-9 are needed, activate support agencies or place them on standby. The lead coordination agency will ensure all agencies assigned to MAESF-9 respond to requests for local search and rescue assistance.
- Each agency shall designate a minimum of two people who can serve as representatives for their agency at the SEOC to support MAESF-9 activities. The designated agency representatives should have extensive knowledge of the resources and capabilities of their respective agency and have access to the appropriate authority for committing such resources to support the response to the incident.

3.3. Notification

MEMA will notify the MAESF-9 points of contact for each activated organization or agency to report to the SEOC for coordination and implementation of search and rescue related requests for assistance, and maintain situational awareness on the status of search and rescue operations.

- The designated agencies notified will report to the SEOC if so advised or requested and notify agency personnel of the impending or actual event. Each MAESF-9 organization or agency is responsible for securing sufficient staff on a continuous basis to support and carry out activities tasked to their agency.
- Determining who is to be notified will be based on the incident type and demands or potential demands of the event.
- Responsible agencies activated for the incident under MAESF-9 will notify their pertinent contacts to identify available resources and, if needed, place them on standby.

3.4. Activities

Responsible agencies for MAESF-9 should conduct the following actions:

a. Prevention Actions

- Communicate and share information across agencies with search and rescue responsibilities.
- Collaborate and coordinate on search and rescue related prevention and security initiatives.
- Identify opportunities to collaborate on search and rescue related training and operations in the Commonwealth.
- Identify potential search and rescue issues and collaborate to develop or recommend protocols, procedures, and policies to prevent or mitigate their effects.

b. Preparedness Actions

- MEMA will convene regular meetings of MAESF-9 stakeholders and/or Emergency Support Function (ESF) Team.
- Develop and maintain internal agency search and rescue plans, procedures, resource directories, and emergency contact lists to support MAESF-9 activities.
- Ensure policies and procedures are in place to access directory information and quickly notify personnel in support of this plan.
- Develop and maintain a system for receipt and dissemination of information, data, and directives pertaining to search and rescue operations to agencies and organizations supporting this plan.
- Maintain current inventories of search and rescue facilities, equipment, and materials and supplies by agency and type to ensure a timely response.

- Pre-plan for distribution and allocation of available State resources to support the overall search and rescue mission.
- Ensure that all responsible agencies have pre-designated staff available to support SEOC operations during activations.
- Ensure that MAESF-9 stakeholders notify MEMA of staff changes.
- Maintain liaison with federal search and rescue assets and plan for reception of external assets.
- Regularly review and coordinate updates to this annex.
- Participate in appropriate training and exercise opportunities to test and validate this plan.

c. Response Actions

Pre-Impact

Upon receiving notification to report to the SEOC in preparation of an incident, MAESF-9 agencies and organizations will complete the following actions commensurate with emergency priorities within the state and based on the availability of resources. Activities will be coordinated through the SEOC which will serve as the source of all direction and control.

- Provide appropriate representative(s) to the SEOC to support MAESF-9 pre-incident planning activities.
- Maintain communications within the SEOC, obtain status reports, and keep the SEOC informed of the progress of assigned tasks.
- Notify the appropriate points of contact at each respective agency and organization to pre-position resources and response personnel as needed.
- Review existing plans and procedures.
- Ensure respective agency decision makers are kept informed of the situation.
- Test communications systems.
- Coordinate information to verify search and rescue activities, capabilities, and inventories of available resources and report this information on a regular basis via a summary listing to the SEOC Operations Chief.
- Coordinate the mobilization and pre-positioning of search and rescue response resources pre-incident, once it is apparent that state search and rescue resources will be required, or as requested by the SEOC Manager.
- Provide situational awareness information to the SEOC Planning Section as needed.
- Coordinate with other MAESFs as needed.

Initial Response

- If agency has not already done so, provide appropriate representatives to the SEOC to support MAESF-9.

- Verify inventories of available resources and personnel and provide a summary listing to the SEOC Operations Section Chief.
- Identify and coordinate the pre-positioning of needed resources to the nearest staging area(s) as needed.
- Establish communications with appropriate field personnel to coordinate resources to support response efforts and gain situational awareness.
- Obtain a general description of the situation as it pertains to MAESF-9 and analyze any operational support requirements.
- Implement predetermined cost accounting measures for tracking overall costs, to include personnel, equipment, materials and other costs incurred during emergency search and rescue support activities.
- Coordinate with MAESF-1 *Transportation* regarding any needed assets to transport search and rescue personnel and equipment to affected areas.
- Coordinate with other MAESFs to coordinate equipment and supplies needed for both non-technical and technical search and rescue missions.
- Collect and disseminate information and intelligence related to search and rescue operations for disasters or emergencies, either existing or pending.
- Initiate notification of personnel and support organizations required to support emergency operations.
- Gather and provide information for the SEOC Roster and Situational Awareness Statements to the SEOC Planning Section as needed. In addition, use information provided by the SEOC Planning Section to plan effective response actions.
- Coordinate with Federal Emergency Support Function (ESF) counterparts as needed.

Continuing Response

- Coordinate resources to support search and rescue mission requests, response operations, and related service/resource requests.
- Coordinate with state, local, volunteer, and federal search and rescue personnel as necessary.
- Track committed resources for possible redeployment and other purposes, and provide regular updates on the status of all missions assigned to SEOC Operations Section Chief.
- Conduct ongoing assessments of search and rescue priorities and strategies to ensure adequate resources to support critical search and rescue operational needs with a priority on life safety.
- Coordinate state-level technical assistance and resources for search and rescue missions.
- Continue to monitor, gather, and provide search and rescue situational awareness information for reports and/or statements to the SEOC Planning Section, as needed.
- Use information provided by the SEOC Planning Section and Operations Section to plan effective response actions.

- Plan for and establish relief resources to replace or rotate resources committed for extended periods.
- Ensure briefings are conducted during MAESF-9 shift changes and at designated times throughout the event.
- Coordinate with MAESF-8 *Public Health and Medical Services*, to coordinate assets to provide mental health, crisis counseling, and medical care as part of search and rescue operations.

d. Recovery Actions

- Continue to provide search and rescue support on an as needed basis during the recovery phase.
- Coordinate resources to assist and provide technical support and expertise to MEMA damage assessment teams.
- Identify anticipated recovery needs for MAESF-9 resources, manpower and equipment.
- Inventory any lost or damaged equipment and record any personnel injuries or equipment accidents.
- Participate in after action meetings and review after-action reports.
- Coordinate with support agencies to ensure financial tracking of all deployed assets and adequate cost accounting measures are being used. Generate summary reports and share with the SEOC.
- Draft recommendations for after-action reports and other reports.

e. Mitigation Actions

- Provide MAESF-9 agency representatives to planning meetings.
- Identify potential search and rescue issues and collaborate to develop or recommend plans, protocols, procedures, and policies to prevent or mitigate their effects.
- Conduct assessments of MAESF-9 capabilities to identify potential shortfalls.
- As needed, develop plans to mitigate identified shortfalls of resources.

4.0. RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1. MAESF-9 Primary Agency Responsibilities

MEMA and MAESF-9 responsible agencies shall develop an organizational structure for coordinating, planning, implementing, and monitoring mission assignments according to the MAESF concept.

- Regularly meet and coordinate with MAESF-9 supporting agencies, to:
 - Maintain a list of critical contacts, noting any changes to MEMA
 - Maintain a list of ESF-specific assets which could be deployed during an emergency
 - Maintain the ESF-9 Toolkit
 - Report any unmet needs to MEMA
- Staff the MAESF-9 work station at the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).
- Maintain Situational Awareness, monitor weather conditions, and ensure a state of readiness for the ESF.
- As needed, pre-stage resources to support MAESF-9 requirements.
- Identify additional agencies required to support MAESF-9 at the SEOC. Develop and maintain a roster of personnel to staff the MAESF-9 desk at the SEOC with sufficient staffing for 24-hour operations.
- Serve as the lead for all MAESF-9 activities, maintaining situational awareness of all MAESF-9 agency activities and serving as the primary point of contact in the SEOC for MAESF-9.
- Coordinate with all MAESF agencies and MEMA to manage search and rescue resources and prioritize search and rescue needs, prioritizing the protection of life and property.
- Determine initial and ongoing activities through established information gathering procedures and provide this information to SEOC for dissemination.
- Coordinate with local, state and federal agencies and other support MAESFs as needed.
- Regularly update the SEOC Resource Unit via WebEOC on the status of resource requests assigned to MAESF-9, and the status of deployed assets.
- Determine needs and resolve issues regarding resource requirements and shortages.
- Ensure complete logs of actions taken, resources used and other activities are created and maintained.
- Ensure that necessary cost accounting measures are being used by all MAESF-9 agencies and that summary reports are generated as needed and shared with the SEOC command staff.
- Ensure the overall coordination and provision of situational awareness by MAESF-9.

- Ensure that agencies assigned to MAESF-9, in coordination with MEMA, are responding to assigned requests for assistance.
- Coordinate with MAESF-8 *Public Health and Medical Services* to assist with medical needs and transportation of victims beyond initial collection points.
- Serve as a liaison between and the SEOC and support agencies that have been activated to support search and rescue missions.
- Maintain MAESF-9 plans and procedures to be implemented during emergency operations.
- While Primary Agencies are designated in advance, this may be subject to change during an SEOC Activation, dependent on the specific circumstances and needs of the incident, and therefore the agency most appropriate to take the primary assignment.

a. Department of Fire Services

- Technical search and rescue expertise will be provided by a representative of the Department of Fire Services or Fire Chiefs' Association of MA. The Department of Fire Services Coordinator at the SEOC will coordinate with support agencies in tasking search and rescue missions based upon local requests for assistance.
- Provide an adequate number of representatives to support MAESF-9 at the SEOC when requested.
- Coordinate resources to provide assistance in coordinating technical search and rescue operations.
- Provide situational awareness on pertinent search and rescue operations to the SEOC, to include committed and available resources and deployment plans.
- Support requests for search and rescue assets within capabilities and parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required. Coordinate resources to support ingress/egress actions to protect the public and property in, near and around areas involved in firefighting operations and technical search and rescue operations.
- Coordinate resources to provide technical assistance and support for technical, rural and aerial search and rescue missions.
- As necessary, coordinate assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Urban Search and Rescue Task Force if activated.
- Coordinate resources to support the supervision of search and rescue operations requiring state-level assistance.
- Coordinate with other MAESF-9 agencies to address outstanding resource needs.
- Support requests for search and rescue assets within capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required.
- Maintain alert procedures to ensure rapid response during search and rescue operations.

- Ensure financial tracking of all deployed assets.

4.2. MAESF-9 Supporting Agency Responsibilities

a. Massachusetts State Police

- Non-technical search and rescue expertise will be provided by a representative of the Massachusetts State Police. The Massachusetts State Police Coordinator at the SEOC will coordinate with support agencies in tasking search and rescue missions based upon local requests for assistance.
- Provide an adequate number of representatives to support MAESF-9 at the SEOC when requested.
- As detailed in the Air Operations Annex, when needed provide personnel to support air operations to coordinate multiple agency aircraft operations.
- Coordinate resources to provide assistance in non-technical search and rescue operations.
- Provide situational awareness pertinent search and rescue operations to the SEOC, to include committed and available resources and deployment plans.
- Support requests for search and rescue assets within capabilities and parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required. Provide guidance on wilderness-based search and rescue performance standards.
- Coordinate resources to support search and rescue incidents under the following criteria:
 - Any incident at the request of the local jurisdiction.
 - All declared overdue/missing aircraft events that result in a ground search effort.
 - Any incident that involves on-scene, multi-state jurisdictional coordination.
 - Any viable intra-state lost or missing person search that cannot be assigned local responsibility due to lack of initial geographical specific incident assignment.
 - Any high-profile incidents involving state coordinated assets as determined by the MEMA Director or his/her designee.
- Coordinate resources to support search and rescue operations in the woodlands of the State and provide security at the sites.
- Coordinate resources to support search and rescue of lost persons.
- As needed, coordinate resources suitable for use in rough terrain and remote areas.
- Coordinate resources to support crowd control, security measures, roadways assessments and ingress/egress actions to protect the public and property in, near and around areas involved in search and rescue operations.
- Coordinate resources to provide technical assistance and support for technical, rural and aerial search and rescue missions.

- Coordinate resources to support or direct rural search and rescue operations.
- Maintain alert procedures to ensure rapid response during search and rescue operations.
- Serve as a liaison for other states' operations involving search and rescues, as needed.
- Maintain and update the Massachusetts Search and Rescue Plan.
- Coordinate resources to coordinate and supervise civilian search and rescue teams.
- Provide reach-in capability for civilian K9 search and rescue assets.
- Ensure financial tracking of all deployed assets.

b. Massachusetts Task Force 1

- Urban search and rescue expertise will be provided by a representative from the Massachusetts Task Force 1 (MA-TF 1).
- MA-TF 1 is organized in a modular fashion - only those elements that are needed can be called in, not necessarily the entire team.
- Support requests for rapid needs assessment pre- and post-incident.
- Support requests for technical assistance teams.
- Support requests for canine search and rescue support and cadaver recovery.
- Support requests for communications equipment.
- Support additional requests for search and rescue assets within capabilities and parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required.
- MA-TF 1 will coordinate with the lead coordination agency at the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and with local officials requesting urban search and rescue assistance.

c. Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

- If needed, activate Massachusetts Task Force 1 (MA-TF 1) as a state or federal asset.
- Coordinate requests for interstate mutual aid through EMAC and other state agreements.
- Assist with the coordination of search and rescue assets for national or international search incidents upon request.
- Serve as the coordinating agency at the State level for incidents involving civil aircraft presumed lost over the Commonwealth's air space.
- Ensure financial tracking of all deployed assets.
- Maintain alert procedures to ensure rapid response during search and rescue operations
- Coordinate with other MAESF-9 agencies to address outstanding resource needs.

- Coordinate with MAESF-8 *Public Health and Medical Services* to identify and provide mental health staff to assist in crisis counseling efforts for emergency responders and for people who are affected by the disaster.
- Develop and maintain this annex.

d. Massachusetts Environmental Police

- Provide an adequate number of representatives to support MAESF-9 at the SEOC when requested.
- As necessary, coordinate the provision of resources such as search and rescue watercraft, equipment, and personnel.
- Support requests for search and rescue assets within capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required.
- Provide resources to augment security related to search and rescue operations.
- Coordinate resources to provide technical assistance and support for technical, rural and aerial search and rescue missions.
- Coordinate resources to support search and rescue incidents under the following criteria:
 - Any incident at the request of the local jurisdiction.
 - All declared overdue/missing aircraft events that result in a ground search effort.
 - Any incident that involves on-scene, multi-state jurisdictional coordination.
 - Any viable intra-state lost or missing person search that cannot be assigned local responsibility due to lack of initial geographical specific incident assignment.
 - Any high-profile incidents involving state coordinated assets as determined by the MEMA Director or his/her designee.
- Coordinate with other MAESF-9 agencies to address outstanding resource needs.
- Maintain alert procedures to ensure rapid response during search and rescue operations.
- As needed, coordinate resources suitable for use in rough terrain, remote areas and inland waterways.
- Coordinate resources to assist coastal search and rescue activities.
- Coordinate resources to support search and rescue operations in the woodlands of the State and provide security at the sites.
- Coordinate resources to support search and rescue of lost persons.
- Ensure financial tracking of all deployed assets.

e. Department of Conservation and Recreation

- Provide an adequate number of representatives to support MAESF-9 at the SEOC when requested.
- Coordinate resources such as watercraft, equipment and personnel to assist in search and rescue operations.
- Support requests for search and rescue assets within capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required.
- Provide knowledge of remote areas of the State.
- Coordinate resources to provide technical assistance and support for technical, rural and aerial search and rescue missions.
- Coordinate with other MAESF-9 agencies to address outstanding resource needs.
- Maintain alert procedures to ensure rapid response during search and rescue operations.
- As needed, coordinate the provision of temporary accommodations for field operations teams operating in state parks and forests within DCR jurisdiction.
- Ensure financial tracking of all deployed assets.

f. Massachusetts National Guard

- Provide an adequate number of representatives to support MAESF-9 at the SEOC when requested.
- Coordinate resources to support searches for lost persons and/or aircraft.
- Coordinate resources to provide technical assistance and support for technical, rural and aerial search and rescue missions.
- As detailed in the Air Operations Annex, when needed provide personnel to support air operations to coordinate multiple agency aircraft operations.
- Coordinate pertinent federal resources to support response for search and rescue.
- Provide resources to support crowd control, security measures, roadways assessments and ingress/egress actions to protect the public and property in, near and around areas involved in search and rescue operations.
- Coordinate with other MAESF-9 agencies to address outstanding resource needs.
- Maintain alert procedures to ensure rapid response during search and rescue operations.
- Provide resources to assist with mass fatality response if needed, which may include transportation, armed security for the incident site, incident morgue, holding facility and the Family Assistance Center.
- Support requests for search and rescue assets within capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required.
- Ensure financial tracking of all deployed assets.

g. Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

- Coordinate with the representative at the MAESF-8 *Public Health and Medical Services* desk.
- Obtain situational awareness from the scene to ascertain the number and conditions of human remains, the accessibility of the scene and any challenges associated with the recovery of the human remains.
- Work with the OCME through MAESF-8 *Public Health and Medical Services* to coordinate resources for the recovery of remains, if needed.
- Ensure accurate information is relayed to the SEOC and Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS).

h. United States Coast Guard

- Provide an adequate number of representatives to support MAESF-9 at the SEOC when requested.
- Coordinate resources to support search and rescue in and along U.S. coastal waters.
- Support requests for search and rescue assets within capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required.

i. Federal Emergency Management Agency

- Provide an adequate number of representatives to support MAESF-9 at the SEOC when requested.
- Activate the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System, as needed.
- Coordinate federal resources to provide technical assistance and support for technical search and rescue missions.
- Support requests for search and rescue assets within the capabilities and parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required.
- Representative from the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Force will coordinate with Task Force members in obtaining support assistance and needed equipment and supplies.
- Coordinate with other MAESF-9 agencies to address outstanding resource needs.

j. Civil Air Patrol - Massachusetts Wing

- Provide an adequate number of representatives to support MAESF-9 at the SEOC when requested.
- Coordinate resources such as emergency communication, air transport of personnel, and personnel trained in ground and air search to support search and rescue operational needs.

- As detailed in the Air Operations Annex, when needed provide personnel to support air operations to coordinate multiple agency aircraft operations.
- Coordinate resources such as personnel, ground search crews and aircraft to support the search and rescue of missing/downed aircraft or missing individuals.
- Coordinate resources to support aerial photography and visual searches, as needed.
- Coordinate resources for communications support, as needed.
- Support requests for additional search and rescue assets within capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols and statutes as required.
- Coordinate resources to support technical assistance and support for aerial rescue missions.
- Coordinate with other MAESF-9 agencies to address outstanding resource needs.
- Maintain alert procedures to ensure rapid response during search and rescue operations.

4.3. Other Agencies

Other agencies not explicitly covered in this annex may have authorities, resources, capabilities or expertise required to support MAESF-9 activities. These agencies may be requested to support MAESF-9 activities as needed.

5.0. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

5.1. Staffing

As required by Massachusetts Executive Order 144, all Executive Branch state agencies that are part of MAESF-9 must designate at least two personnel to act as SEOC liaisons. These liaisons should be knowledgeable about the resources and capabilities of their respective agencies and have access to the appropriate authorities for committing said resources and capabilities.

5.2. Mutual Aid

The process for requesting mutual aid from entities either within or outside of Massachusetts is described in the “Mutual Aid” section of the State CEMP Base Plan.

5.3. Annex Review and Maintenance

This annex will be updated every two years at a minimum, in accordance with the Emergency Management Program Administrative Policy, and will ensure that appropriate stakeholder input

is incorporated into updates. Additionally, the annex will be reviewed following any exercise or activation of the plan that identifies potential improvements. Revisions to this annex will supersede all previous editions and will be effective immediately.

6.0. AUTHORITIES, RESOURCES, AND REFERENCES

6.1. Authorities

See Authorities section of the State CEMP Base Plan.

6.2. Resources

See Resources section of the State CEMP Base Plan.

6.3. References

a. State

- Joint Agreement between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Commander, Massachusetts Wing, Civil Air Patrol
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 231, Section 85AA, Liability of registered rescue volunteers
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 4J; Public Safety Mutual Aid Agreement
- Massachusetts Executive Order 144
- Massachusetts Executive Order 242
- Massachusetts Executive Order 469
- Massachusetts Executive Order 475
- Massachusetts Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- SEOC ESF SOP Guidance Document

b. Federal

- Statement of Understanding between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States Coast Guard
- The Disaster Relief Act of 1974, Public Law 93-288, as amended
- Public Law 100-707, (Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act)

c. Other

- The National Search and Rescue Plan
- State Fire Mobilization Plan
- State Police Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT)
- Air Crash Plan
- Terrorism Plan
- Radiological Emergency Response Plan
- Recovery Plan
- MAESF-9 Standard Operating Procedures
- National Response Framework
- Massachusetts State Police Plan for Civilian Search and Rescue Operations
- Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)
- Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA)
State Hazard Mitigation Plan

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6.4. Terms

Emergency Support Function (ESF) – ESFs are the grouping of government and certain private-sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide the support, resources, program implementation and services that are most likely to be needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and critical infrastructure, and help victims and communities return to normal, when feasible, following emergency events.

Incident Command System (ICS) – The Incident Command System (ICS) is a systematic tool used for the command, control, and coordination of emergency response. It is a set of personnel, policies, procedures, facilities, and equipment, integrated into a common organizational structure designed to improve emergency response operations of all types and complexities.

Incident Commander – The Incident Commander is 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 SEOC Roster.

National Incident Management System (NIMS) – The National Incident Management System (NIMS) is an emergency management doctrine used to coordinate emergency preparedness and incident management and response among the public (Federal, Tribal, State and local government agencies) and private sectors.

NIMS is a comprehensive, national approach to incident management that is applicable at all jurisdictional levels and across functional disciplines. NIMS enables emergency responders to work together to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of

incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life and property and harm to the environment.

Rescue – All activities directed towards and requiring the utilization of trained personnel to extricate persons trapped in damaged buildings, vehicles, woodlands and waterways; and to provide emergency medical treatment of such persons.

Search – All activities associated with the discovery of an individual or individuals lost or reported lost.

Support Agency – An organization or agency identified in a Massachusetts Emergency Support Function annex designated to assist with available resources, capabilities or expertise to accomplish the mission of the MAESF.

Technical Search and Rescue – Also known as urban search and rescue (abbreviated as USAR), involves the location, extrication, and initial medical stabilization of victims trapped in confined spaces due to natural disasters, structural collapse, transportation accidents, mines and collapsed trenches.

- **Waterborne Search and Rescue:** Includes waterborne search and rescue operations for hurricanes, dam/levee failures and other disasters that primarily require ship or boat forces.
- **Inland/Wilderness Search and Rescue:** Includes search and rescue operations conducted in remote or rural areas that primarily require operations necessitating the use of specialized equipment to access these areas and may require responders traveling over land by alternate methods or by aircraft.
- **Technical Search and Rescue:** Includes search and rescue operations involving incidents such as structural collapse, excavation emergencies, technical rope rescues, high angle, confined space rescues, swift water rescues and other specialized rescues.
- **Aeronautical Search and Rescue:** Includes search and rescue operations conducted in aviation-related incidents and aeronautical search and rescue. These may require specialized search and rescue operations in both open and wilderness areas and in the vicinity of airports requiring the coordinated deployment of personnel and equipment.