

Illinois Emergency Operations Plan

Annex 12 – Search and Rescue

Appendix 1 – Urban Search and Rescue

Illinois Emergency Management Agency

August 2021





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Search and Rescue
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Appendix 1 – Urban Search and Rescue (USAR)

- Primary Organization: Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS)
- Support Agencies: Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)
Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA)
Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
Illinois Department of Transportation-H (IDOT-H)
Illinois Department of Transportation-A (IDOT-A)
Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA)
Illinois State Police (ISP)
Office of the State Fire Marshall (OSFM)
Illinois National Guard (ILNG)
- Support Agencies and Organizations: County and Municipal Governments
Private Sector Organizations and Industry

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

1. Provide operational guidance, coordinating processes and strategies for implementation of state activated Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) resources.

B. Scope

1. This appendix addresses support of USAR resources activated through the utilization of mutual aid agreements and mobile support teams.
2. This appendix addresses urban search and rescue throughout response and short, intermediate and long-term recovery.
3. This appendix does not address fire service, damage assessment and disaster intelligence processes.

C. Policy

1. The governor or designee will authorize and direct the use of state resources and the activation of mutual aid agreements to provide support and assistance to response and recovery efforts after consideration of both priority and cost.
2. Local governments have primary responsibility for conducting and



completing urban search and rescue operations.

3. The SEOC will approve and direct the use of USAR resources.
 - a) USAR configurations will be determined by the SEOC based on scope and magnitude of event, state capability and capacity and operational priorities.
 - b) USAR may be augmented using state recognized Mobile Support Teams (MSTs), private sector, or other resources.

D. Situation Overview

1. An emergency or disaster has occurred resulting in significant damage to critical infrastructure, private residences or public property.
2. Local AHJ and the private sector have requested assistance in conducting urban search and rescue missions.

E. Assumptions

1. Impacted areas are accessible.
2. Damage assessment information will be provided by a variety of sources and guide urban search and rescue operations.
3. Information provided through the local AHJ will require confirmation by USAR specialists.
4. Mutual aid assistance at all levels will be available.
5. Just-in-time training (JITT) will be required.
6. State urban search and rescue operations will not be dependent on federal response posture.

II. Concept of Operations

A. General

1. Request for assistance in conducting urban search and rescue missions will be directed through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).
2. Primary and support agency SEOC liaisons will identify situational considerations effecting urban search and rescue operations.



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3. USAR resources will follow recognized and identified standards, criteria and practices.
 4. Operations conducted by USAR are implemented and sustained through existing command, control, coordination and communications processes.
 5. Urban search and rescue support approved by the state is based on resource availability, capability and prioritization of effort.
 6. USAR resource shortfalls will be met through activation of mutual aid and contractual agreements and utilization of available, trained and certified resources approved by the SEOC or designee.
 7. USAR resource personnel will be trained to assigned missions and made aware of potential risks involved.
 8. Implementation of urban search and rescue operations is contingent upon safe and secure access to impact areas.
- B. Operational Priorities for USAR
1. Urban search and rescue priorities will be determined based on scope and magnitude of event, geographical locations, resource availability and environmental conditions affecting accessibility and deployment of USAR resources.
 2. Additional impact areas will be identified, and included in operations to the extent possible, as part of the ongoing process of urban search and rescue.
- C. Organization
1. Direction, Coordination and Control
 - a) Organizations retain operational control of their resources owned/obtained for use in response and recovery.
 - b) The governor or designee has the authority to exercise overall coordination of resources belonging to or activated by the state.
 - c) The SEOC is the single point of coordination for state supported urban search and rescue.
 - d) Implementation of urban search and rescue operations will be coordinated between the SEOC Manager, SEOC MABAS LNO and local AHJ based on the phase of operations.



2. Coordinating Elements

- a) LOE – USAR will be activated at the direction of the SEOC Manager.
 - i) Strategic and operational guidance on LOE operation can be found in IEOP Base Plan, Appendix 4, Lines of Effort (LOE).
- b) For the purposes of urban search and rescue operations and situational awareness, the SEOC will coordinate with local units of government, the private sector and MABAS.

3. Federal Coordination

- a) SEOC LNOs, state agencies, boards and commissions will coordinate with federal counterparts in accordance with enabling authority to collect, receive, compile and develop situational reports on urban search and rescue needs and operations.

D. System Capabilities and Structure

- 1. The SEOC utilizes pre-identified resources, regardless of the type of operation, for delivery of assistance.
- 2. The SEOC will formulate strategy, develop plans and utilize immediately available resources, drawing on other state agency personnel and mutual aid organizations, to conduct urban search and rescue needs and operations.
- 3. The SEOC is responsible for ensuring the alignment of urban search and rescue needs and operations with local and state government, private sector and federal activities.
- 4. MABAS resources are the primary source of personnel for urban search and rescue needs and operations.
- 5. MABAS personnel may be augmented by any recognized and authorized resources having met specialized training and certification requirements and approved for deployment by the SEOC.

E. Resource Management and Logistics

- 1. Resources and logistics support necessary to implement and sustain USAR capabilities will be provided through processes established in IEOP Annex 9, Resource Management and Logistics.



III. Roles and Responsibilities

A. Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)

1. SEOC Manager

- a) Serve as coordination point for state activated USAR resources.
- b) Coordinate with local jurisdictions and SEOC liaisons on USAR requests.
- c) Coordinate notification and activation of USAR resources for approved operations.
- d) Identify availability of external USAR resources.
- e) Assist in providing technical USAR assistance and expertise to local jurisdictions.
- f) Coordinate and manage SUAC/SAC staffing necessary to meet USAR operations.
- g) Coordinate sustainment of state activated USAR operations.

B. Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS)

1. Coordinate USAR operations with AHJs, SAC, SUAC, SEOC, and other state and federal agencies as appropriate.
2. Coordinate collection, receipt, compilation and dissemination of situational reports, maps, visual aid and displays on state and local USAR activities to the SEOC.
3. De-conflict USAR information with SEOC and other sources.
4. Maintain and coordinate Illinois Task Force 1 in support of state USAR operations.

C. Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA)

1. Coordinate administrative processes and resources necessary for use of county and state fairgrounds in support of USAR operations.
2. Coordinate with whole community partners to determine economic impacts to agricultural industries.



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- D. Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
 - 1. Coordinate administrative process and resources necessary for use of state parks and lands in support of USAR operations.
 - 2. Coordinate with whole community partners to determine economic impacts to natural resources.

- E. Illinois Department of Transportation - Highway (IDOT-H)
 - 1. Assist in determining transportation requirements, routes and available assets for movement of USAR assets and USAR Task Forces in the impacted area.
 - 2. Provide transportation for USAR operations and assessment missions.
 - 3. Provide heavy equipment and engineers to support heavy rescue, bridge and roadway assessment, and debris removal.
 - 4. Provide for construction of temporary roads and access routes into an affected area.

- F. Illinois Department of Transportation - Aviation (IDOT-A)
 - 1. Provide air assets and personnel to conduct limited USAR operations and assessment missions.
 - 2. Assist in selection and coordination of identified airports for mobilization centers, assembly or staging areas.
 - 3. Assist in determining transportation requirements, routes and available assets for movement of USAR assets and USAR Task Forces in the impacted area.
 - 4. Provide transportation for USAR operations and assessment missions.

- G. Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA)
 - 1. Provide manpower and resources for USAR efforts, including rural and urban locations.
 - 2. Assist with mapping and analysis of buildings and property.

- H. Illinois State Police (ISP)
 - 1. Coordinate with applicable SEOC LNO's to identify the need for and, if



needed, provide security to areas of SAR operations.

2. If available, provide aircraft and aircrews to conduct search and assessment operations and transport officials involved in SAR operations.
3. If available, provide aircraft and/or unmanned aerial systems (UAS), in accordance with the Freedom from Drone Surveillance Act, for providing aerial surveillance, video, photography, video downlink, forward infrared heat sensing devices or transportation of individuals.
4. Coordinate with applicable SEOC LNOs to provide law enforcement support for SAR efforts, including rural and urban locations.
5. Assist with mapping and analysis of buildings and property.

I. Office of the State Fire Marshall (OSFM)

1. Provide technical assistance in the field for USAR operations involving underground and above ground storage tanks, or elevators.

J. Illinois National Guard (ILNG)

1. Assist in coordinating logistical, transportation and communication requirements of USAR forces in the impacted area.
2. Support air assets and personnel to conduct search, rescue, assessment and transportation operations.
3. Support facilities that support disaster search bases, assembly areas and staging areas.
4. Provide manpower and equipment to support heavy rescue and debris removal.
5. Support security and coordination of efforts to areas of USAR operations.

IV. Authorities and References

A. Authorities

1. Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq, as amended
2. Title 44, Chapter I of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Emergency Management and Assistance, as amended



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B. References

1. National Response Framework (NRF) , as amended
2. FEMA Damage Assessment Operations Manual, as amended
3. Public Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessment Manual, as amended
4. IS-559: Local Damage Assessment, as amended
5. Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) USAR Standard, as amended