

Mass Casualty Incident Coordination

Successful control of any emergency requires good command and control of all resources. Experience demonstrates that most major incidents require the active participation of a wide variety of community agencies. These agencies must rely on the "Mutual Aid" assistance from their neighboring jurisdictions, shared resources, coordinate technical services, and integrate multi-service and multi-level action. The cooperation, coordination and respect for the role and authority of all agencies and jurisdictions is paramount for a successful solution to the emergency. Sarah Title 111 and OSHA 1910.20 require first responders to implement an Incident Command System.

The Governor's Executive Order No. 26, of March 5 1996, establishes the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIMS) as the standard command and control system for emergency operations in New York State.

The Incident Command System is a uniform management system that all emergency response agencies can use. It is intended to be staffed and operated by qualified personnel from all of the agencies involved and has the following components:

- * Strong visible command
- * Common terminology
- * Modular organization
- * Integrated communications
- * Single vs. Unified command structure
- * Consolidated action plans
- * Manageable span of control
- * Pre-designated incident facilities
- * Comprehensive resource management
- * Provides personnel safety and accountability
- * Uses goals and objectives

Single Command may be applied where there is no overlap of jurisdictional boundaries or when a single IC is designated by the agency with overall management responsibility for the incident. Unified Command may be applied when the incident is multi-jurisdictional in nature, or when more than one individual designated by his/her jurisdiction or agency shares overall management responsibilities. Implementing the action plan under Unified Command is under the direction of the Operations Section Chief who usually comes from the agency with the greatest jurisdictional involvement.

EMS first in report to County Dispatch and Resource Hospital includes

- * Incident Location
- * Type and Cause of Incident
- * Is the incident - Contained - Continuing - Open - Closed
- * Initial Victim Estimate
- * Injury Type
- * Access routes
- * Staging Location
- * Additional resources needed

The Medical Control Physician may authorize standing orders during the MCI.