

AWR 232: Mass Fatalities Planning and Response for Rural Communities

April 4, 2019

OVERVIEW

From the largest of cities to the most rural of communities, the possibility of a mass-fatality incident exists every moment of every day. Whether the mass fatality results from a manmade incident (either deliberate or accidental) or from a force of nature such as a hurricane or tornado, the needs of the affected public remain the same. Responding to a mass-fatality incident, which includes the recovery, identification, and reunification of the deceased, is one of the most difficult aspects of a disaster response. Despite the grim nature of fatality management, it is the responsibility of authorities in the jurisdiction where the incident occurs to manage the response. The need to establish recovery, morgue, and family assistance center (FAC) operations are the same in rural communities as they are in large metropolitan cities. Rural communities often find it more difficult to respond due to the lack of local infrastructure and required assets necessary to provide an adequate mass-fatality response. The goal of this awareness-level course is to teach participants the basics of mass-fatality response while providing them with the opportunities to exchange rural perceptions and brainstorm for solutions to simulated emergencies.

Target Audience

This protocol model has been developed for, but is not limited to: ■ Local and county law enforcement agencies. ■ Public health managers and planners. ■ Local and regional emergency management agencies (EMAs). ■ Emergency Medical Services (EMS). ■ Hospitals. ■ Paid or volunteer emergency planners and managers. ■ Personnel in local and/or county emergency operations centers (EOCs).

Thursday, April 4, 2019

AWR-232 Course SC Fire Academy Denny Auditorium. 141 Monticello Trail Rd. Columbia, SC 29203

Friday, April 5, 2019

Scenario-based tabletop exercise to: 1) test/validate local and state Mass Fatality plans and procedures 2) walk through the application of lessons learned through the Mass Fatality Planning and Response Course.

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