

Richland County Emergency Operations Plan

ESF 13: LAW ENFORCEMENT

Primary Agency: Richland County Sheriff's Office

Supporting Agencies: Municipal Police Departments
Richland County Prosecutor's Office
Ohio State Highway Patrol

1. PURPOSE

This ESF provides for the execution of emergency duties through the coordination of the various law enforcement agencies in Richland County in order to preserve law and order, to facilitate orderly operations, and to investigate criminal activity related to the disaster as necessary. It is the duty of law enforcement to enforce, protect, and defend Ohio laws and local laws.

2. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

a. Situation

- i. The Sheriff is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in Richland County. During emergencies, the Sheriff may expand operations or issue protective orders to provide increased protection required by disaster conditions.
- ii. The Richland County Sheriff is located at 597 Park Avenue East in Mansfield. The jail, shared with the City of Mansfield, is located at 73 East Second Street in Mansfield.
- iii. The Richland County Sheriff employees 25 full-time road deputies, 4 detectives, 4 special/volunteer deputies, 13 dispatchers, 63 corrections officers, 6 office staff, 9 administrative personnel, and 1 tactical deputy assigned to ASORT/SWAT.
- iv. Municipal police departments are listed on Tab 13-1 with contact information and number of officers on the department.
- v. Richland County Sheriff's Office has a service area of 500 square miles and answers over 30,000 calls for service each year.

- vi. State and federal law enforcement officials may assist the Richland County Sheriff at his request, or at the request of other law enforcement department chiefs.
- vii. City and village police departments assist the Sheriff within their jurisdiction and on mutual aid to other jurisdictions as requested. The municipalities of Belleville, Butler, Lexington, Mansfield, Ontario, Plymouth, and Shelby have police departments.
- viii. Richland County Sheriff's Office provides patrol services for the villages of Lucas and Shiloh.
- ix. The Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) is responsible for enforcement of laws at state facilities and institutions, and on state and interstate highways. (ORC 5503.01-02). OSHP Post #70 is located on the south side of Mansfield near the junction of US71 and SR 13.
- x. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) is the primary law enforcement on natural waterways per ORC 2935.03 and may enter into a mutual aid agreement with another law enforcement agency under ORC1501.02.
- xi. METRICH Enforcement Unit is a drug investigative unit of nine counties engaged in cooperative law enforcement as it relates to illegal and illicit drug activity. Counties included in this unit in addition to Richland are Ashland, Crawford, Hancock, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Seneca and Wyandot.
- xii. Incidents that involve law enforcement in Richland County include criminal and civil acts of breaking the law, vehicular and other transportation incidents, traffic violations, extreme weather conditions where protection of the public is necessary, incidents that require the control and management of large crowds, and other incidents that involve conflict and/or unrest.
- xiii. Richland County Sheriff's Office also issues traffic citations, delivers summons, and handles civil court paperwork for the judicial branch of local government.
- xiv. The Richland County Jail is a joint venture between the City of Mansfield and Richland County; it has a capacity of 266 persons.

- xv. The Mansfield Correctional Institution is located at 1150 North Main Street north of the City of Mansfield. It is a state owned and operated penal institution that can house over 2,500 prisoners. There are no death row prisoners at this facility.
- xvi. There are few large gathering locations in Richland County, but those that are present include the Richland County Fairgrounds, Mansfield Motor Speedway, and several college and public school auditoriums and athletic fields. These locations may all host events that cause the need for crowd control on site or for ingress/egress.
- xvii. Richland County is rich with state and interstate highways that provide the setting for vehicular accidents, contraband traffic, and criminal acts associated with transportation, travel, and commerce.

b. Assumptions

- i. Law enforcement demands and duties will increase significantly during disaster operations.
- ii. Mutual aid may provide additional resources and services needed in a disaster, and volunteer forces (reserves) may be activated to assist paid deputies.
- iii. Local and county capabilities may be overwhelmed, especially immediately after the impact of a disaster. Support can be obtained through the Ohio Law Enforcement Response Plan (LERP). When a LERP request is activated, a LEADS resource request alert is sent to appropriate agencies. LERP may be activated by a Sheriff under ORC 311.07 or by a Police Chief per ORC5502.41. The Colonel of the OSHP can activate LERP as well.
- iv. When the State EOC is open, requests through the LERP will be processed at the that location.
- v. If these resources are all overwhelmed, federal law enforcement agencies may be able to provide mutual aid and assistance.
- vi. Reserve or auxiliary law enforcement organizations may serve at the request of the Sheriff or Chiefs of Police when appropriate and properly trained.

3. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

a. General Overview

- i. Emergency law enforcement will expand the capacity to perform normal daily functions and responsibilities during a disaster.
- ii. Each law enforcement agency or department will retain responsibility and authority within their own jurisdictions.
- iii. Law enforcement should participate in the Incident Command structure as appropriate, oftentimes as Incident Command or Unified Command, dependent upon the situation.
- iv. A Law Enforcement Liaison should be sent to the EOC to aid in coordination of overall incident objectives, resources, and advance planning.
- v. All emergencies will be handled according to day-to-day operations as long as possible.
- vi. The maintenance of law and order and the protection of lives and property will be the objective of each law enforcement agency.
- vii. Along with the fire service and emergency medical services, law enforcement personnel are first line responders to all routine or emergency situations.

b. Relationship Between Levels of Government

- i. The Sheriff is the lead officer in law enforcement during a disaster in Richland County, and holds ultimate authority in most situations. However, a large or complex response can easily involve multiple levels of law enforcement entities, and the Sheriff may work with other local, state and federal agencies in the process of managing a large incident.
- ii. There may be differences and inconsistencies in responsibility, authority, or procedures between local, state, and federal units of law enforcement. Roles, duties, and priorities may vary between them, and overall operations may find various officers in different locations.
- iii. The implementation of law enforcement may not be a simple hierarchy, and state officers may not always supersede local authority as well as federal authority may or may not supersede state or local authority. Some roles and responsibilities may be retained by the most local jurisdictions (municipalities and townships); others may be assigned or

progress from local to state to federal; yet others may fall within the initial jurisdiction of a single agency (Ohio State Highway Patrol, ATF, FBI, etc.) The progression from local to state to federal may require on-the-spot decision-making and research to appropriately advise and collaborate between levels of government.

- iv. Adaptations to the traditional and standard chain of command under the Incident Command System may have to be made. Communication between the levels of law enforcement should be as complete and open as possible, based upon the incident, and should always serve to preserve and protect the safety of not only all law enforcement officers on the ground, but also other first responders in the same or related incidents.

c. Phases of Emergency Management

i. Mitigation

1. Development of internal SOGs will lessen the impact of a disaster upon law enforcement agencies.
2. Planning for mutual aid and unconventional assistance will lessen the confusion and enhance innovative problem solving when resources are totally overwhelmed.

ii. Preparedness

1. All officers should receive training appropriate to their position in the NIMS and ICS.
2. Law enforcement agencies should participate in the planning and conduct of drills and exercises for disaster preparedness countywide, and the use of the Richland County EOP should be included in those drills and exercises.
3. Disaster relevant SOGs should be developed and officers oriented to them in preparation for a disaster.
4. All law enforcement officers should be trained in the county's Emergency Operations Plan and use it in practice on a daily basis as well as during disaster incidents.
5. Relationships with other agencies, individuals, and organizations that may be called upon to assist law enforcement during a disaster should be forged and maintained prior to disaster incidents.

6. Officers should be encouraged to participate in preparedness by learning about the county EOP and understanding the concepts of emergency management.

iii. Response

1. During daily operations, officers are generally mobile and present in communities across the county. Therefore, it is most likely that a police officer or deputy will be the first to arrive at the scene of a disaster, even if that disaster begins with a fire or medical emergency.
2. The officer who is first present on a scene will immediately make decisions and take action to call in additional resources, activate mutual aid, and initiate protective actions. These decisions and actions are generally consistent with standard operating procedures, but unusual situations may cause the officer to make adaptations, changes, or modifications to standard procedures.
3. A senior law enforcement officer will take Incident Command of the situation as appropriate; command may become unified as fire service arrives on scene and the nature of the incident takes form.
4. A ranking officer would proceed to the EOC to act as a liaison between law enforcement and all other parties involved in the operation, and to assist in the garnering and assignment of resources to the law enforcement portion of operations.
5. Deploying Personnel
 - a. On duty deputies are notified of emergencies by a dispatcher, generally through a two-way radio system. Each law enforcement headquarters serves as the dispatch point for its personnel and resources, off-duty and auxiliary deputies are notified by telephone.
 - b. Vehicles are provided to full-time deputies; others are assigned vehicles upon deployment.
 - c. Mutual aid agreements with local law enforcement agencies, and those in surrounding counties, are both verbal and written, and are available through the statewide Law Enforcement Response Plan (LERP).

- d. Call down is implemented according to a written procedure in the daily operational guidelines of all departments.
- e. The Emergency Management Agency Director will be advised of any hazardous chemical spill or release, or if the need for evacuation and sheltering (or shelter in place and/or lockdown) of any population is required.
- f. The LEPC Coordinator will be advised of any hazardous chemical spill or release that occurs in Richland County.
- g. If the initial incident is inside a municipality and the responding department is a police department, that officer shall take the same actions as a deputy would take outside corporation limits.
- h. If the initial incident takes place on a state highway and the Ohio State Highway Patrol is the initial responding unit, that officer and the OSHP dispatcher shall make sure the proper county or municipal officials and officers are notified and deployed, based upon the incident

6. Reporting Information

- a. Information concerning incident assessment, resource needs assessment, damage assessment, protective actions, and other site circumstances will be forwarded to the dispatcher at the Sheriff's Communication Center. If the EOC is activated, this information will be forwarded to appropriate agencies and/or organizations.
- b. Inquiries concerning the injured or missing and casualties will be handled by the American Red Cross.
- c. The Richland County Coroner will assume responsibility for the investigation and handling of dead bodies on an emergency scene, and will work with other law enforcement officers to conduct investigations and interrogations.

7. Prisoners

- a. Based on a particular hazard, prisoners will be transported, jailed, and protected in surrounding jurisdictions, adjoining counties, or other facilities as outlined in plans and procedures on file with the Sheriff.
- b. Correctional facilities and penal institutions are responsible for having independent emergency operations procedures, and are responsible for the care and custody of their inmates and staff.

8. Evacuation

- a. In the event of an evacuation, the Sheriff will assist local law enforcement agencies and response groups with the warning and movement to shelters of individuals and families within the area to be evacuated. Law enforcement agencies will work together to handle traffic management, site security, and maintenance of law and order.
- b. Shelter locations will be designated, in safe areas, by the EMA Director in conjunction with American Red Cross as available, upon notification by the agency or department recommending the evacuation.
- c. Law enforcement, due to their proximity to evacuees and the imminent need to protect populations, may be required to assist in the initial movement of evacuees to a shelter location. This assistance should be a short-lived as possible to allow officers to return to primary law enforcement duties.
- d. Law enforcement will assist at a shelter location with traffic control, access control and security, and maintenance of a safe and secure environment.

9. Traffic Control

- a. Law enforcement from the initial responding agency, as well as those responding to assist or to provide mutual aid, will be the primary agency to provide traffic control.

- b. Traffic control is a major ongoing challenge in any emergency, but may escalate in large incidents for some period of time. Relatives and/or friends of person involved in the incident and the curious public will converge on the areas and may hinder response efforts. Law enforcement officers will act to protect the scenes, maintain roadway safety, and to help assure the safety of other responders as they assist those affected by the incident.
- c. Major traffic will be rerouted around the damaged area, and a continuous flow of traffic maintained to the extent possible and for the duration necessary based upon the incident.
- d. When evacuation routes are determined, access roads will be clearly marked and unsafe roads will be barricaded shut. Traffic control points will be established along evacuation routes to assist evacuees and to maintain a continuous flow of traffic toward reception centers and/or shelters. Some roads may be designated as one-way to facilitate the orderly movement of large numbers of people from one point to another.

10. Security

- a. Security will be provided at reception centers, shelters, and feeding facilities as resources permit and to provide for the safest environment as possible for the first responders and incident victims or evacuees.
- b. Security will be provided by the Sheriff at the EOC, including the press center. Security will also be provided at other key facilities, as need is identified and as personnel are available. The Sheriff may request assistance from other law enforcement agencies as needed, and may use outside resources to perform some jobs that do not involve detention of people or use of force.
- c. The disaster area will be secured by establishing roadblocks and setting up barricades at selected locations. Roadblocks on major roads will be manned continuously.

- d. Access to the primary disaster area will be limited to those whose presence is purposeful and necessary. Emergency response and other authorized personnel will be required to show identification or travel in a recognized official emergency vehicle before being admitted to the area. Others will be admitted only with approval of the Incident Commander or other person in authority.
- e. Law enforcement may require additional documentation or accessory forms of identification to enter a response area. Areas contaminated with a hazardous substance or evidence of criminal activity may be off limits to even responders. Only life-saving activities should override security and scene management objectives.
- f. Law enforcement personnel shall patrol the evacuated area to protect against looting or any disruption of evidence. Unauthorized persons found in the area may be placed under arrest, and may be removed without against their will by law enforcement.
- g. Businesses and industries within the evacuation area should also consider the use of private security to guard against looting and to protect their facilities and other property from damages or loss.

iv. Recovery

- 1. Law enforcement will provide security at critical locations such as the EOC for the duration of recovery efforts.
- 2. Law enforcement investigations and collection of information will continue through recovery if necessary.
- 3. The county prosecutor will provide consultation as necessary during recovery operations.

4. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

a. Richland County Sheriff's Office

- i. Maintain law and order
- ii. Coordinate all law enforcement activities in the county

- iii. Provide for traffic control and monitor impediments to traffic flow
- iv. Provide security for key facilities (EOC, ICP, Jail, etc.)
- v. Monitor Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Warning System (NAWAS) information
- vi. Provide 24-hour communications and warning
- vii. Limit access into controlled areas
- viii. Provide personnel for damage assessment if available
- ix. Advise support agencies regarding road access and law enforcement activities within the county.
- x. Coordinate use of signs, barricades, etc. with the county engineer for perimeter control
- xi. Coordinate use of the Ohio National Guard personnel
- xii. Support other emergency response and recovery as necessary.

b. Municipal Law Enforcement

- i. Maintain law and order.
- ii. Provide traffic and crowd control.
- iii. Provide security and limit access to controlled areas.
- iv. Provide communications assistance.
- v. Assist in warning.
- vi. Assist other law enforcement agencies.

c. Ohio State Highway Patrol

- i. Support local law enforcement operations as and when requested through the Governor's office.
- ii. Render assistance and service on state highways, either related to the disaster or as normal operating procedures.

- iii. OSHP Troopers have authority to render assistance in any jurisdiction in the state if there is an imminent physical threat and they are the first to arrive on scene.
 - d. Other Law Enforcement agencies and Ohio National Guard
 - i. Support local law enforcement operations as and when requested through appropriate channels.
 - ii. Support radiological protection capabilities of local government.
 - e. Richland County Prosecuting Attorney
 - i. Provide advice and counsel, as needed, for law enforcement disaster purposes.

5. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

- a. The Richland County Sheriff is responsible for the coordinated emergency law enforcement activities within the county when a multi-jurisdictional disaster occurs. Police agencies will have the authority and responsibility within their respective jurisdictions, or as arranged to perform through mutual aid to another department. The Sheriff, or a designated representative, will serve as the Law Enforcement Officer at the Incident Command Post or other assigned location. Routine law enforcement procedures will be followed where feasible. The establishment of priorities and coordination between law enforcement units will be affected by the Law Enforcement Officer at the ICP.
 - i. Mutual aid units will function under the direction of their superiors. Coordination of their use will be directed by the chief law enforcement official at the ICP in the jurisdiction in which they are operating.
 - ii. Auxiliary and reserve forces will work under the supervision of their superiors. Coordination of their use will be directed by the chief law enforcement official at the ICP in the jurisdiction to which they are sent or activated. Certified officers will be armed and have arrest powers.
 - iii. Resources, including detectives, K-9 units, search and rescue units, drug units and other specialized services will work under their own operational authorities and guidelines but will communicate with the Sheriff to assure the safety of other responders, the proper prioritization of incident objectives, and the proper initiation of tactical actions.

- b. The Sheriff will establish and send a representative to the EOC to act as Law Enforcement Liaison to assist in coordination and activation of resources and advance planning.
- c. The Sheriff will determine the need for an Intelligence Section in collaboration with the IC/UC. Intelligence units may be formed as a separate section, a unit in Planning, or as advisors to the Incident Command. Technical specialists may be deployed as necessary.

6. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- a. General
 - i. Emergency authority granted to law enforcement officials will be as described in the ORC.
 - ii. The Richland County Sheriff's Department maintains current maps and charts and current notification/recall rosters, which are implemented during emergencies.
 - iii. The Richland County Emergency Management Agency maintains current resource lists for volunteers, facilities, organization contacts, and other emergency procedures as would reasonably be expected during an incident.
- b. Logistics
 - i. Logistical support for food, water, emergency power and lighting, fuel, etc. for response personnel will be coordinated through the Law Enforcement Liaison at the EOC.
 - ii. Resource lists will be developed and maintained by each law enforcement agency within the county.
 - iii. Each law enforcement agency is required to establish and maintain its own records of an incident, including but not limited to responding personnel lists, equipment and supplies used lists, claims and costs, and other relevant information or unusual instances.
 - iv. Any injuries, casualties, or claims arising from the incident response should be reported to the Richland County Emergency Management Agency whether or not the expense of such occurrence is relevant to or covered by the precipitating incident.

- v. Each responding officer, paid or volunteer, is responsible for his/her own well-being and safety on a scene, and is responsible for the equipment and supplies, and proper use thereof, of each item they possess. Each officer is responsible for notifying the proper superior of any illness, injury or otherwise unusual outcome of any action, or any damage or destruction of any property in the course of performing job duties at the scene.

7. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS FOR ESF

- a. All law enforcement agencies involved in ESF 13 need the training and equipment necessary to complete the tasks outlined in this ESF.
- b. All officers should have the opportunity to review EFS 13 and receive answers to any questions they have prior to implementation of the plan.
- c. Officers should be provided with reasonable equipment and supplies, consistent with normal daily operations, to perform the jobs assigned to them during disaster operations.

8. ADDENDA

- a. Tab A - Law Enforcement Agencies

9. AUTHENTICATION

Date of Adoption

Richland County Sheriff

Richland County EMA Director

Richland County Emergency Operations Plan

ESF 13: LAW ENFORCEMENT

Tab A: Law Enforcement Agencies

Agency	Address	Phone
Richland County Sheriff's Office 1 elected Sheriff, 1 Major, 2 Captains, 5 Sergeants, 30 Deputies	597 Park Avenue East Mansfield, OH 44903	419-774-5881
Belleville Police Department 1 Chief, 1 Lieutenant, 2 Patrolmen, 1 part-time permanent patrolman, 7 part-time auxiliary officers	320 Bell Street Belleville, OH 44813	419-886-2813
Butler Police Department 1 Chief, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Sergeant	33 West Elm Street Butler, OH 44822	419-883-2201
Lexington Police Department 9 full time officers, 8 part-time officers, auxiliary unit, 4 full-time dispatchers, 7 part-time dispatchers, 3 chaplains	44 W. Main Street Lexington, OH 44904	419-884-1032
Mansfield Police Department 102 sworn officers including patrolmen, K-9, traffic control, neighborhood officers, detectives	30 Diamond Street Mansfield, OH 44902	419-552-1234
Ontario Police Department 1 Chief, 2 Bike Patrol, 1 Dare Officer, 1 Detective, 4 Hostage Negotiation Team	555 Stumbo Road Ontario, OH 44906	419-529-2115
Plymouth Police Department	48 West Broadway Street Plymouth, OH	419-687-4321
Shelby Police Department	31 Mack Avenue Shelby, OH 44875	419-347-2242
Ohio State Highway Patrol Post #70	2221 S. Main Street Mansfield, OH 44907	419-756-2222