





2019 EDITION

## Virginia Disaster and Emergency Management Laws





# Powers and Duties of the Local Subdivisions

## § 44-146.19. Powers and duties of political subdivisions

- Responsible for local disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recover.
- Shall maintain an agency of emergency management
- Shall have a director of emergency management who, shall be the mayor or city manager, who shall appoint a coordinator of emergency management

## Requirements for the EOP

## § 44-146.19. Powers and duties of political subdivisions

- Prepare and keep current a local or interjurisdictional emergency operations plan for its area
  - Responsibilities of local agencies
  - Establish a chain of command
  - Comprehensive review every four years and formally adopted by the political subdivision

## Local Emergency

#### § 44-146.16. Definitions

"Local emergency" means the condition declared by the local governing body when in its judgment the threat or actual occurrence of an emergency or disaster is or threatens to be of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant coordinated local government action to prevent or alleviate the damage, loss, hardship or suffering threatened or caused thereby

## Declaration of a Local Emergency

#### § 44-146.21. Declaration of local emergency

- A local emergency may be declared by the local director of emergency management with the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision.
- In the event the governing body cannot convene, the director, the deputy director, or any member of the governing body may declare the existence of a local emergency subject to confirmation by the governing body at its next regularly scheduled meeting or at a special meeting within fourteen days of the declaration, whichever occurs first.

## City of Harrisonburg Code

- Title 5 Chapter 3 Office of Emergency Services
  - 5-3-1 Creation of the Office
    - The office of emergency services of the city is hereby created. This office shall be responsible for local disaster preparedness and coordination of response with the consent of council as provided by law.
  - 5-3-2 Coordination of office
    - The functions and duties of the office of emergency management shall be carried out by the city manager, serving as the director of emergency management, assistant city manager, serving as the deputy director of emergency management, and by the fire chief who, pursuant to chapter 2 of this title, shall serve as the coordinator of emergency management. City officials serving in the office of emergency management shall carry their duties in consultation with the mayor or his representative from city council, as the circumstances permit.

## EOP Organization

- Basic Plan
- Appendices
- Emergency Support Functions
- Support/Incident Annexes

#### **Basic Plan**

- Purpose/Scope
  - Reason for the Plan, and what it addresses
- Key Concepts
  - Intent/specifics of what the plan addresses
- Basic Demographics
- Roles & Responsibilities
  - Responsibilities of City Manager during disaster
- Concept of operations
  - General concepts of Emergency
     Management organization and various department heads

### **Appendices**

#### **Appendices**

- 1. Glossary of Key Terms
- 2. List of Acronyms
- 3. Authorities and References
- 4. Matrix of Responsibilities
- 5. Succession of Authority
- 6. EOP Distribution List
- 7. Preservation of Government
- 8. NIMS Resolution
- 9. Incident Level Management System
- 10. Sample Declaration of a Local Emergency
- 11. Legal Assistance

- Definition of terms
- Succession of authority
  - During times of disaster
- Sample Declaration of Local Emergency

## Chain of Command

- Director of Emergency
   Management
  - City Manager
- Deputy Director of Emergency Management
  - Deputy City Manager
- Coordinator of Emergency Management
  - Fire Chief
- Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Management
  - Administrative Officer

#### **Emergency Support Functions**

- ESF #1 Transportation
- ESF#2 Communications
- ESF #3 Public Works, Utilities, Inspections, Planning and Zoning
- ESF #4 Firefighting
- ESF #5 Emergency Management
- ESF #6 Mass Care, Housing, and Human Resources

- ESF #7 Resource Support
- ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services
- ESF #9 Urban Search and Rescue
- ESF #10 Oil and Hazardous Materials
- ESF #11 Agriculture and Natural Resources
- ESF #12 Energy

#### **Emergency Support Functions**

- ESF #13 Public Safety and Security
- ESF #14 Long Term
   Community Recovery and
   Mitigation
- ESF #15 External Affairs

- ESF #16 Military Support
- ESF #17 Volunteer & Donation Management

- ESF #1 15 Definitions established by FEMA
- ESF #16 17 Definitions established by VDEM

### Primary and Secondary Agencies

**Emergency Operations Plan** 

Harrisonburg/Rockingham County

#### Emergency Support Function #3 – Public Works\Public Utility; Planning Department/Building Inspector

#### **Primary Agency**

Department of Public Works/Public Utility; Community Development Building Inspector

#### Secondary/Support Agencies

Emergency Management
Public Schools
Water Authorities
Fire and EMS
Law Enforcement
Department of Transportation
City/County Attorney
Virginia Department of Transportation
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

## Support/Incident Annex

- ESF's will reference annexes for more detailed or specific information
- From ESF #3

#### **Emergency Operations Plan**

Harrisonburg/Rockingham County

- Begin keeping record of expenses and continue for the duration of the emergency;
- Prepare to make an initial damage assessment;
- Activate the necessary equipment and resources to address the emergency; and
- Coordinate response with local, state, federal departments and agencies.

#### Responsibilities:

- Assist in conducting initial damage assessment;
- Submit initial damage assessment to VEOC;
- Assist in coordinating response and recovery;
- Prioritize debris removal (see Debris Management Annex);



Ensure all repairs comply with City of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County building codes, zoning, land-use regulations and comprehensive plan.



