

CHAPTER 1 ORGANIZATION

[Prior to 4/18/90, Public Defense Department[650], Ch 5]

[Prior to 5/12/93, Disaster Services Division[607], Ch 1]

605—1.1(29C) Description. The homeland security and emergency management department is created in Iowa Code chapter 29C. The homeland security and emergency management department shall be under the management of a director appointed by the governor. The director shall be vested with the authority to administer homeland security and emergency management affairs in this state and shall be responsible for preparing and executing the homeland security and emergency management programs of this state subject to the direction of the governor. The director, upon the direction of the governor, shall: prepare a comprehensive plan and emergency management program for homeland security, disaster preparedness, response, mitigation, recovery, emergency operation, and emergency resource management of this state; make such studies and surveys of the industries, resources and facilities in this state as may be necessary to ascertain the capabilities of the state for disaster recovery, disaster planning and operations, and emergency resource management, and to plan for the most efficient emergency use thereof; provide technical assistance to any local emergency management commission or joint commission requiring such assistance in the development of an emergency management program; and implement planning and training for emergency response teams as mandated by the federal government under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 42 U.S.C. § 9601 et seq. The director, with the approval of the governor, may employ a deputy administrator and such technical, clerical, stenographic and other personnel and make such expenditures within the appropriation or from other funds made available to the department for purposes of homeland security and emergency management, as may be necessary to administer the purposes of Iowa Code chapters 29C, 30, and 34A. [ARC 8932B, IAB 7/14/10, effective 8/18/10; ARC 2292C, IAB 12/9/15, effective 1/13/16]

605—1.2(29C) Definitions. The following definitions are applicable to the homeland security and emergency management department:

“Comprehensive countywide emergency operations plan” means documents which describe the actions to be taken to lessen the effects of, prepare for, respond to and recover from a disaster by county and city governments, quasi-government agencies, and private organizations which have emergency operations responsibility. The plan is multihazard in scope (covers all hazards for the county) and provides for a coordinated effort. It references authority, assigns functional responsibilities, provides for direction and control, and the effective use of resources.

“Department” means the homeland security and emergency management department.

“Director” means the director of the homeland security and emergency management department.

“Disaster” means human-caused, technological or natural occurrences, such as fire, flood, drought, earthquake, tornado, windstorm, hazardous substance or nuclear power plant accident or incident, which threaten the public peace, health and safety of the people or which damage or destroy public or private property. The term includes terrorism, enemy attack, sabotage, or other hostile action from without the state.

“Emergency” means a sudden, generally unexpected occurrence or set of circumstances demanding immediate action to protect life or property. Such actions are normally handled in a routine manner by law enforcement, fire protection, public works, utilities, and emergency medical services.

“Emergency management” means lessening the effects of, preparations for, operations during, and recovery from natural, technological or human-caused disasters. These actions are broad in scope and include, but are not limited to: disaster plans, mitigation, preparedness, response, warning, emergency operations, training, exercising, research, rehabilitation, and recovery activities.

“Emergency management performance grant program” means a program by which federal funds are utilized to pay no more than 50 percent of the salaries, benefits, travel, and office expenses incurred in the administration of the state and local emergency management program.

“*Homeland security*” means the detection, prevention, preemption, and deterrence of and protection from attacks targeted at state territory, population, and infrastructure.

“*Joint commissions*” means two or more local emergency management commissions acting as a joint commission for the coordination and administration of emergency management.

“*Local commission*” means the local emergency management commission.

“*Mitigation*” means any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. Examples of mitigation activities include building codes, land use management, floodplain management, building of protective structures such as flood walls, public education, research, risk mapping, safety codes, and statutes and ordinances.

“*Preparedness*” means any activity taken in advance of an emergency or disaster that improves emergency readiness posture and develops or expands operational capabilities. Examples of preparedness activities include, but are not limited to, continuity of government, emergency alert and warning systems, emergency communications, emergency operations centers, comprehensive countywide emergency operations plans, emergency public information materials, exercise of plans and systems, hazard analysis, mutual aid agreements, resource management, and the training and equipping of personnel.

“*Recovery*” means short-term activity to return vital life support systems to minimum operating standards and long-term activity designed to return the affected people and areas to their predisaster conditions. Examples of recovery activity are crisis counseling, damage assessment, debris clearance, decontamination, disaster insurance payments, disaster loans and grants, disaster unemployment assistance, public information, community outreach, temporary housing, and reconstruction.

“*Response*” means any action taken immediately before, during, or directly after an emergency or disaster occurs, which is intended to save lives, minimize injuries, lessen property and environmental damage and enhance the effectiveness of recovery. Examples of response activity include rendering of assistance by emergency responders, activation of the emergency operations center, emergency alert system activation, emergency instructions to the public, emergency plan implementation, public official alerting, evacuation, sheltering of victims, search and rescue, resource mobilization, and warning system activation.

[ARC 8932B, IAB 7/14/10, effective 8/18/10; ARC 2292C, IAB 12/9/15, effective 1/13/16]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 29C, 30 and 34A.

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