



**2019 Edition**

# **Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan**





**GOVERNOR:**

Gavin Newsom

**DIRECTOR:**

Mark S. Ghilarducci

**LAW ENFORCEMENT BRANCH:**

Mark N. Pazin, Chief

**PREPARED BY:**

Sunday Ippolito, Staff Services Analyst

Mark Pazin, Chief  
Law Enforcement Branch

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
Law Enforcement Branch  
3650 Schriever Avenue  
Mather, CA 95655

10<sup>th</sup> Edition, July 2019



---

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Introduction	4
History and Authority	5
Liability Issues	6
Definitions and Concepts	7
Levels of Mutual Aid	12
Mutual Aid Procedures	15
Practical Issues	18
State Agency Roles and Resources	24
Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch	38
The Role of the Operational Area Coordinator	40
The Role of the Regional Coordinator	42
Regional Coordinator Election Process	43
Selected Legal Sections	44
Master Mutual Aid Agreement	50



---

## **PREFACE**

As you read this; somewhere in California, a law enforcement agency is providing mutual aid to another. Mutual aid is an everyday occurrence in a state as large and diverse as California. This is the continuation of a Cal OES decades-long process of “neighbor helping neighbor.” The law enforcement mutual aid system is an ongoing cooperative effort among law enforcement agencies to ensure an effective and organized response to a wide range of emergencies. There may be a misconception that mutual aid is used only during a civil unrest and/or natural disaster; however, this system has been used successfully for many other situations, including large criminal investigations, deployment of special teams such as Special Weapons and Tactics Teams, Bomb Squads, etc.

How will your agency use the mutual aid system? Planning, preparation and operational activities of law enforcement agencies in support of the mutual aid system must be consistent with each department’s policies and procedures and must also comply with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

All law enforcement executives, administrators, managers, and field supervisors should familiarize themselves with this plan and its application. The personnel of the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch are available to assist you with planning, training and when necessary, emergency response coordination. It is important to note that Cal OES does not “own” the mutual aid system. It is a part of California law enforcement; and those that participate benefit and share in the concept of “neighbor helping neighbor.”

Mark N. Pazin, Chief  
Law Enforcement Branch



---

## **INTRODUCTION**

### The Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan

This document delineates the current state policy concerning law enforcement mutual aid. It is consistent with, and describes state law concerning application of the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) in law enforcement mutual aid situations.

It describes the standard procedures used to acquire law enforcement mutual aid resources and the method to ensure coordination of law enforcement mutual aid planning and readiness at the local, state and federal levels.

The law enforcement mutual aid system works best when there is expeditious receipt and dissemination of law enforcement incident information and situational intelligence related to unusual occurrences.

This document includes information regarding the statutory protections afforded responders under the Emergency Services Act, and provides legal background for law enforcement mutual aid.

### New in this Revision

This edition takes the basic information included in prior versions and formats it in a more complete and usable manner. No changes have been made to the system, organizational relationships or the process. What follows is perhaps a more useful explanation of the process.

Updated information on the Law Enforcement Branch and its resources is included; as is updated information on state agencies that routinely provide law enforcement mutual aid. Lastly, a compendium of legal sections has been added. While this is not meant to be exhaustive, it will provide easy access to key sections of law dealing with these issues.

### Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch

The Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch functions behind the scenes to maintain the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System in California. Our peace officers can assist any California law enforcement organization in developing related plans, training, and exercises for their agency. The Branch welcomes input on the Mutual Aid System and suggestions for improvement of this plan, or emergency operations in general.



---

## **HISTORY AND AUTHORITY**

The Law Enforcement Mutual Aid system has been used successfully for many years. Notable events involving use of this system include:

- Northern California Floods
- Firestorms of 2003, 2007
- Transportation accidents, air crashes
- Watts Riots
- People's Park – Berkeley Civil Unrest
- Huntington Beach "Surf" Riot
- Loma Prieta Earthquake
- East Bay Hills (Oakland) Fire
- Several Environmental Protests
- Los Angeles Civil Unrest
- Polly Klaas and other large searches
- Elem Indian Reservation SWAT Incident
- Hollister "Wild Bunch" Motorcycle Events
- Sund-Peloso Yosemite Murders
- Regional SWAT Mutual Aid Callout for Fresno Deputy's Killer
- Mehserle Shooting Protests
- 2011/2012 Occupy Demonstrations
- Bassler Manhunt - Mendocino County
- Dorner Manhunt – Southern California
- Rim/Clover Fires
- Miller Manhunt-Triple Homicide
- Roseville Mall Fire/Barricaded Subject
- LAX Active Shooter
- Montecito Mudslides
- Woolsley Fire
- Camp Fire

The statewide mutual aid system today is an outgrowth of the California Disaster and Civil Defense and the Master Mutual Aid Agreement (1950), the Emergency Services Act, Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code (GC), Governor's Executive Order W-9-91, is supported by the California Emergency Plan and by extension, the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan.

The State of California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan is issued and revised under the authority of Sections 8550, 8569, 8615 through 8619, and 8668 of the California Government Code, the California Emergency Plan, and the Master Mutual Aid Agreement.



---

## **LIABILITY ISSUES**

The Emergency Services Act (the Act) provides law enforcement agencies limited immunity from liability when responding in support of a mutual aid request.<sup>1</sup> Albeit “limited,” when interpreting the immunity protections provided by the Act, the courts have regularly found that if the “state must take the steps necessary to quell an emergency, it must be able to act with speed and confidence without fear of incurring tort liability.”<sup>2</sup>

Therefore; the Act’s immunities are broader than the general immunities provided for discretionary governmental actions, i.e., for decisions made by the high ranking officers, the City Council, or Board of Supervisors regarding policy matters.<sup>3</sup> Also, the protections afforded by the Act generally supplement the other statutory liability protections that may apply to the routine law enforcement role, such as immunities for failure to enforce the law.<sup>4,5</sup> The liability protections of the Act extend to mutual aid provided during a declared state of emergency<sup>6</sup> and non-emergency periods.<sup>7</sup>

The best way that a law enforcement agency can assure that its actions are protected by the Act is to:

- Act in accordance with this plan,
- Respond based upon a request by the Operational Area, Regional, or State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator,
- Act in accordance with your local emergency plan approved by the local disaster council in accordance with local ordinance, and
- Verify that your department’s plans and procedures are consistent with this plan.<sup>8</sup>

---

1 California Government Code § 8655.

2 *Farmers Ins. Exchange v. State of California* (App. 6 Dist. 1985) 221 Cal.Rptr. 225, Cal.App. 6 Dist.,1985

3 *Labadie v. State of California*(App. 6 Dist. 1989) 256 Cal.Rptr. 604, 208 Cal.App.3d 1366

4 California Government Code § 8656.

5 California Penal Code §§ 818.2, 821.

6 California Government Code § 8616

7 California Government Code § 8617 also see *Soto v. State of California* (App. 2 Dist. 1997) 65 Cal.Rptr.2d 11,56 Cal.App.4th 196

8 California Government Code §§ 8560, 8568, 8569



---

## **DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS**

*Note: Some definitions are not verbatim text from related codes and regulations, but are paraphrased for clear understanding of the concepts involved.*

### Operational Area

A county, along with all the political subdivisions within that county constitutes an Operational Area.

### Operational Area Law Enforcement Coordinator

The county sheriff is the Operational Area law enforcement coordinator, with the exception of the City and County of San Francisco, where the chief of police is the Operational Area Law Enforcement Coordinator.

### Mutual Aid Region

A Mutual Aid Region is a geographic area comprised of multiple operational areas. A Mutual Aid Region manages and coordinates information and resources among operational areas within the mutual aid region and between the Operational Areas and the state level.

### Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator

A Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator is an Operational Area Law Enforcement Coordinator elected by peers from within the mutual aid Region, to coordinate the collective law enforcement mutual aid response of agencies within the Region.

### State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator

The State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator is the Chief of the Law Enforcement Branch of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The state coordinator is responsible for mutual aid response coordination and administrative interaction between state and local law enforcement agencies during emergency and non-emergency situations, where the mutual aid system is, or could be, involved.





---

State of War Emergency

"State of War Emergency" means the condition which exists immediately, with or without a proclamation thereof by the Governor, whenever this state or nation is attacked by an enemy of the United States, or upon receipt by the state of a warning from the federal government indicating that such an enemy attack is probable or imminent. (Section 8558 (a) GC)

During a state of war emergency, the Governor has complete authority over all agencies of state government and the right to exercise within the area or regions designated, all police power vested in the state by the Constitution and laws of the State of California (GC, Article 12, Section 8620 and Article 13, Section 8627, "California Emergency Services Act"). During a state of war emergency, mutual aid is mandatory. (Discussed later in the Plan.)

State of Emergency

"State of Emergency" means the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake, complications resulting from the Year 2000 Problem, or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy or conditions causing a "state of war emergency," which, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single county, city and county, or city and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat, or with respect to regulated energy utilities, a sudden and severe energy shortage requires extraordinary measures beyond the authority vested in the California Public Utilities Commission. (Section 8558 (b)(GC))

During a state of emergency, the Governor has complete authority over all agencies of state government and the right to exercise within the area or regions designated, all police power vested in the state by the Constitution and laws of the State of California (GC, Article 12, Section 8620 and Article 13, Section 8627, "California Emergency Services Act"). During a state of emergency, mutual aid is mandatory. (Discussed later in the Plan)



---

Local Emergency

"Local Emergency" means the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county, city and county, or city, caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake, complications resulting from the Year 2000 Problem, or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, which are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat, or with respect to regulated energy utilities, a sudden and severe energy shortage requires extraordinary measures beyond the authority vested in the California Public Utilities Commission. (Section 8558(c), GC).

In periods of local emergency, political subdivisions (cities or counties) have the power to provide mutual aid to any affected area in accordance with local ordinances, resolutions, plans, or agreements. (It could be argued that having signed the Master Mutual Aid Agreement, the entity is bound to provide resources, if requested in accordance with the Mutual Aid Plan.)

During a local emergency, state agencies may provide mutual aid; including personnel, equipment, and other available resources, to assist local jurisdictions in accordance with mutual aid plans or at the direction of the Governor.

By proclaiming a local emergency, the governing body of a city or county expands its regulatory enforcement subject to constitutional constraints, increases its police power and may promulgate temporary emergency orders and regulations necessary to provide for the protection of life and property.

Response costs are absorbed by the responding agency notwithstanding any other agreements to the contrary, or availability of disaster reimbursement funds from another source.

**A Proclamation of Local Emergency is not required before requesting law enforcement mutual aid.**

Unusual Occurrence

An unusual occurrence is an event involving potential or actual personal injury or property damage arising from incidents such as natural and manmade disasters, acts of terrorism, and civil unrest.



---

### Fifty Percent Guideline

No jurisdiction is required to unnecessarily deplete its own personnel, equipment and service capabilities in order to furnish mutual aid resources. When requested to provide mutual aid, it is generally accepted that a reasonable response will consist of up to 50% of available on-duty uniformed personnel.

### Law Enforcement Branch

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Branch (Cal OES LEB) is the state facilitator of inter-regional law enforcement mutual aid response resources to operational areas. The Law Enforcement Branch also provides ongoing liaison with operational areas, municipalities, and state and federal agencies during non-emergency periods to facilitate emergency preparedness planning and mutual aid awareness training. The branch also coordinates the state's search and rescue and coroner/medical examiner mutual aid programs, as well as other activities in support of local law enforcement mutual aid response. Additional information follows later in this plan.

### Mission Numbers

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Branch, assigns Cal OES law enforcement mission numbers to track law enforcement mutual aid resources responding from outside the requesting Operational or Regional Area jurisdiction.

This most frequently occurs during searches and rescues involving registered Disaster Service Workers (volunteers) to ensure workers compensation coverage.

Search and Rescue incidents are recognized as an emergency, often requiring specialized resources from various parts of the state. A majority of SAR responders are volunteer professionals. It is recommended that any out-of-county SAR mutual aid mission requests be routed directly to Cal OES LEB for the assigning of a state mission number. This facilitates immediate Statewide SAR Mutual Aid (as defined in the SAR Annex), and identifies the existence of an authorized state mutual aid mission providing Disaster Service Worker (DSW) coverage for properly registered volunteer personnel.

Normal Law Enforcement Mutual Aid within a Region does not require a Cal OES Mission number although; mission numbers may also be issued at the request of the Regional Law Coordinator. If law enforcement resources (in the form of mutual aid) respond outside of their Region (SWAT from a county in Region 4 being requested by a County in Region 3) the Law Branch will issue a mission number and track those responding resources until the operation has concluded.



---

Mission Numbers (Cont.)

If a county within a region desires to have a Cal OES Law Mission number issued for county-to-county mutual aid requests, the request must be directed to the Regional Mutual Aid Coordinator (RMAC) for approval. Upon approval, the RMAC coordinator will contact the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch Duty Officer and request that a mission number be issued. Any request for law enforcement mutual aid outside of the originating region must have the approval of and be coordinated by the Regional Mutual Aid Coordinator.

The existence of a law enforcement mission number also implies that the law enforcement duty officer queried the requestor to insure that mutual aid criteria were met prior to tasking an out-of-county mutual aid response.

It is suggested that any county routinely providing law enforcement mutual aid (typically a specialized resource, i.e. Bomb squad, SWAT) to another county within its region develop an internal "unusual occurrence" numbering system to document each deployment.

Mission numbers are not a mechanism to assure reimbursement of response costs, they are a database tracking tool to memorialize a mutual aid incident and its disposition.

A CalOES law enforcement mission number consists of three parts: the year (e.g. 2009), the letters "LAW" followed by a four digit sequential number, e.g. 2009-LAW0123.

Day-to-Day Mutual Aid

During the course of normal law enforcement smaller incidents occur that may require immediate assistance, such as: back-up on a traffic stop, perimeter control for a fleeing suspect or crowd control at a barricaded suspect location pending the arrival of additional local resources. Officers from nearby jurisdictions may respond to these emergency broadcasts on their own initiative (department policy permitting) without a formal mutual aid request.



---

## **LEVELS OF MUTUAL AID**

Mutual aid response within the State of California is based on four governmental levels of increasingly justifiable mutual aid support. These levels are cities (or other similar local jurisdictions), operational areas, mutual aid regions, and the state.

Note: Throughout this segment of the Mutual Aid Plan, the terms chief of police/sheriff are used as the initiators of a mutual aid request. The volatility of some incidents necessitates immediate support. In fact, any designated command, management or supervisory-level officer/ deputy has the ability to request, or provide, law enforcement mutual aid on behalf of the chief/ sheriff, if so authorized by agency policy.

### City

City police departments are charged with responsibility for the maintenance of law and order and protection of life and property within the municipal geographic boundaries.

The chief of police is the official responsible for determining the magnitude of a law enforcement emergency within the jurisdiction, the extent of locally committed resources and the necessity for requesting law enforcement mutual aid. In a contract city, the command-level manager from the contracted agency functions much as does a local chief.

### Operational Area

The Operational Area (county sheriff) is the next level of law enforcement mutual aid responsibility (See Operational Area map). The Operational Area is a composite of its political subdivisions, i.e., municipalities, contract cities, special districts and county agencies. The county sheriff is the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator (or, in the case of San Francisco, the chief of police of the city and county of San Francisco).

### Region

To facilitate coordination of mutual aid, the State of California is geographically divided into seven law enforcement mutual aid Regions (See Mutual Aid Regional map). Each mutual aid Region is comprised of multiple Operational Areas and has a Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator.



---

The Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator is granted the authority to coordinate the mutual aid response of law enforcement resources within the Region to support a mutual aid request from a jurisdiction within the Region. Requests for mutual aid resources between Regions are coordinated by the Chief of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Branch.

The Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator is a sheriff from within the Region who is elected to the position by majority vote of the other Sheriff's of that Region. [See the appendix that describes this process.]

Note: Coroner's mutual aid is coordinated in the same manner as law enforcement mutual aid beginning at the Operational Area level. See the Cal OES companion document that describes Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid for further detail.

### State

On behalf of the Governor, the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, through the Chief of the Law Enforcement Branch, has the responsibility for coordination of state law enforcement mutual aid resources in support of local jurisdictions during times of emergency. Information on the resources available from state agencies appears later in this plan.

A number of state law enforcement agencies offer assistance on an "immediate need" basis – much as exists in "day-to-day" mutual aid response situations. Nothing in this plan should be construed to limit this process. Indeed, it is consistent with this plan. Use of state law enforcement resources for mutual aid beyond that level should, however, be coordinated through the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch.

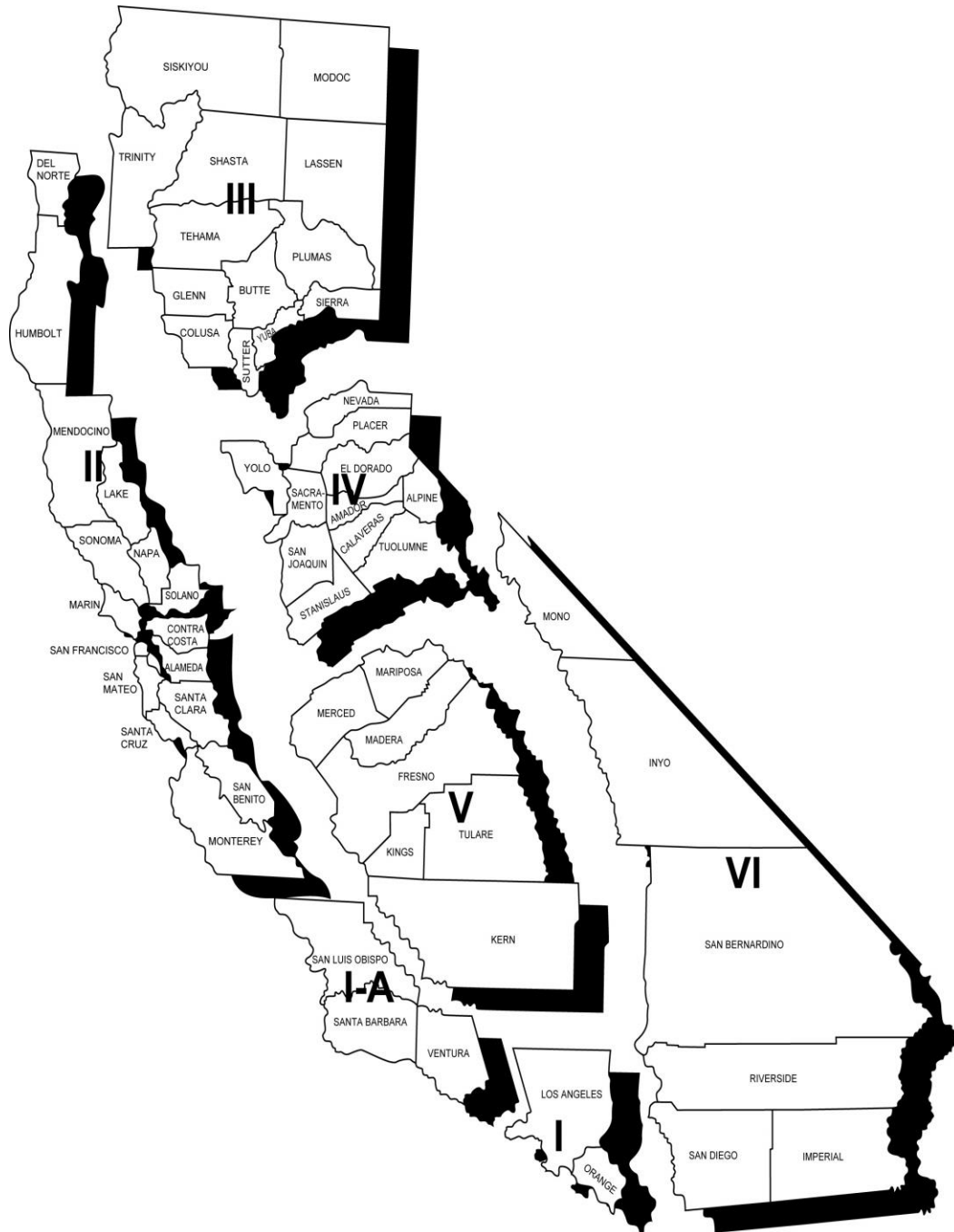
### Federal

The Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch can also assist a local agency in seeking the assistance of federal law enforcement agencies or resources. Our peace officers can assist local law enforcement organizations with requests to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the US Department of Justice, or other agencies. In some cases, federal reimbursement for response costs is available through these agencies – again accessed through Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch.



# Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan

Page 14







---

## **MUTUAL AID PROCEDURES**

Note: Throughout this segment of the Mutual Aid Plan, the terms chief of police/sheriff are used as the initiators of a mutual aid request. The volatility of some police incidents necessitates immediate support. In fact, any designated command, management or supervisory-level officer/deputy has the ability to request, or provide, law enforcement mutual aid on behalf of the chief/sheriff, if so authorized by agency policy.

### Local Request for Mutual Aid

When a chief of police of a local jurisdiction (or the sheriff, acting as chief law enforcement officer for the unincorporated or a contract area) determines that an unusual occurrence may become or is already beyond the control of local law enforcement resources, it is the chief's (or duly authorized representative's) responsibility to request mutual aid from the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator.

A declaration of local emergency may or may not be appropriate for the circumstances; however the chief of police may request mutual aid prior to the activation of an EOC or formal declaration of local emergency. Mutual aid request and response is not dependent on a declaration of local emergency.

### Operational Area Mutual Aid

When an emergency develops or appears to be developing which cannot be resolved by a law enforcement agency within an Operational Area, it is the responsibility of the Operational Area Mutual Aid Coordinator to provide assistance and coordination to control the problem. (Section 26602 GC)

In response to a request for law enforcement mutual aid by a chief of police within the Operational Area, the sheriff will initiate procedures to activate the mutual aid. The sheriff will coordinate the Operational Area response of law enforcement resources including those of unaffected operational area municipalities, the local CHP, and other law enforcement agencies within the Operational Area, as well as the sheriff's resources in order to assist the affected local chief of police.

If it appears likely that the resources of an Operational Area will become depleted, the Regional Coordinator should be advised in advance.





---

### Regional Mutual Aid

Should an existing or anticipated emergency be of such magnitude as to require the commitment of the resources of one or more Operational Areas, it is the responsibility of the Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator to organize the notification and response of resources within that region.

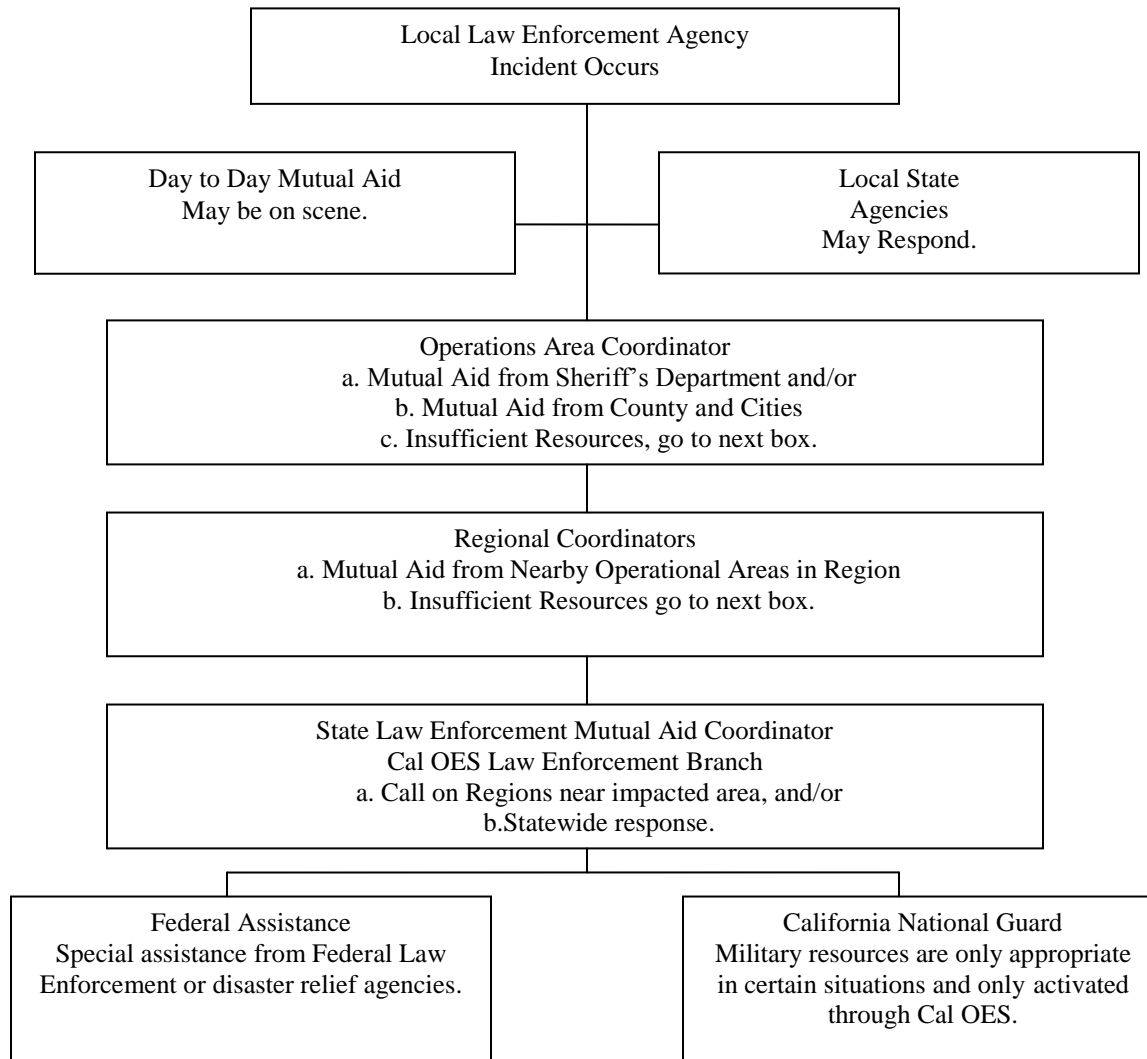
The Regional Coordinator will keep the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator, who is the Chief of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Branch, advised of the situation status. The State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator may support the regional response by issuing mission numbers (see glossary, Mission Numbers) and tasking state agencies within the region. An unusual occurrence necessitating regional law enforcement mutual aid does not require a proclamation of a state of emergency.

### Statewide Mutual Aid

If the combined resources of a region are not sufficient to cope with an emergency situation, the Regional Coordinator may request additional assistance through the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator. The State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator may then task law enforcement resources from Regions statewide, via the Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinators, to assist.



### **Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Requests**





---

## **PRACTICAL ISSUES**

### Mutual Aid Essentials

Reasonable commitment of local law enforcement resources prior to the initiation of a mutual aid request is a fundamental component of mutual aid operations. This does not require the jurisdiction to have expended all personnel resources, but does assume that the agency has reasonably committed the majority of available, on-duty personnel or resources to the incident.

A request for law enforcement mutual aid requires the approval of the chief law enforcement officer of the requesting jurisdiction. A duly authorized sworn staff or command officer acting on behalf of the chief/sheriff may make the request.

Unless otherwise expressly provided, or later agreed upon, the responsible local law enforcement official of the jurisdiction requesting mutual aid shall remain in charge. It is operationally essential that the local law enforcement official coordinate all actions with responding law enforcement agencies to ensure an effective application of forces (8618 GC).

The integrity of responding forces and the policies and procedures of their departments must be maintained. Exceptions will require approval of the concerned department. Refer to the Law Enforcement Guide for Emergency Operations for further policy guidance.

Situation reports should be shared with all interested parties and agencies, including the Regional Coordinator and the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch on a timely and frequent basis.

The agency *requesting* mutual aid is responsible for the following:

1. Identifying numbers and types of mutual aid resources requested.
2. Identifying specific missions for mutual aid responder tasking.
3. Advising responders what equipment they should bring.
4. Establishing an assembly area for responding resources.
5. Identifying communications channels compatible with command and control of field resources.
6. Designating a liaison officer to facilitate a coordinated assimilation of responding mutual aid resources.
7. Preparing a situation briefing including local maps for responders.
8. Providing logistical support such as food, lodging, rest intervals and equipment maintenance as appropriate, for mutual aid personnel. (Cont)



---

**PRACTICAL ISSUES (Cont):**

The responding agency is responsible for the following:

1. Properly equipping its personnel.
2. When possible, assigning a supervisor to maintain unit integrity.
3. Completing response rosters.
4. Dispatching personnel to the staging area.
5. Providing relief for assigned personnel at protracted events.
6. Record keeping as to dates and times of arrival and departure, rank, timekeeping, mileage, damage and expended resources.

Mutual Aid within SEMS

Mutual Aid is intended to augment local resources that have become overwhelmed as a result of unplanned circumstances requiring an emergency response. In California the organizational structure adopted to manage responding resources for all disciplines is the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). SEMS includes the field level Incident Command System (ICS). (8607 GC)

Incident Command

For a detailed description of the Law Enforcement Incident Command System (LEICS) including mutual aid operational procedures, it is recommended that the Law Enforcement Guide for Emergency Operations be reviewed. The five command staff functions of Incident Commander, Operations, Planning/Intelligence, Logistics, Finance/Administration and their subordinate components are discussed in detail.

Planned Events

Planned events are not mutual aid incidents for planning purposes. Scheduled events that by their nature are potentially beyond the ability of local control require the affected jurisdiction, as a matter of responsible planning, to meet with the promoters, the sheriff and any other appropriate government entity to ensure that the law enforcement presence is adequate and that public safety is protected. Such planning may result in a Memorandum of Understanding [MOU] or contract between the local government hosting the event, specific law enforcement agencies involved and the event promoter.

The mutual aid system is not intended to prevent MOU agreements between concerned parties to ensure an adequate law enforcement presence. Policing costs are frequently recovered through event revenues and this should be considered during the planning process. (Cont)



---

**PRACTICAL ISSUES (Cont):**

Even with adequate planning, some events are inherently more likely than others to develop into an unusual occurrence. During the planning process, it is not only appropriate but recommended that the mutual aid organization be alerted to this potential. By doing so, those agencies which can be expected to provide support in such an eventuality will be afforded the opportunity to plan and deploy accordingly during the dates of the event. Proper planning will ensure an optimum mutual aid response should it become necessary.

It is recommended that the pre-event planning participants be organized according to the SEMS organization structure. By doing so, each entity can see exactly where it fits in a well defined organizational relationship. At multi-agency events, all levels of event staffing must be knowledgeable of the command hierarchy. If addressed prior to the event, it minimizes confusion and creates a seamless transition from planning to operations.

These things having been said, an unforeseen emergency may occur at a planned event that results in a mutual aid response. Mutual aid does not occur until the local law enforcement authority with jurisdiction determines that an emergency is in progress, that local resources have been reasonably committed or are unavailable and mutual aid assistance is required to restore the peace.

Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch personnel are available for event planning consultation and will staff appropriate positions during the event to facilitate mutual aid response and ensure that the Governor's office is appraised of situational developments. Some events will be of a nature that the federal government will declare them National Security Special Events [NSSE]. In these cases, the US Secret Service will convene a multi-agency planning team, to include local law enforcement. The Federal Bureau of Investigation also assigns Special Event Response Levels [SERL] to certain events. Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch staff can describe the NSSE and SERL processes, and put local law enforcement officials in touch with appropriate officials for further information.



---

### Reserve Officers

Mutual Aid normally consists of sworn officers, technical personnel (sworn and non-sworn) and other resources. Many agencies use reserve officers to augment local field policing. In a law enforcement mutual aid response, reserve officers may best be utilized within their own jurisdiction to backfill vacant positions created by regular officers who have been deployed to the emergency jurisdiction.

Those concerns notwithstanding, reserve officers, as defined by California Penal Code 830.6 (a) 1 & 2 and 836.2, as employed by a law enforcement agency authorized to field reserve officers, may be utilized to enforce the law anywhere in the State of California.

### Communications

An essential need during any emergency is the ability of an agency to communicate both internally and with other agencies. With this requirement in mind, the problem of communications should be a priority in mutual aid planning before an incident occurs.

The State of California has established the California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Radio System (CLEMARS) with special frequencies for emergency law enforcement mutual aid purposes. For a detailed description of the California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Radio System, it is recommended that the CLEMARS Plan be reviewed. This system is intended for command and control purposes among agencies taking part in emergency operations. It is not to be used as a primary local channel. Local departments may be allowed to use these channels in their day-to-day operations as an auxiliary to their primary frequency upon approved request.

In addition to CLEMARS, Cal OES Telecommunications is able to deploy interoperability communications vehicles to incident command posts. These vehicles are capable of coordinating dissimilar radio frequencies to facilitate communications among responding agencies.

Cal OES Telecommunications is also able to deploy satellite trailers to an Incident Command Post that will permit a combination of up to ten satellite data and telephone links, even in remote areas.

The Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch maintains a cache of handheld radios that are available to law enforcement agencies for emergency deployment. These radios are programmable in the UHF and VHF frequency ranges. Caches of encrypted radios for sensitive situations, investigations or incidents are also available.



---

### Financial Assistance

Law enforcement agencies may be eligible for disaster related financial reimbursement from the state and/or federal government. State financial assistance may occur through the California Disaster Assistance Act (8680 through 8692 GC) when the Governor proclaims a state of emergency. Federal financial assistance may occur under Public Law 93-288 as amended by the Stafford Act. This requires a Presidential declaration of major disaster.

The Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) program was enacted to ensure that adequate resources are available to control a fire incident *before a major disaster occurs*. FMAG assistance must be requested by the local fire agency, through Cal EMA, and approved by FEMA while the fire is burning uncontrolled and threatens such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. If an FMAG is approved by FEMA, seventy five percent of direct emergency response costs, including local law enforcement, may be eligible for federal reimbursement. Authority for this program can be found in *44 CFR Parts 2, 9, 10, 204, and 206*, The Fire Management Assistance Grant Program, and in *Public Law 106-390, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000*. Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch staff can advise and assist if a local agency wishes to file a claim for these funds.

Should these proclamations occur, local agencies may be eligible for financial assistance to reimburse a percentage of response costs (i.e., overtime, mileage, etc.), and restoration and reconstruction costs for damage to agency facilities.

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Recovery Branch administers both state and federal claims for disaster assistance as a part of the state's disaster recovery program. Briefings on program eligibility are conducted periodically and immediately following disaster proclamations or declarations. Auditors from the State Controller's Office are also available at those briefings to assist agency personnel in documenting costs and identifying necessary records.

Claims for reimbursement must withstand future state/federal audits, or funds advanced as part of the initial assessment must be returned. Therefore, all responding law enforcement agencies should keep accurate and complete records concerning personnel timekeeping, mission tasking and resource expenditures during the period of any incident that may become eligible for future reimbursement. (Cont)



---

### Financial Assistance (Cont)

An additional federal program, the Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Act (EFLEA) administered through the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) can assist state and local law enforcement agencies with funding, equipment, training, intelligence information, and personnel to help alleviate emergency situations. The program is not intended to be a routine source of federal financial assistance for criminal justice activities. Detailed information about EFLEA may be found at Title 28, CFR, Chapter 1, Part 65. It is codified at Title 42, USC, Section 10501. For details contact the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch.

This document does not discuss other grant programs for preparedness activities such as those involving funds for terrorism equipment, training, and exercises. Contact the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch for information about these programs.

### Interstate Assistance

In accordance with the Interstate Civil Defense and Disaster Compact as the basis for mutual aid between states; the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services entered into a Memoranda of Agreement with the neighboring states of Oregon, Nevada and Arizona for law enforcement mutual aid under certain conditions. Most frequently, this form of mutual aid is exercised during Searches and Rescues (see the Search and Rescue Annex to this plan). When necessary, the chief of the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch coordinates requests for out of state law enforcement mutual aid through the governor's office of the concerned neighboring state.

In 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger signed legislation adopting the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) as the primary guidance for the exchange of resources between States. This document allows for the prompt responses of necessary resources to other States upon emergency declaration by the affected State's Governor.

These provisions are in addition to the authorities and procedures in place within the California Vehicle Code and California Penal Code for investigations, pursuits and other criminal matters near state boundaries.

### Federal Resources

Acquisition of federal resources in support of local law enforcement emergency operations can be coordinated through the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch. While day-to-day cooperation from federal law enforcement agencies need not involve this office, during emergencies or major unusual occurrences it is important to ensure that federal assistance is provided in a coordinated, equitable basis – often to multiple locations.





---

## **STATE AGENCY ROLES AND RESOURCES**

### Actions of State Agencies – In General

State law enforcement agency peace officers may be used at any level of law enforcement mutual aid – locally, as part of an operational area or regional response or when coordinated by the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch as part of a statewide response.

### Specific State Agencies

<b>Agency</b>	<b>California Department of Consumer Affairs-Division of Investigations</b>
<b>Authority</b>	California Penal Code, California Business and Professions Code
<b>Roles</b>	<p>The Division of Investigation provides centralized law enforcement investigative services for the various regulatory boards, bureaus, programs, committees and commissions within the Department of Consumer Affairs. All investigators employed by the Division of Investigation are P.O.S.T. certified sworn peace officers who are authorized to conduct criminal and administrative investigations, obtain and execute search warrants, serve legal processes and make arrests anywhere within the State of California.</p> <p>The goal is to protect the health, safety and welfare of California consumers by conducting investigations and by filing criminal, administrative and civil actions against licensees on behalf of the client agencies with the Department of Consumer Affairs. Examples of such investigations include fraud, unlicensed activities, assault and battery, narcotics and drug violations, sexual misconduct, patient abuse, wrongful death, workplace violence, threat assessment, enforcement of restraining orders, and theft. Investigators are also detailed for dignitary protection, peacekeeping, security services at hearings, and public meetings held by the client agencies.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	Approximately 58 peace officers assigned to Division of Investigation offices statewide.
<b>Procedures</b>	Request for staff or resources should be directed through the office of the Chief Investigator or the Deputy Chief Investigator. The contact telephone numbers are: (916) 324-1534 or (916) 445-2537.



---

<b>Agency</b>	<b>California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation</b>
<b>Authority</b>	8598, 8628 Government Code
<b>Roles</b>	<p>Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation employees of the correctional series, responding under formal mutual aid, have the full powers of peace officers as defined under Section 830.2 of the California Penal Code. Therefore; when mutual aid response is authorized, missions accepted will not be limited to operation of detention facilities.</p> <p>Ensure that the mission tasking requested is consistent with the level of training and experience of the responders by consulting with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Emergency Operations staff.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	Approximately 19,000 correctional peace officers at 92 facilities and institutions throughout the state. Additional support may be available from 1,600 parole agent personnel also stationed throughout the state. The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation also maintains and operates a large fleet of prisoner transportation vehicles which may also be made available on official request.
<b>Policy</b>	It is the policy of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to assist local law enforcement in a manner consistent with the California Mutual Aid Plan when sufficient resources are available.
<b>Procedures</b>	Contact the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Branch to request assistance from CDCR personnel during emergency or mutual aid conditions.



---

<b>Agency</b>	<b>California Highway Patrol</b>
<b>Authority</b>	California Penal Code, California Vehicle Code, Executive Orders
<b>Roles</b>	The California Highway Patrol's primary role is to ensure safety and provide service to the public as they use the state's highway transportation system, and to provide safety and security to state employees and state property. Additionally, its role is to assist local governments during emergencies or situations beyond their capabilities.
<b>Resources</b>	Approximately 8,000 peace officers assigned in eight geographic divisions throughout the state.
<b>Policy</b>	<p>Emergency traffic and officer-safety assistance can be requested at any time. This should be considered day-to-day mutual aid.</p> <p>Formal mutual aid will be granted on approval from the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol. Division Chiefs and Area Commanders have authority to mobilize as many of their personnel as necessary for effective response prior to obtaining headquarters' approval.</p>
<b>Procedures</b>	Contact the closest CHP Area Office or Communications Center to initiate a request for assistance.



---

<b>Agency</b>	<b>State Military Forces (California National Guard)</b>
<b>Authority</b>	California Military and Veteran's Code
<b>Roles</b>	<p>To assist civil authority in the discharge of lawful responsibilities by performing tasks which include but are not limited to; restoration and maintenance of law and order, protection of life and property, limited removal of debris, medical evacuation and limited medical treatment, search and rescue, emergency communications, and general logistics support.</p> <p>Normally, the CNG will be placed in support of law enforcement agencies and will not usurp or accept the responsibility or authority of civil authorities. Military assistance once provided will be terminated at the earliest practical time at the restoration of law and order, or the resumption of control of local law enforcement.</p> <p>In order for the Adjutant General, CNG, to properly evaluate the emergency and the need to implement certain procedures that will reduce the reaction time of CNG forces upon call-up, it is essential that early and frequent evaluations of the disturbance or condition and its potential be made by senior law enforcement officials and forwarded through the normal Cal OES communication channels, or directly to the liaison detachment of the Military Department when on the scene.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	Resource availability is dependent on federal deployments and other commitments; numbers vary accordingly.
<b>Policy</b>	<p>The Governor may order the CNG to perform military duty of every description. The Governor will normally commit the CNG resources in support of civil authority, but only upon determination that emergency conditions exist or are imminent, that all civil resources reasonably available have been or will be committed, that civil authority cannot or will not be able to control the situation, and that military assistance is required and has been requested as provided in law. CNG resources cannot be used in violation of the Economy Act, which requires civilian or commercial resources to be sought before considering use of the Guard.</p> <p>Under the provisions of Section 143 of the California Military and Veterans Code, the Governor may commit CNG resources without a request from civil authority only under highly perilous conditions where local civil authority no longer exists or is unable or unwilling to employ available civil resources to control or mitigate a situation. (Cont)</p>



---

**State Military Forces (California National Guard) (Cont)**

CNG in support of local law enforcement will receive and execute broad mission-type orders of the civil officer in charge, but will at all times remain under the military chain of command. The provisions of Section 365 of the Military and Veterans Code assign all decisions as to tactical direction of troops, type and extent of force to be used, and particular means to be employed to accomplish the objective or goal specified by the civil officer in charge directly to the military commander.

**Procedures**      **Any request for National Guard resources must be forwarded to the Governor through the Cal OES.**

**Note:** Under the stress of emergency conditions, local officials occasionally disregard the mutual aid system in requesting CNG assistance. This results in unnecessary delays in providing a response. Requests must be directed through the Law Enforcement Regional Coordinator to the Cal OES Law Enforcement Coordinator to ensure that all available manpower has been reasonably committed. If at that time it is determined that activation of CNG forces is the most appropriate and expedient means of meeting the requirement, a Cal OES mission number will be issued and military support rendered.

**Response**      The CNG will make every effort to respond to the scene of an unusual occurrence in the most expeditious manner. Some responses may require the mobilization of additional personnel that are not on active duty at the time of the request. In such cases the CNG will respond initially with liaison personnel and upon gubernatorial approval, will expand deployment based on their assessment of the situation and its potential to worsen. Depending upon global and statewide commitments, additional CNG field resources can be expected to arrive on-scene no later than 24 hours after approval of the initial request.



---

<b>Agency</b>	<b>California Department of Justice</b>
<b>Authority</b>	California Constitution Article 5 (13), 12510 et seq. Government Code; California Penal Code
<b>Roles</b>	<p>Provide legal advice to State and local agencies involved in mutual aid situations.</p> <p>Assist city and county law enforcement jurisdictions by making sworn law enforcement personnel available for mutual aid and emergency assistance, i.e. civil unrest, major disasters (earthquakes and flooding).</p> <p>Activate the Department of Justice Emergency Operations Center to assist local law enforcement agencies with regional or statewide response for mutual aid requests, disasters or major emergencies</p> <p>During normal and emergency circumstances, the Command Center and Telecommunications Units operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide expedited Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI), Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) i.e., wanted persons, stolen vehicles, stolen property, missing and unidentified persons and other automated file information to law enforcement agencies. Assist in the gathering, analyzing and dissemination of criminal intelligence and terrorism information through the State Terrorism Threat Assessment Center.</p> <p>Make DOJ aviation resources available for local, regional or statewide mutual aid requests. These resources will be used for the transportation of emergency personnel and materials, aerial observation and damage assessment, and evacuation of persons from imminent danger or for medical purposes.</p> <p>During mass casualty/mass fatality incidents, provide identification services for living or deceased persons in support of local law enforcement or at the request of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Branch.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	Approximately 250 peace officers statewide.
<b>Policy</b>	The Attorney General's Policy is to assist law enforcement and local units of government during emergencies in accordance with the Emergency Services Act and the California Mutual Aid Plan.
<b>Procedures</b>	M-F: Chief, Bureau of Criminal Information and Analysis, DOJ's EOC Commander, at 916-227-3519. EOC Coordinator contact 24 hrs 916-227-3244.



---

<b>Agency</b>	<b>California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection - CAL FIRE</b>
<b>Authority</b>	California Penal Code, Public Resources Code, Health and Safety Code, Government Code, State Administrative Orders, State Administrative Order, and California Emergency Services Act.
<b>Roles</b>	<p>The primary responsibility of CAL FIRE is to provide fire and life safety services, emergency response to disasters, forest and fire law enforcement and protection to the natural resources in the areas of the state designated as State Responsibility Areas (SRA), and to Local Responsibility Areas (LRA) or federal lands where the federal or local governmental agency has requested the state to provide these services through an agreement or contract.</p> <p>CAL FIRE also has the responsibility to protect state employees and state property from fire, explosion, and related perils, to investigate all fires and explosions occurring in or on state property or building that is determined to be "state occupied." Explosives and fireworks are under the primary jurisdiction of CAL FIRE through the Office of the State Fire Marshal. CAL FIRE may assist in the disposal and/or rendering safe fireworks and explosives</p> <p>CAL FIRE provides mutual aid to local fire and law enforcement agencies in the investigation of fires, arson, bombings, fireworks or ordinance disposal and rendering safe procedures and other requests for law enforcement assistance. The Governor's Special Arson Task Force is chaired by the State Fire Marshal and provides arson investigative assistance to local governmental agencies, upon request.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	There are approximately 180 peace officer personnel throughout CAL FIRE, most are assigned suppression duties. There are approximately 60 dedicated CAL FIRE peace officers, 1 K9 team, and 5 bomb technicians assigned at various locations statewide performing general fire prevention patrol and fire/arson investigation duties.
<b>Policy</b>	The assignment of CAL FIRE peace officers and the degree of their commitment will be decided by the CAL FIRE Unit, Region, or Sacramento Headquarters Duty Chief and will be based on the capability and availability of resources. All requests will be handled through existing dispatch procedures and notification policies. Formal requests for activation of CAL FIRE law enforcement mutual aid from outside the affected operational area will conform to the mutual aid activation policy for state agency contributors found at the beginning of this chapter. Mission Tasking through Cal OES is another method of requesting CAL FIRE law enforcement personnel when there is a disaster. (Cont)



---

**California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection-CAL FIRE (Cont)**

**Procedures** Informal requests for local level law enforcement, investigative assistance, fireworks, ordinance requests, and Governor's Special Arson Task Force assistance will be made to the local CAL FIRE Unit Emergency Command Center (ECC) or the Region Emergency Operations Command Center (EOCC), or Sacramento Headquarters' Duty Chief:

Sacramento Duty Chief: (916) 327-3063  
No California Duty Chief: (530) 224-4944  
So California Duty Chief: (951) 782-4236





---

**Agency**            **California Department of Parks and Recreation**

**Roles**                The primary responsibility of the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) is to acquire, develop, operate, protect and maintain the peace in the State Park System.

The secondary responsibilities include: assisting local government agencies in reacting to emergencies by performing tasks which include, but are not limited to, the restoration and maintenance of law and order, protection of life and property, first aid treatment, search and rescue, emergency communication and logistics support and where possible, provide displaced residents within the affected area with temporary camping locations with potable water and sanitation facilities.

**Resources**        Approximately 725 peace officer [ranger/lifeguard] personnel are assigned to various state parks, recreational areas and other facilities throughout the state. Each reports to a District Superintendent.

**Policy**                Requests for mutual aid support will only be acted upon when received from properly constituted local authorities as identified in the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan.

Prior to Division approval to commit resources, District Superintendents have the authority to mobilize as many of their existing personnel and resources as necessary. Resources that require additional budgetary support or future reimbursement will not be committed without Division approval.

For incidents which occur within their Division, Division Chiefs are authorized to mobilize as many existing personnel and resources within the Division as they deem appropriate prior to receiving approval from the Deputy Director for Operations. Resources that require additional budgetary support or future reimbursement will not be committed without approval from the Chief Deputy Director for Operations or designee.

**Procedures**        Contact the closest Parks and Recreation regional dispatch center:

NORCOM (Northern California)    (916) 358-1300  
CENCOM (Central California)       (831) 649-2810  
SURCOM (Southern California)    (951) 443-2964/65



---

<b>Agency</b>	<b>California Department of Insurance</b>
<b>Authority</b>	California Penal Code, Master Mutual Aid Agreement
<b>Roles</b>	The primary responsibility of the Fraud Division is to protect the public from economic loss and distress by actively investigating and arresting those who commit insurance fraud. An additional Fraud Division role is to reduce the overall incidence of insurance fraud through anti-fraud outreach to the public, private and government sectors.
<b>Resources</b>	Approximately 205 sworn peace officers assigned to Department of Insurance offices statewide.
<b>Policy</b>	Upon notification by the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch and issuance of a mission number, the Chief Deputy and/or CIB Fraud Division chain of command will make internal notifications and fill resource requests.
<b>Procedures</b>	Primary contact is the Chief Deputy Commissioner; backup is the Criminal Investigation Branch Deputy Commissioner.



---

<b>Agency</b>	<b>California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control</b>
<b>Authority</b>	California Penal Code, California Business and Professions Code
<b>Roles</b>	<p>The mission of the Department is to administer the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act in a manner that fosters and protects the health, safety, welfare, and economic well being of the people of the state.</p> <p>Investigators are available to assist local law enforcement as needed, consistent with the mission of the department, and the Master Mutual Aid Agreement.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	<p>Approximately 239 peace officer investigators statewide. Additionally, the SOU (Special Operations Unit) is available upon request. The primary function of SOU is to provide an effective enforcement strike force to address the following problems and activities: disorderly premises investigations; underage drinking; major narcotics investigations; field enforcement; interagency law enforcement task force operations; special events and training.</p> <p>The Department is in partnership with law enforcement agencies which have formed task forces with full time staffing to address such problems as drug trafficking (INCA, Riverside, IRNET, So. Calif.), money laundering (U.S. Customs TF, San Francisco) and intelligence gathering for anti-terrorism (CATIC, Sacramento).</p>
<b>Policy</b>	Upon determination that Mutual Aid is requested from the Department, the Assistant Director of either Northern Division (From: Oregon Border To: Kern County line) or Southern Division (From: Kings County Line To: Mexico Border) will be contacted for staff dispatch.
<b>Procedures</b>	<p>Dependent upon geographic location, a requesting agency will notify Cal OES of the request for Mutual Aid. Once Cal OES issues a mission number, Cal OES or the requesting agency will notify the appropriate Assistant Director. The Assistant Director will notify and deploy personnel as needed, and will advise the Department's Director of the request. The Assistant Director will remain the contact person throughout the request period. *NOTE: If the Assistant Directors cannot be contacted, the Director will become the contact person for the Department.</p>

Northern Division Assistant Director  
Business # 916-263-6881



---

**California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (Cont)**

Southern Division Assistant Director:  
Business # 562-860-4150

\*Director:  
Business # 916-263-6889

After hours, contact the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch to request mutual aid resources from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.



---

<b>Agency</b>	<b>California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Law Enforcement Division</b>
<b>Authority</b>	California Fish and Wildlife Code, California Penal Code, California Government Code, and Administrative Orders
<b>Roles</b>	<p>The mission of the DFW Law Enforcement Division is to protect California’s natural resources and provide public safety through effective and responsive law enforcement.</p> <p>Secondary responsibilities include: assisting local government agencies in reacting to emergencies by performing tasks which include, but are not limited to the restoration and maintenance of law and order, protection of life, property and the environment, search and rescue operations, air operations, emergency communications, and logistics support.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	Approximately 325 peace officers assigned in one of four geographic districts or special units within the state. Department of Fish and Wildlife Wardens are equipped for off-road, off-shore, and inland water responses.
<b>Policy</b>	<p>Emergency and officer safety assistance can be requested at any time.</p> <p>Requests for mutual aid support will be acted upon per the guidelines of the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan.</p> <p>Formal mutual aid will be granted on approval from the Chief of the Law Enforcement Branch or designee. Prior to headquarters approval, Assistant Chiefs and District Captains have authority to mobilize as many of their personnel as deemed necessary for effective response</p> <p>Contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife Northern Communications Center to initiate a mutual aid request for assistance.</p>



---

<b>Agency</b>	<b>California Department of Motor Vehicles</b>
<b>Authority</b>	California Penal Code, California Vehicle Code
<b>Roles</b>	<p>The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Investigations Division protects and serves the public interest and maintains the integrity, security, and reliability of the Department's data, services, and products by providing consumer protection through the enforcement of laws, rules, and regulations applicable to licensees, business partners, the public, and employees of the Department.</p> <p>DMV Investigators improve public safety through protection of the programs and interests of the Department and through active prevention/detection of fraud and counterfeit of the Department's indicia.</p> <p>The Investigations Division enforces laws, rules, and regulations that apply to new and used vehicle dealers, brokers, dismantlers, registration services, vehicle verifiers, driving schools, traffic violator schools, and other vehicle-related businesses.</p> <p>DMV is a participant in the State's Emergency Preparedness Alert System and has a fully equipped Department Emergency Operation Center (DEOC) available for State or National emergencies. The primary function of the DEOC is to coordinate Department resources for the protection of agency personnel, customers, facilities, information depositories, and to assist local, State and Federal authorities. Investigators are sworn peace officers under California Penal Code section 830.3 (c) and are available to assist local law enforcement when needed, consistent with the mission of the department and the Master Mutual Aid Agreement.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	DMV's Investigation Division is staffed with 240 sworn peace officers assigned to three geographic Regions within the State.
<b>Policy</b>	<p>Requests for mutual aid will only be acted upon when received from local authorities as identified in the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan.</p> <p>The Chief has the authority to mobilize personnel and resources as necessary. Area Commanders must receive approval prior to committing resources. Resources that require additional budgetary support or future reimbursement will not be committed without approval.</p>
<b>Procedures</b>	24 hr Contact-Incident Response Hot Line (916) 657-8100



---

### **The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Branch**

Since 1960, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Branch has provided valuable services to California's law enforcement agencies. Staffed with experienced peace officers, the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch works directly with California's Sheriffs and Police Departments. Additionally, division personnel maintain liaison with all federal agencies including the FBI, ATF, Secret Service, State Department, and all the state law enforcement agencies.

#### **Law Enforcement Branch Programs**

Within the Response Operations, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Branch is responsible for several key programs:

- Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System
- Search and Rescue Mutual Aid
- Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid
- Special Resources for Mutual Aid

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Branch coordinator/peace officers meet with local law enforcement executives, managers, supervisors and others to ensure that the system is ready at any time to serve California law enforcement. Staff works alongside local counterparts to develop operational plans, design, and present training and exercises; and when appropriate, coordinate mutual aid services during actual events.

Each of our staff members has years of experience in emergency management as it relates specifically to law enforcement agencies and their personnel. There is always a staff member on call to assist local law enforcement. Immediate assistance can be sought from the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch by calling (916) 845-8700.



---

### Mutual Aid Manuals/Training

The Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch produces several manuals designed to assist law enforcement agencies in correctly applying law enforcement mutual aid. In addition to the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan, the Law Enforcement Guide for Emergency Operations helps law enforcement agencies better understand the State's Emergency Management System, the Incident Command System and how to plan for law enforcement response to major emergencies. The Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Training Course is a P.O.S.T. certified modular course in the concepts and principles of Law Enforcement Mutual Aid which can include a tabletop exercise to assist students in integrating concepts into practical skills. The Coroner Mutual Aid Plan is also available, providing detailed information on concepts in the context of mass fatality operations. As an adjunct to effective mutual aid, the branch shares management of the California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Radio System [CLEMARS]. The CLEMARS Plan documents application for, and use of, the system.

### Search and Rescue

The Law Enforcement Branch is charged with the responsibility for coordinating state mutual aid for search and rescue in California. In addition, it receives and coordinates interstate requests under the auspices of the National Search and Rescue Plan. The branch also coordinates local requests for State and Federal Agency search and rescue assistance. Because Search and Rescue missions are often life threatening, requests for out-of-county, State or Federal resources can be made directly to Cal OES by calling (916) 845-8700, 24 hours a day.

### Search and Rescue - Related Products

The Search and Rescue Annex to the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan is a document that explains in detail, the organizations involved in search and rescue, their roles and capabilities, and the process for obtaining their assistance. The branch also offers a P.O.S.T. certified class for those persons responsible for search and rescue management: "Direction and Control of the Search Function" has been offered to law enforcement Search and Rescue Incident Commanders for more than 17 years. More than 2,500 students have completed this 40-hour supervisory course that provides valuable information on the management of wilderness search operations.

### Equipment Loan

To assist California law enforcement, the Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch has developed an inventory of special resources. This equipment is available for short-term loan to local and state law enforcement agencies. Hand-held radios, portable radio base stations, mobile communications vehicles and other law enforcement items are available upon request.





---

## **THE ROLE OF THE OPERATIONAL AREA LAW ENFORCEMENT MUTUAL AID COORDINATOR**

### Background

The Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator plays a critical role in California's Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System. It is a dual role, wherein the mutual aid activities of an individual's own department and those of all other law enforcement agencies within the operational area are coordinated.

### Duties and Responsibilities

- ❑ The Coordinator must have a working knowledge of the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System and the procedures that enable it to operate efficiently.
- ❑ One or more points-of-contact should be identified at the coordinator's employing agency. This individual should serve as the Coordinator's "subject matter expert" and should assist in the actual development and maintenance of the Operational Area's Law Enforcement Mutual Aid capability.
- ❑ The Coordinator should assess the mutual aid resources in the operational area, as well as the level of training related to mutual aid.
- ❑ The Coordinator should serve as a relay point for communication of threat, warning and preparedness information to all law enforcement agencies in the operational area.
- ❑ The Coordinator should ensure that links exist to share appropriate threat, warning and preparedness information with fire and emergency medical services agencies in the operational area as well.
- ❑ The Coordinator should organize and chair an operational area law enforcement coordinating group, composed of the police chiefs and law enforcement executives within the operational area. The group may include others as deemed necessary by the chair. This committee should meet at least once each year and hold additional meetings as necessary.
- ❑ This group should:
  - Aid and encourage the development of mutual aid protocols and uniform law enforcement response plans within the Area.



- 
- Aid and encourage the development of countywide law enforcement communications networks. The communication nets should tie each law enforcement communications facility to the Operational Area Law Enforcement Dispatch Center, alternate dispatch centers, and allied agency centers, such as those for fire and EMS.
  - Develop a dispatching procedure for mutual aid use of law enforcement resources, both for in-county and out-of-county response.
- ❑ The Coordinator is responsible for coordinating response of all law enforcement resources within the operational area on major mutual aid operations.
  - ❑ The Coordinator also evaluates requests for assistance from local agencies; determines the resources within the operational area that can provide timely assistance, and initiates their response. This may consist of a response by any combination of Sheriff's personnel or local police from within the operational area. When resources within the operational area are insufficient, either for lack of timely response or the resource order is beyond operational area capability to fill, the request must be forwarded to the Region.
  - ❑ Justifies the need for ordered resources and monitors the length of time the resources will be deployed. Periodically evaluates the justification and commitment to the local agency of these resources, and keeps the Region informed.
  - ❑ The Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator will advise the requesting jurisdiction of the origin of resources responding to the request for assistance.
  - ❑ The Coordinator must keep the Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator informed of all operations.

*The Operational Area Law Enforcement Coordinator is not responsible for direction of emergency operations except those that occur within the coordinator's employing agency jurisdiction. The local official in whose jurisdiction the emergency exists shall remain in full charge of all resources, staffing, and equipment furnished for mutual aid operations.*



---

## **THE ROLE OF THE REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MUTUAL AID COORDINATOR**

### Background

The Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator is *de facto* a member of the California's Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System's "board of directors." Even more complex than the role of an Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator, the Regional Coordinator's role balances the needs and resources of the employing agency, but also those of the Operational Area and the other Operational Areas in the Region. The coordinator is also asked to provide guidance to other agencies in the system when appropriate.

### Duties and Responsibilities

- ❑ The Regional Coordinator has all the duties of an Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator, as well as the following:
- ❑ One or more points-of-contact should be identified at the Coordinators employing agency in order to assist with coordination of the mutual aid activities of the region. The Coordinator should assess the region's law enforcement mutual aid capabilities, and communicate this information to the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator.
- ❑ The Regional Coordinator should serve as a relay point for communication of threat, warning and preparedness information to all law enforcement agencies in the region, and to the operational area.
- ❑ The Regional Coordinator should meet periodically with the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinators in the Region, to exchange information that would enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of mutual aid operations.
- ❑ The Coordinator is responsible for coordinating response of all law enforcement resources within the region, with the assistance of operational area coordinators, on major mutual aid operations.
- ❑ The Coordinator evaluates requests for assistance from an operational area; determines the resources from that operational area(s) within the region that can provide assistance, and initiates an appropriate response. When resources within the region are insufficient, either for lack of timely response or when the resource order is beyond regional capability, the request must be made to the state.
- ❑ The Regional Coordinator must keep the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator informed regarding all region-level operations.



---

## **REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MUTUAL AID COORDINATOR ELECTION PROCESS**

### Background

Consistent with the Standardized Emergency Management System, California's Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System consists of inter-related layers, from field operations through state coordination. Key in this process are the roles of the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator and the Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator.

The responsibility for monitoring law enforcement activities within each Operational Area is vested in an Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator. Similarly, the Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator has the responsibility to monitor events and incidents in the region's operational areas, and to ensure timely coordination and provision of law enforcement mutual aid resources in the region.

Much of the success of any system depends upon the capabilities of the individuals serving at the various levels in the chain of command, and acceptance of their expertise by their peers. This document outlines the process for the election of Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinators.

### Term

Elections for Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinators should be conducted at least once every four years, to coincide with the Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator's term of office as Sheriff. If a Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator leaves office as Sheriff during an un-expired term, notification must be made to the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator so that a special election may be held. When such a vacancy occurs, the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator will appoint an "Acting" Regional Law Enforcement Coordinator to serve until the formal election process is completed.

### Election Process

Regional Law Enforcement Coordinator elections will be conducted by mail ballot, or at a special regional law enforcement mutual aid meeting called by the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator. Nominations will be sought from the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinators. If the majority of nominations are for the same individual, that person shall be declared elected. If there is no clear winner, a written or voice vote will take place. In the event of a tie the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator will cast the deciding vote. Note that elections will be documented with written records of the proceedings.



---

## SELECTED LEGAL SECTIONS

**8550 GC (Government Code)** The state has long recognized its responsibility to mitigate the effects of natural, manmade, or war-caused emergencies which result in conditions of disaster or in extreme peril to life, property, and the resources of the state, and generally to protect the health and safety and preserve the lives and property of the people of the state. To insure that preparations within the state will be adequate to deal with such emergencies, it is hereby found and declared to be necessary:

(a) To confer upon the Governor and upon the chief executives and governing bodies of political subdivisions of this state the emergency powers provided herein; and to provide for state assistance in the organization and maintenance of the emergency programs of such political subdivisions;

(b) To provide for a state agency to be known and referred to as the California Office of Emergency Services, within the Governor's Office; and to prescribe the powers and duties of the director of that office;

(c) To provide for the assignment of functions to state agencies to be performed during an emergency and for the coordination and direction of the emergency actions of such agencies;

(d) To provide for the rendering of mutual aid by the state government and all its departments and agencies and by the political subdivisions of this state in carrying out the purposes of this chapter;

(e) To authorize the establishment of such organizations and the taking of such actions as are necessary and proper to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

It is further declared to be the purpose of this chapter and the policy of this state that all emergency services functions of this state be coordinated as far as possible with the comparable functions of its political subdivisions, of the federal government including its various departments and agencies, of other states, and of private agencies of every type, to the end that the most effective use may be made of all manpower, resources, and facilities for dealing with any emergency that may occur.

**8558.** Three conditions or degrees of emergency are established by this chapter:

(a) "State of War Emergency" means the condition which exists immediately, with or without a proclamation thereof by the Governor, whenever this state or nation is attacked by an enemy of the United States, or upon receipt by the state of a warning from the federal government indicating that such an enemy attack is probable or imminent.

(b) "State of Emergency" means the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake, complications resulting from the Year 2000 Problem, or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy or conditions causing a "state of war emergency," which, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single county, city and county, or city



and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat, or with respect to regulated energy utilities, a sudden and severe energy shortage requires extraordinary measures beyond the authority vested in the California Public Utilities Commission.

(c) "Local Emergency" means the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county, city and county, or city, caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake, complications resulting from the Year 2000 Problem, or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, which are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat, or with respect to regulated energy utilities, a sudden and severe energy shortage requires extraordinary measures beyond the authority vested in the California Public Utilities Commission.

**8560.** (A) "Emergency Plans" means those official and approved documents which describe the principles and methods to be applied in carrying out emergency operations or rendering mutual aid during emergencies. These plans include such elements as continuity of government, the emergency services of governmental agencies, mobilization of resources, mutual aid, and public information.

(b) "State Emergency Plan" means the State of California Emergency Plan as approved by the Governor.

**8568.** The State Emergency Plan shall be in effect in each political subdivision of the state, and the governing body of each political subdivision shall take such action as may be necessary to carry out the provisions thereof.

**8569.** The Governor shall coordinate the State Emergency Plan and those programs necessary for the mitigation of the effects of an emergency in this state; and he shall coordinate the preparation of plans and programs for the mitigation of the effects of an emergency by the political subdivisions of this state, such plans and programs to be integrated into and coordinated with the State Emergency Plan and the plans and programs of the federal government and of other states to the fullest possible extent.

**8607.** (a) By December 1, 1993, the California Office of Emergency Services, in coordination with all interested state agencies with designated response roles in the state emergency plan and interested local emergency management agencies shall jointly establish by regulation a standardized emergency management system for use by all emergency response agencies. The public water systems identified in Section 8607.2 may review and comment on these regulations prior to adoption.

This system shall be applicable, but not limited to, those emergencies or disasters referenced in the state emergency plan. The standardized emergency management system shall include all of





the following systems as a framework for responding to and managing emergencies and disasters involving multiple jurisdictions or multiple agency responses:

(1) The Incident Command Systems adapted from the systems originally developed by the FIREScope Program, including those currently in use by state agencies.

(2) The multi-agency coordination system as developed by the FIREScope Program.

(3) The mutual aid agreement, as defined in Section 8561, and related mutual aid systems such as those used in law enforcement, fire service, and coroners operations.

(4) The operational area concept, as defined in Section 8559.

(b) Individual agencies' roles and responsibilities agreed upon and contained in existing laws or the state emergency plan are not superseded by this article.

(c) By December 1, 1994, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, in coordination with the State Fire Marshal's Office, the Department of the California Highway Patrol, the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, the Emergency Medical Services Authority, and all other interested state agencies with designated response roles in the state emergency plan, shall jointly develop an approved course of instruction for use in training all emergency response personnel, consisting of the concepts and procedures associated with the standardized emergency management system described in subdivision (a).

(d) By December 1, 1996, all state agencies shall use the standardized emergency management system as adopted pursuant to subdivision (a), to coordinate multiple jurisdictions or multiple agency emergency and disaster operations.

(e) (1) By December 1, 1996, each local agency, in order to be eligible for any funding of response-related costs under disaster assistance programs, shall use the standardized emergency management system as adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) to coordinate multiple jurisdiction or multiple agency operations.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), local agencies shall be eligible for repair, renovation, or any other non-personnel costs resulting from an emergency.

(f) The office shall, in cooperation with involved state and local agencies, complete an after-action report within 120 days after each declared disaster. This report shall review public safety response and disaster recovery activities and shall be made available to all interested public safety and emergency management organizations.

**8615.** It is the purpose of the Legislature in enacting this article to facilitate the rendering of aid to areas stricken by an emergency and to make unnecessary the execution of written agreements customarily entered into by public agencies exercising joint powers. Emergency plans duly adopted and approved as provided by the Governor shall be effective as satisfying the requirement for mutual aid operational plans provided in the Master Mutual Aid Agreement.

**8616.** During any state of war emergency or state of emergency when the need arises for outside aid in any county, city and county, or city, such aid shall be rendered in accordance with approved emergency plans. It shall be the duty of public officials to cooperate to the fullest possible extent in carrying out such plans.



**8617.** In periods other than a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency, state agencies and political subdivisions have authority to exercise mutual aid powers in accordance with the Master Mutual Aid Agreement and local ordinances, resolutions, agreements, or plans therefore.

**8618.** Unless otherwise expressly provided by the parties, the responsible local official in whose jurisdiction an incident requiring mutual aid has occurred shall remain in charge at such incident, including the direction of personnel and equipment provided him through mutual aid.

**8619.** The Governor may on behalf of this state enter into reciprocal aid agreements or compacts, mutual aid plans, or other interstate arrangements for the protection of life and property with other states and the federal government, either on a statewide basis or a political subdivision basis. Prior to committing the personnel, equipment, or facilities of any political subdivision of this state, the Governor shall consult with the chief executive or governing body of such political subdivision. Such mutual aid arrangements may include the furnishing or exchange, on such terms and conditions as are deemed necessary, of supplies, equipment, facilities, personnel, and services.

**8620.** During a state of war emergency the Governor shall have complete authority over all agencies of the state government and the right to exercise within the area or regions designated all police power vested in the state by the Constitution and laws of the State of California in order to effectuate the purposes of this chapter. In exercise thereof he shall promulgate, issue, and enforce such orders and regulations as he deems necessary for the protection of life and property, in accordance with the provisions of Section 8567.

**8627.** During a state of emergency the Governor shall, to the extent he deems necessary, have complete authority over all agencies of the state government and the right to exercise within the area designated all police power vested in the state by the Constitution and laws of the State of California in order to effectuate the purposes of this chapter. In exercise thereof, he shall promulgate, issue, and enforce such orders and regulations as he deems necessary, in accordance with the provisions of Section 8567.

**8655.** The state or its political subdivisions shall not be liable for any claim based upon the exercise or performance, or the failure to exercise or perform a discretionary function or duty on the part of a state or local agency or any employee of the state or its political subdivisions in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

**8656.** All of the privileges and immunities from liability; exemptions from laws, ordinances, and rules; all pension, relief, disability, workers' compensation, and other benefits which apply to the activity of officers, agents, or employees of any political subdivision when performing their respective functions within the territorial limits of their respective political subdivisions, shall





apply to them to the same degree and extent while engaged in the performance of any of their functions and duties extraterritorially under this chapter.

**8657.** (a) Volunteers duly enrolled or registered with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services or any disaster council of any political subdivision, or unregistered persons duly impressed into service during a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency, in carrying out, complying with, or attempting to comply with, any order or regulation issued or promulgated pursuant to the provisions of this chapter or any local ordinance, or performing any of their authorized functions or duties or training for the performance of their authorized functions or duties, shall have the same degree of responsibility for their actions and enjoy the same immunities as officers and employees of the state and its political subdivisions performing similar work for their respective entities.

(b) No political subdivision or other public agency under any circumstances, nor the officers, employees, agents, or duly enrolled or registered volunteers thereof, or unregistered persons duly impressed into service during a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency, acting within the scope of their official duties under this chapter or any local ordinance shall be liable for personal injury or property damage sustained by any duly enrolled or registered volunteer engaged in or training for emergency preparedness or relief activity, or by any unregistered person duly impressed into service during a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency and engaged in such service. The foregoing shall not affect the right of any such person to receive benefits or compensation which may be specifically provided by the provisions of any federal or state statute nor shall it affect the right of any person to recover under the terms of any policy of insurance.

(c) The California Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council, an advisory committee established pursuant to Section 8590 of this chapter, may advise the Governor of the existence of an earthquake or volcanic prediction having scientific validity. In its review, hearings, deliberations, or other validation procedures, members of the council, jointly and severally, shall have the same degree of responsibility for their actions and enjoy the same immunities as officers and employees of the state and its political subdivisions engaged in similar work in their respective entities. Any person making a presentation to the council as part of the council's validation process, including presentation of a prediction for validation shall be deemed a member of the council until the council has found the prediction to have or not have scientific validity.

**8658.** In any case in which an emergency endangering the lives of inmates of a state, county, or city penal or correctional institution has occurred or is imminent, the person in charge of the institution may remove the inmates from the institution. He shall, if possible, remove them to a safe and convenient place and there confine them as long as may be necessary to avoid the danger, or, if that is not possible, may release them. Such person shall not be held liable, civilly or criminally, for acts performed pursuant to this section.



**8660.** No other state or its officers or employees rendering aid in this state pursuant to any interstate arrangement, agreement, or compact shall be liable on account of any act or omission in good faith on the part of such state or its officers or employees while so engaged, or on account of the maintenance or use of any equipment or supplies in connection with an emergency.

**8668.** (a) Any disaster council previously accredited, the State Civil Defense and Disaster Plan, the State Emergency Resources Management Plan, the State Fire Disaster Plan, the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan, all previously approved civil defense and disaster plans, all mutual aid agreements, and all other documents and agreements existing as of the effective date of this chapter, shall remain in full force and effect until revised, amended, or revoked in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(b) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to diminish or remove any authority of any city, county, or city and county granted by Section 7 of Article XI of the California Constitution.

**26602.** The sheriff shall prevent and suppress any affrays, breaches of the peace, riots, and insurrections which come to his knowledge, and investigate public offenses which have been committed.

**19 CCR 2401 (California Code of Regulations)** These regulations establish the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) based upon the Incident Command System (ICS) adapted from the system originally developed by the Firefighting Resources of California Organized for Potential Emergencies (FIRESCOPE) program including those currently in use by state agencies, the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS) as developed by FIRESCOPE program, the operational area concept, and the Master Mutual Aid Agreement and related mutual aid systems.

SEMS is intended to standardize response to emergencies involving multiple jurisdictions or multiple agencies. SEMS is intended to be flexible and adaptable to the needs of all emergency responders in California. SEMS requires emergency response agencies use basic principles and components of emergency management including ICS, multi-agency or inter-agency coordination, the operational area concept, and established mutual aid systems. State agencies must use SEMS. Local government must use SEMS by December 1, 1996 in order to be eligible for state funding of response-related personnel costs pursuant to activities identified in California Code of Regulations, Title 19, §2920, §2925, and §2930. Individual agencies' roles and responsibilities contained in existing laws or the state emergency plan are not superseded by these regulations.



---

**CALIFORNIA DISASTER AND CIVIL DEFENSE  
MASTER MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT**

This agreement made and entered into by and between the STATE OF CALIFORNIA, its various departments and agencies, and the various political subdivisions, municipal corporations, and other public agencies of the State of California;

***WITNESSETH:***

***WHEREAS***, it is necessary that all of the resources and facilities of the State, its various departments and agencies, and all its political subdivisions, municipal corporations, and other public agencies be made available to prevent and combat the effect of disasters which may result from such calamities as flood, fire, earthquake, pestilence, war, sabotage, and riot; and

***WHEREAS***, it is desirable that each of the parties hereto should voluntarily aid and assist each other in the event that a disaster should occur, by the interchange of services and facilities, including, but not limited to, fire, police, medical and health, communication, and transportation services and facilities, to cope with the problems of rescue, relief, evacuation, rehabilitation, and reconstruction which would arise in the event of a disaster; and

***WHEREAS***, it is necessary and desirable that a cooperative agreement be executed for the interchange of such mutual aid on a local, countywide, regional, statewide, and interstate basis;

***NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED*** by and between each and all of the parties hereto as follows:

1. Each party shall develop a plan providing for the effective mobilization of all its resources and facilities, both public and private, to cope with any type of disaster.
2. Each party agrees to furnish resources and facilities and to render services to each and every other party to this agreement to prevent and combat any type of disaster in accordance with duly adopted mutual aid operational plans, whether heretofore or hereafter adopted, detailing the method and manner by which such resources, facilities, and services are to be made available and furnished, which operational plans may include provisions for training and testing to make such mutual aid effective; provided, however, that no party shall be required to deplete unreasonably its own resources, facilities, and services in furnishing such mutual aid.



3. It is expressly understood that this agreement and the operational plans adopted pursuant thereto shall not supplant existing agreements between some of the parties hereto providing for the exchange or furnishing of certain types of facilities and services on a reimbursable, exchange, or other basis, but that the mutual aid extended under this agreement and the operational plans adopted pursuant thereto, shall be without reimbursement unless otherwise expressly provided for by the parties to this agreement or as provided in Sections 1541, 1586, and 1587, California Military and Veterans Code; and that such mutual aid is intended to be available in the event of a disaster of such magnitude that it is, or is likely to be, beyond the control of a single party and requires the combined forces of several or all of the parties to this agreement to combat.
4. It is expressly understood that the mutual aid extended under this agreement and the operational plans adopted pursuant thereto shall be available and furnished in all cases of local peril or emergency and in all cases in which a *STATE OF EXTREME EMERGENCY* has been proclaimed.
5. It is expressly understood that any mutual aid extended under this agreement and the operational plans adopted pursuant thereto, is furnished in accordance with the "California Disaster Act" and other applicable provisions of law, and except as otherwise provided by law that: "The responsible local official in whose jurisdiction an incident requiring mutual aid has occurred shall remain in charge at such incident including the direction of such personnel and equipment provided him through the operation of such mutual aid plans." (Section 1564, CA Military and Veterans Code.)
6. It is expressly understood that when and as the State of California enters into mutual aid agreements with other states and the Federal Government, the parties to this agreement shall abide by such mutual aid agreements in accordance with the law.
7. Upon approval or execution of this agreement by the parties hereto all mutual aid operational plans heretofore approved by the State Disaster Council, or its predecessors, and in effect as to some of the parties hereto, shall remain in full force and effect as to them until the same may be amended, revised, or modified. Additional mutual aid operational plans and amendments, revisions, or modifications of existing or hereafter adopted mutual aid operational plans, shall be adopted as follows:



- 
- a. Countywide and local mutual aid operational plans shall be developed by the parties thereto and are operative as between the parties thereto in accordance with the provisions of such operational plans. Such operational plans shall be submitted to the State Disaster Council for approval. The State Disaster Council shall notify each party to such operational plans of its approval, and shall also send copies of such operational plans to other parties to this agreement who did not participate in such operational plans and who are in the same area and affected by such operational plans. Such operational plans shall be operative as to such other parties 20 days after receipt thereof unless within that time the party by resolution or notice given to the State Disaster Council, in the same manner as notice of termination of participation in this agreement, declines to participate in the particular operational plan.
  - b. Statewide and regional mutual aid operational plans shall be approved by the State Disaster Council and copies thereof shall forthwith be sent to each and every party affected by such operational plans. Such operational plans shall be operative as to the parties affected thereby 20 days after receipt thereof unless within that time the party by resolution or notice given to the State Disaster Council, in the same manner as notice of termination of participation in this agreement, declines to participate in the particular operational plan.
  - c. The declination of one or more of the parties to participate in a particular operational plan or any amendment, revision or modification thereof, shall not affect the operation of this agreement and the other operational plans adopted pursuant thereto.
  - d. Any party may at any time by resolution or notice given to the State Disaster Council, in the same manner as notice of termination of participation in this agreement, decline to participate in any particular operational plan, which declination shall become effective 20 days after filing with the State Disaster Council.
  - e. The State Disaster Council shall send copies of all operational plans to those state departments and agencies designated by the Governor. The Governor may, upon behalf of any department or agency, give notice that such department or agency declines to participate in a particular operational plan.



- 
- f. The State Disaster Council, in sending copies of operational plans and other notices and information to the parties to this agreement, shall send copies to the Governor and any department or agency head designated by him; the chairman of the board of supervisors, the clerk of the board of supervisors, the County Disaster Council, and any other officer designated by a county; the mayor, the clerk of the city council, the City Disaster Council, and any other officer designated by a city; the executive head, the clerk of the governing body, or other officer of other political subdivisions and public agencies as designated by such parties.
  8. This agreement shall become effective as to each party when approved or executed by the party, and shall remain operative and effective as between each and every party that has heretofore or hereafter approved or executed this agreement, until participation in this agreement is terminated by the party. The termination by one or more of the parties of its participation in this agreement shall not affect the operation of this agreement as between the other parties thereto. Upon approval or execution of this agreement the State Disaster Council shall send copies of all approved and existing mutual aid operational plans affecting such party which shall become operative as to such party 20 days after receipt thereof unless within that time the party by resolution or notice given to the State Disaster Council, in the same manner as notice of termination of participation in this agreement, declines to participate in any particular operational plan. The State Disaster Council shall keep every party currently advised of who the other parties to this agreement are and whether any of them has declined to participate in any particular operational plan.
  9. Approval or execution of this agreement shall be as follows:
    - a. The Governor shall execute a copy of this agreement on behalf of the State of California and the various departments and agencies thereof. Upon execution by the Governor a signed copy shall forthwith be filed with the State Disaster Council.
    - b. Counties, cities, and other political subdivisions and public agencies having a legislative or governing body shall by resolution approve and agree to abide by this agreement, which may be designated as "*CALIFORNIA DISASTER AND CIVIL DEFENSE MASTER MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT.*" Upon adoption of such a resolution, a certified copy thereof shall forthwith be filed with the State Disaster Council.



- c. The executive head of those political subdivisions and public agencies having no legislative or governing body shall execute a copy of this agreement and forthwith file a signed copy with the State Disaster Council.

10. Termination of participation in this agreement may be effected by any party as follows:

- a. The Governor on behalf of the State and its various departments and agencies, and the executive head of those political subdivisions and public agencies having no legislative or governing body, shall file a written notice of termination of participation in this agreement with the State Disaster Council and this agreement is terminated as to such party 20 days after the filing of such notice.
- b. Counties, cities, and other political subdivisions and public agencies having a legislative or governing body shall by resolution give notice of termination of participation in this agreement and file a certified copy of such resolution with the State Disaster Council, and this agreement is terminated as to such party 20 days after the filing of such resolution.

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF*** this agreement has been executed and approved and is effective and operative as to each of the parties as herein provided.

Signed by: EARL WARREN  
GOVERNOR  
On behalf of the State of California and all its  
Departments and Agencies

ATTEST:

November 15, 1950

Signed by: FRANK M. JORDAN  
SECRETARY OF STATE





---

**Note:**

*There are references in the foregoing agreement to the California Disaster Act, State Disaster Council, and various sections of the CA MILITARY and Veterans Code. Effective November 23, 1970, by enactment of Chapter 1454, Statutes 1970, the California Disaster Act (Sections 1500 ff., Military and Veterans Code) was superseded by the California Emergency Services Act (Sections 8550 ff., Government Code), and the State Disaster Council was superseded by the California Emergency Council.*

*Section 8668 of the California Emergency Services Act provides:*

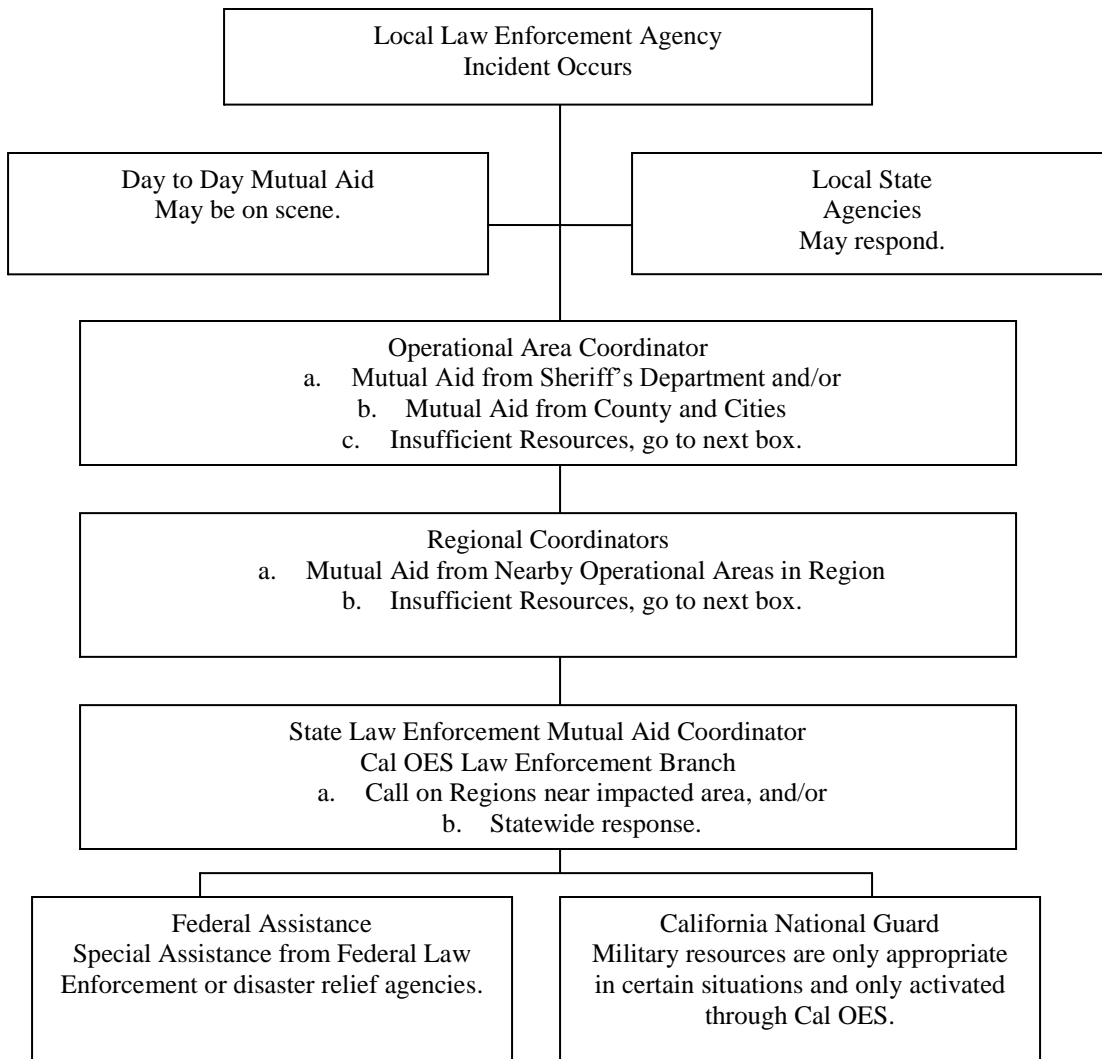
- (a) Any disaster council previously accredited, the State Civil Defense and Disaster Plan, the State Emergency Resources Management Plan, the State Fire Disaster Plan, the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan, all previously approved civil defense and disaster plans, all mutual aid agreements, and all documents and agreements existing as of the effective date of this chapter, shall remain in full force and effect until revised, amended, or revoked in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.*
- (b) In addition, Section 8561 of the new act specifically provides: "Master Mutual Aid Agreement" means the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement, made and entered into by and between the State of California, its various departments and agencies, and the various political subdivisions of the state, to facilitate implementation of the purposes of this chapter.*

*Substantially the same provisions as previously contained in Section 1541, 1564, 1586 and 1587 of the CA Military and Veterans Code, referred to in the foregoing agreement, are now contained in Sections 8633, 8618, 8652 and 8643, respectively, of the Government Code.*





### **Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Requests**



Cal OES Law Enforcement Branch 24 Hours (916) 845-8700