

**CT Capitol Region RED Plan – ESF 4 Annex**

Questions, comments, and copies of the RED Plan can be obtained by contacting email address: [whaustin@westhartford.org](mailto:whaustin@westhartford.org) or consulting the CRCOG website at [www.crcog.org](http://www.crcog.org)

## Regional Emergency Support Function # 4: Firefighting

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### **PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **Regional Coordinating Organizations**

- Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee (CREPC) of the Capitol Region Council of Governments
- Capitol Region Fire Chiefs Association
- Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (CCRPA)

#### **Federal Government Firefighting Organizations**

- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Defense

#### **Connecticut State Firefighting Organizations**

- State Fire Marshal's Office
- Connecticut Fire Academy
- Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

#### **Local and Private Organizations**

- Hartford County Fire Plan
- All fire departments
- Tolland County Emergency Communications Center (TN)
- North Central Air Disaster Plan
- National Fire Protection Association

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Purpose**

The purpose of RESF 4 Firefighting is to provide for the rapid mobilization, deployment, and utilization of regional fire resources during a major disaster in the Capitol Region.

#### **B. Scope**

RESF 4 is intended to focus on developing and implementing a regional disaster response capability for fire resources. The system developed will be a component of the Capitol Region Emergency Deployment Plan (RED Plan) as well as facilitating interaction with the state disaster plan, and National Response Plan.

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### **II. POLICIES**

1. RESF 4 Firefighting will not usurp or override the policies of any federal agency, state government, or local government or jurisdiction.
2. The Unified Incident Management/Incident Command System (IMS/ICS) as taught by the National Fire Academy will be used.
3. CREPC will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 4 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the RED Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the Regional Integrated Communication System (RICS) as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. RICS is available at **860-832-3477** twenty-four hours a day.

### **III. SITUATION**

#### **A. Regional Emergency Condition**

1. A regional emergency may adversely impact the firefighting infrastructure throughout the region.
2. A major disaster/incident has occurred in the region. The situation requires the mobilization of firefighting resources. Resource elements are being deployed in accordance with the regional and/or statewide disaster plan.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.
2. CREPC will not assume any command and control activities.
3. The RED Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination while preserving the unique characteristics and operating procedures of each member municipality.
4. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction where the incident or event is occurring.
5. Local and standard mutual aid resources have been depleted.
6. Infrastructure damage and communications disruptions will inhibit efficient coordination of firefighting support during the immediate response and post-disaster period.
7. Multi-lingual messages and the availability of personnel with language skills will be critical.
8. A large number of fire service providers may be lost in the incident.

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9. Nine (9) operational decontamination units exist in the region. These nine units are located at: East Hartford (FD); Bradley Airport (FD); UCONN Health Center (FD); the regional hazmat team (West Hartford FD); New Britain (FD); Vernon (FD); Bristol (FD); Manchester (FD); and Southington (FD).
10. There is one regional foam unit in the region and a total of five in the state.
11. The regional Hazardous Materials Response Team (West Hartford FD) is available in the region.
12. The Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) has provided antidote (Mark I) kits to all fire departments that requested them.
13. The fire service had developed a hospital decontamination response plan (dated May 22, 2003) that provides the response of two (2) decontamination units to each of the ten regional hospitals.
14. ESF chairs have been assigned radio designations from Unit 271 to Unit 290.
15. Section 7-313(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes gives command authority to the senior fire officer in-charge, when at an emergency call.
16. During a civil preparedness emergency proclaimed by the Governor under Section 28-9, C. G. S., the Governor may take direct operational control of any or all parts of the civil preparedness forces and functions in the State. Civil preparedness forces shall include all State and local police and fire personnel and any other organized personnel engaged in carrying out civil preparedness functions.

## **IV. CONCEPT OF COORDINATION**

### **A. General**

1. Upon the threat and/or occurrence of a regional incident, the RESF 4 will be notified.
2. Local municipalities will coordinate and execute their respective authority and program responsibilities during the regional emergency.
3. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities as outlined under the RED Plan.
4. RESF 4 Firefighting will establish the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning regional firefighting related issues, in conjunction with RICS.
5. Requests for information regarding firefighting issues will be directed to RICS or directly to RESF 5 Emergency Management at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

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### B. Notification

Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional emergency, RICS will provide a communication platform (or system) to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. Communications will be made in cooperation with RESF 2 Communications.

The activation of RICS should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls **RICS** at **860-832-3477** anytime 24/7 and requests **specific resources** (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the **activation of the RED Plan** where the RCC will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- RICS will broadcast the message over the "Intercity" radio frequency.
- RICS will notify the chairperson of each RESF on the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 5 Emergency Management or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 4 Firefighting will call the ESF 5 Duty Officer for instructions.
- The Duty Officer for RESF 5 will determine the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 4 shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of the emergency support function.

The radio designation for the chairperson of RESF 4 Firefighting is **Unit 274**.

### C. Coordination

#### Initial Actions

Coordinate with other RESF's to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports via the CAO's of the affected jurisdictions to RICS (or directly to RESF 5 Emergency Management).

#### Continuing Actions

Continue information sharing, monitoring and tracking of trends. Evaluate continuing needs.

#### Stand Down

The demobilization process will follow ICS accepted practices

#### After Action Critique

CREPC will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all fire service agencies and supporting RESF's.

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### V. EXECUTION FOR REGIONAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 4

#### A. RESF 4 Participating and Supporting Agencies

Fire services regional partners participating in a regional response will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to RICS as required by the incident and the Capitol Region Emergency Deployment Plan (RED Plan) policy.

#### B. Essential Elements of Information

1. One of the primary purposes of the RED Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the various agencies during emergency situations. RESF 5 Emergency Management is responsible for exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. The RESF 5 annex contains detailed information about the process of information exchange and describes the essential elements of information (EEI), which have been determined as the minimum information to satisfy coordination needs between the RESF's and with RICS.
2. In the event of a regional emergency, local, state, and regional fire service agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:
  - Jurisdictions involved
  - Overall priorities of response
  - Description of significant disruptions in fire service delivery
  - Status of communication systems
  - Relevant historical and demographic information
  - Short-term and medium-term recovery plans
  - Recommendations on emergency ingress/egress
  - Status of resources, personnel, equipment, and facilities
  - Firefighter safety
  - Radiological/chemical/biological hazards consultation and technical assistance, decontamination of victims and personnel
  - Logistical problems
  - Liability issues and concerns
  - Status of USAR or Hazardous Materials operations
  - Injuries and medical emergencies in coordination with RESF 8
  - RESF 6 Mass Care issues concerning evacuated citizens

#### Mitigation phase

During the mitigation phase all firefighting agencies will accomplish the following:

- RESF 4 will plan and implement a response capability of 100 fire service personnel within fifteen (15) minutes of the request. The plan will also establish the response capability of 400 fire service personnel within one (1) hour of the request
- All agency personnel will be trained on RED Plan activation and implementation.

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- All agency personnel will be trained on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Agency personnel will participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Regional Incident Dispatch teams (RID) will be trained on the Mobile Command Post communication functions.
- Selected personnel will be trained as team members for incident command overhead teams.
- Regional equipment needs will be determined and requested.

### Emergency phase

During the emergency phase, RESF 4 and all associated resources will be utilized to capacity as needed to control and stabilize the emergency. RESF 4 resources shall be utilized in any function, which will speed the recovery from the emergency incident within the parameters of their individual training and/or capabilities

### Recovery phase

During the recovery phase, RESF 4 will continue to perform any associated emergency functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, any associated function, which aids and speeds the recovery and stabilization of the impact community, will be performed.

## **VI. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR REGIONAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 4**

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 4 operations is contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- Departmental standard operating procedures, standard operating guidelines, training manuals, general orders, and policy directives.
- Emergency medical procedures will conform to guidelines issued by medical control authorities, RESF 8 and public health authorities.
- RICS will be administered by and through CCSU (police department).
- Standard regional guidance concerning decontamination procedures will be utilized by all regional agencies.
- “Plain language” text will be used in all regional communications
- MMRS regional mass decontamination protocols
- MMRS Protocol - Use and Storage of Nerve Agent Antidote (Mark I) kits.
- State of Connecticut, Consequence Management Guide for Deliberately Caused Incidents Involving Chemical Agents, DEMHS, January 2005.
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8: National Preparedness
- The 15 National Planning Scenarios
- Universal Task List
- Target Capabilities List (Version 2.0)