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2007 Environmental Health Conference





What is EMAC ?

The **Emergency Management Assistance Compact**, is a national State-to-state interstate mutual aid Compact that facilitates the sharing of resources, personnel and equipment across state lines during times of disaster and emergency. EMAC has been formalized Into law by 50 member party states, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands & The District of Columbia



EMAC Key Provisions

- "...the state rendering aid may withhold resources to the extent necessary to provide reasonable protection for such state." [Article IV.]
- "...licenses, certificates, or other permits...shall be deemed licensed, certified, or permitted by the state requesting assistance." [Article V.]
- "Employees . . . rendering aid . . . shall be considered agents of the requesting state for tort liability and immunity purposes" [Article VI.]
- ". . . any party state rendering aid . . . shall be reimbursed by the party state receiving aid for any loss or damage to or expense incurred . . ." [Article IX.]



What does EMAC do...

- Facilitates interstate mutual aid to precede and supplement federal assistance
- Guarantees reimbursement for eligible assistance
- Requesting state assumes tort responsibility for out-of-state workers secured through EMAC
- Assisting States must provide Workers Comp protection
- Allows states to decline requests or withdraw assistance at any time
- Reciprocity of licenses, certifications, and qualifications across state lines
- Protects state sovereignty
- Provides management and oversight

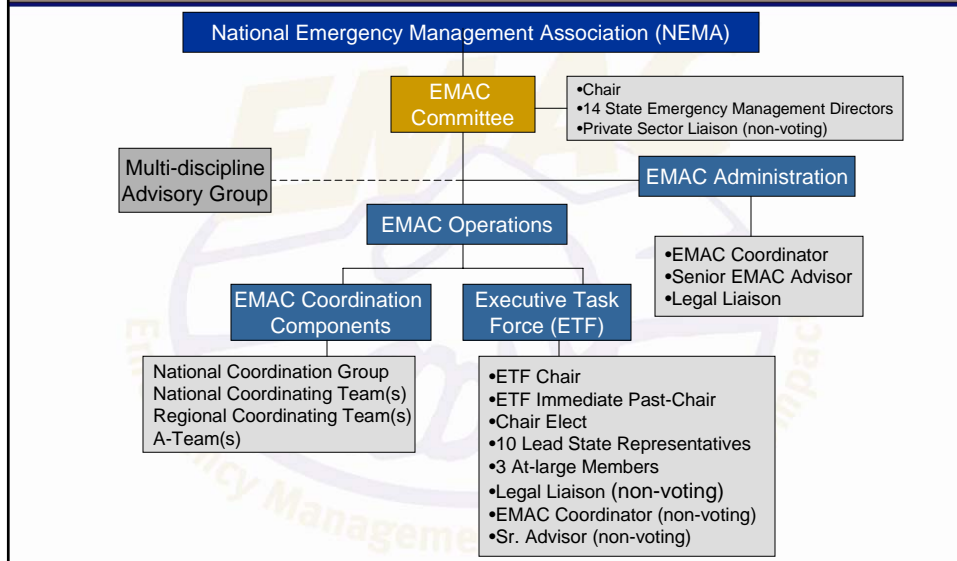


EMAC does not ...

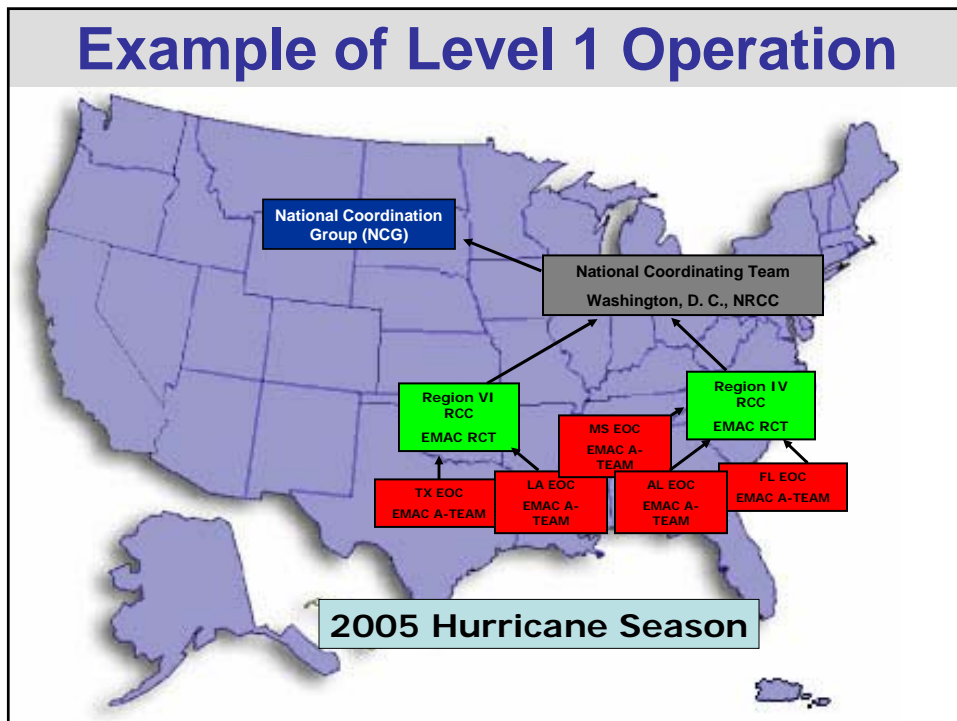
- Replace federal support or assistance
- Super cede other mutual aid agreements or laws
- Hoard /stockpile resources from assisting states
- Use National Guard personnel for missions other than humanitarian purposes
- Assume operational control of Requesting State
- Move resources from county to county or city to city. All EMAC resources must be state-to-state. County, local, and other personnel/resources must be deployed through the state emergency management office
- Endorse self-deployments/self dispatching.



How Does EMAC Work ?



Example of Level 1 Operation





The Key Players

✓**The State Authorized Representative (AR)**

- The State official authorized positionally to execute EMAC documents & obligate state resources and funds
- The State EM director or his/her appointee holds this position.

✓**The State Designated Contact (DC)**

- Designated by the AR as the Primary POC for managing EMAC resource requests

✓**The State EMAC Coordinator (EC)**

- Responsible for coordinating EMAC missions



Requesting Assistance

- The **REQ-A Form** is the official form to be used when requesting or providing assistance under EMAC.
- The **REQ-A** is initiated by the Requesting State.
- Each EMAC mission can only be officially implemented when this form is completed and executed.



Pre-Planning to facilitate the REQ-A process

- Organize local / state resources under state sponsorship (examples: intra-state compacts, disaster reservists, etc.)
- Define process to deploy local / volunteer and private resources as “agents of the state”
- Type and credential resources based on NIMS standards
- Establish pre-deployment “packaged” and individual use equipment and personnel costs in advance



Pre-Planning to facilitate the REQ-A process

Direct coordination between requesting and assisting ESF's or positional counterparts is encouraged and essential to ensure that the request is clearly understood by both parties, appropriate logistical provisions are in place, and the resources being offered fit the requested mission.



Pre-Planning to facilitate multi-discipline use of EMAC

- Establish a working relationship with your State's EMAC Designated Contacts and Authorized Representatives in advance !
- Train and exercise use of EMAC procedures
- Build capacity to deploy safely into "primitive living" or hazardous operational conditions.



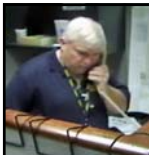
Human Resource Issues

- **Mission specifics should be explained in detail:**
 - Mission parameters
 - Support logistics
 - Licensure/certification requirements
 - Potential Health and Safety issues
 - Potential security concerns
 - cash/credit card



What to expect...

- Very long hours
- Limited or no sleeping accommodations
- Weather: hot, humid, freezing, wet, snow – be prepared for location/season
- Field conditions: no amenities (of any kind)
- Lots of confusion (initially)
- No or limited communications abilities
- Emotionally traumatized people



Reimbursement - Costs Eligibility

Follow this simple rule...

If the expense item is stated in the REQ-A, you need a receipt to be reimbursed.

If it is not on the REQ-A, you may not be reimbursed.



EMAC Effectiveness...

- **Administrative Oversight and Support Staff**
 - ✓ Formal Business Protocols
- **Solves Problems Upfront – Provisions in Compact's Language**
 - ✓ Reimbursement, Licensure, Liability
- **Common operating framework**
 - ✓ Continuity of Operations
 - ✓ Standard Operating Procedures
- **Continual Improvement – 5 year Strategic Plan**
 - ✓ Critiques/Training/Exercises/Meetings
- **Customized Technology Development-web based**
- **Involved & Committed State membership**



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Visit the EMAC web site at www.emacweb.org