Local Emergency Response in Pennsylvania

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First Responder

- Local and non-governmental (PD, Fire, EMS)
- Early stages of incident (0 – 48 hours)
- Goals
  - Life Safety, incident stabilization, property conservation
- Emergency management, public health, public works, other skilled support services
Local Response

- City, Township, Borough

- Fire Department
  - 96.1% Volunteer in PA (2,354)

- Police Departments
  - 1,088 – Part of local government

- Emergency Medical Services (Ambulance)
  - 1,100 – majority non-profit
Example of Local Response
What is a critical incident?

- Acts of terrorism
- Fires
- Hazardous Materials Incident
- Search and rescue
- Transportation accident
- Human Caused or natural disasters
Initial Actions

- Assessment and Size Up
- Establish command post
- Begin Search and Rescue
- Request Resources
- Care and Treatment of Victims
Incident Command System

Incident Management Team = Command and General Staff Members
County Response / Coordination

- Limited response capabilities in PA - 67 Counties
- Resources needed exceed local capabilities
- County Emergency Operations Plan
EMA Roles / Responsibilities

- Initial local response and recovery
- Coordination of Resources
  - Title 35
  - Emergency Operations Plans
- County level coordination
- Develop a common operating picture
Regional Response

- Most based on the Regional Task Forces
- Formed in the mid 90’s to coordinate counter-terrorism activities
- Have evolved into all hazard planning groups.
- Incident Management Teams
Federal and State Response

- Multiple Jurisdictions
- Multiple Counties
- Multiple States
- National Response Framework