

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

District 7 – Division 3

Operation HURREX-06 Tactical DRILL 13TH/14th May 2006

SCRIPT & OPERATIONS GUIDELINES

21 March 2006

TO: Division 3 Commander, District 7

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REF: "USCG Sector SE Florida Command HURRICANE & NATURAL DISASTER PLAN", May 2004.

THIS IS A DRILL - THIS IS A DRILL

ALL PUBLIC ACCESS COMMUNICATIONS MUST BEGIN WITH: "*This is a DRILL*"

This EP-DR drill is focused on USCG Auxiliary Division 3 Hurricane Preparation and Response for the South Florida area:

- A) Establishment of an INCIDENT COMMAND CENTER (ICC) or participation in a joint incident ICC.
- B) Establishment of Communications Protocols between:
 - a. AUX and USCG local stations,
 - b. AUX Division Staff and Flotilla Staffs,
 - c. AUX Emergency Teams and Local Emergency Teams,
 - d. AUX sea vessels,
 - e. AUX AIR,
 - f. AUX Division 3 and adjacent AUX Divisionsin a Hurricane exercise.

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (EP-DR) Plans

We have not practiced most of these communication protocols. before. It will be an essential skill needed for any future Hurricane, SAR, Mass Casualty or Terrorist attack scenario that involves both sea and air resources. **Testing the Air Group and Sea Group and General Flotilla/Division CALLING TREES for alerting and commissioning assets to an exercise is essential.** Note: Coxswains and pilots should NOT be calling tree activators, since they have a primary duty to commission their vessels and crews for the drill. It is suggested that the Flotilla Commander or the FSO-OP call the coxswains and pilots first for activation.

C) **Managing another Emergency Incident.**

D) **Activation of ALL OPERATIONAL FACILITIES** to sort out which ones are functional and which are unavailable for one reason or another. Coxswains will need to call into the AUX ICC their vessel name, crew names, location and VHF call sign to report status and to receive reimbursable orders from USCG Block Orders assigned to AUX SO-OP who will be in the ICC.

E) **Establishing an Activation Timeline in the event of an emergency and to improve on past timelines.** Note: Div 6 Flotillas have established “First Response Teams” who are on ready standby for any emergency. Div 3 needs to do the same. Based on performance in this drill, we may select our First Response Teams for future use.

F) **Practicing Hurricane Preparation, Evacuation Procedures, Response and Recovery Skills.**

G) **Ability to rendezvous at a given emergency site.**

H) **De-Briefing, summarizing and recommending improvements in writing.** Effort to be ranked for effectiveness on a scale of 1 – 10 by all concerned, with comments on vulnerabilities, excellence and areas for improvement. 10 = Best; 1 = Needs a lot of help

I) **Making every Flotilla Member aware of the need for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response capabilities and responsibilities.**

FOR ICC communications:

Land Lines available for this exercise will be _____, _____.

Cell phone lines available: _____, _____, 954.647.1773.

VHF Channel: 82-A

Fixed and Mobile Communications stations call signs and/or numbers _____

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (EP-DR) Plans

1. An outline of the scenario is listed in the document: HURRX-06 SCENARIO.
2. Because this is a drill, the Time Line has been compressed from a week's usual Time Line for a hurricane, to one day: Saturday, May 13th, 2006 for the tactical drill and Sunday, May 14th, 2006 for the Hot Wash review and procedural modification.

Saturday 13 May 2006 -

TIME LINE:	0700	SIMULATE: Monday 8 May – 1. AUX Division 3 Command alerts Division 3 Staff and Division 3 Flotilla Commanders that the USCG has changed the Hurricane Readiness Status from Condition 5 to 4 (Stand down to Seasonal) based on the Miami Hurricane Center location of a Tropical Storm headed toward South Florida. Advises AUX Staffs to Stand By. 2. Orders Division and Flotilla Emergency Planning and Response Committees to assemble at Fort Lauderdale McVey House Flotilla Station 3-2 by 0800 to address location and preparation for Hurricane ALPHA. Drill participants to wear Working Blue or ODU uniforms and bring with them their Emergency Plans (including their Flotilla Resource Workbooks, cell phones, mobile communication platforms and Calling Trees).
	0800	SIMULATE: Tuesday 9 May – 1. AUX Division 3 Command alerts Division 3 Staff and Division 3 Flotilla Commanders that the USCG has changed the Port Readiness Condition from Four Seasonal to Four WHISKEY. 2. AUX Division 3 Command advises Division and Flotilla Emergency Planning and Response Committees of change of increased Port Readiness alert.
	0805-0815	The Emergency Planning and Response Committees call their respective Watchstanders to activate their communications centers and to call in to Station McVey when on line. (McVey Station may serve as the initial AUX ICC)
	0816-0959	The Emergency Planning and Response Committees discuss and plan for further hurricane preparedness within the Division 3 AOR. (What to do in case of evacuation or in case of support for adjacent AOR's)
	0900	SIMULATE: Wednesday 10 May – 1. The USCG Miami Sector Command establishes a <u>USCG HURRICANE READINESS CONDITION THREE</u> (threatening winds possible within 48 hrs. Threatening winds defined as sustained 34 KTS/39MPH winds in anticipation of hurricane force winds [64 KTS/74 MPH]). 2. The Miami COTP establishes <u>PORT READINESS CONDITON THREE X-RAY</u> (A heightened condition in which hurricane force winds are possible within 48 hrs.)

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (EP-DR) Plans

3. The Division 3 Command makes contacts with local emergency centers.

0930

SIMULATE: Thursday 11 May –

1. The Miami Hurricane Center and the USCG announce plans to prepare for coastal area evacuations.
2. The **Emergency Planning and Response Committees** implement actions to secure all six Flotilla Stations, using the on-line Watchstander comms and any other means necessary.
3. The **Emergency Planning and Response Committees** use their calling trees to alert all Auxiliarist who are in the evacuation zones to prepare for evacuation.
4. The Division 3 Command calls the local USCG Stations to offer Auxiliary assistance in preparation for onset of hurricane ALPHA, public marine movement of vessels to secure areas and marine/port closure plans.
5. The **Emergency Planning and Response Committees** to establish a safe haven rallying site for mobile communications units, trailered USCG certified vessels, mobile furnished home units, emergency supplies and any Go-Pacs that may be used in response and recovery. The location information is relayed to all Division 3 Auxiliarists.
6. The **Emergency Planning and Response Committees** inventory and report available assets to AUX and USCG command.

1000

SIMULATE: Friday 12 May –

- i. The USCG Miami Sector Command establishes a USCG HURRICANE READINESS CONDITION TWO (The warning condition in which threatening winds are possible within 24 hours.)
 - ii. The Miami COTP establishes PORT READINESS CONDITON TWO YANKEE (The warning condition in which hurricane winds are possible within 24 hours.)
 - iii. Evacuation orders for coastal area residents and mobile home residents are issued by both the County EMC's and the USCG
1. The **Emergency Planning and Response Committees** offers assistance to all Auxiliarists in their evacuation activities.
 2. Available emergency equipment is moved to the safe haven rallying site.
 3. A safe haven AUX ICC is established and moved to with new comms established and checked out.
 4. Assistance is offered to the USCG COTP by the Division **Emergency Planning and Response Committee**.
 5. Word on bridge closures is spread among mariners.

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (EP-DR) Plans

- 1100 SIMULATE: Saturday 13 May 0800 –
1. The western leading edge of ALPHA enters West Palm Beach with wind speeds of 76 mph. The storm center just off the coast has increased to a category IV hurricane 60 mi. off the eastern seaboard. The storm's eye has increased to ¾ mi. diameter and the storm center to 70 mi. diameter.
 2. The AUX ICC, in its new safe haven HQ coordinates with the USCG and local emergency organizations, providing support and services as indicated.
- 1200 SIMULATE: Sunday 14 May -
1. USCG declares HURRICANE READINESS CONDITIONS POST STORM. Damage assessment and recovery operations begin.
 2. The AUX ICC returns to McVey to begin damage assessments in its AOR and to provide assistance where needed.
 3. The safe haven emergency assets are sent to where needed in the recovery operation.
- . 1400 DeActivation of all Facilities and Watch-standers

Sunday 14 May 2006 -

- 1000– 1300 All hands of the **Emergency Planning and Response Committees**
debrief, summarize, recap and document drill experience at McVey Flotilla 3-2.

Comments? Suggestions?

René Rolland Haldimann, EP-DR