



# ESF-9 Search and Rescue

## JOHNSON COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

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**Coordinating Agency:** Johnson County Med-Act

**Support Agencies:** American Red Cross  
Johnson County Emergency Communications Center  
Johnson County Emergency Management & Homeland Security  
Johnson County Public Works  
Jurisdictional Fire Departments  
Jurisdictional Law Enforcement (Refer to ESF-13)  
Jurisdictional Public Works Departments (Refer to ESF-3)  
The Salvation Army

## INTRODUCTION

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### Purpose

The purpose of the *ESF-9 Search and Rescue Annex* is to establish how search and rescue activities will be coordinated to meet the needs generated by disasters affecting Johnson County.

### Scope

This annex identifies the key policies, concepts of operations, roles and responsibilities, and capabilities associated with *ESF-9 Search and Rescue* in Johnson County. ESF-9 applies to all individuals and organizations and the full range of search and rescue services that may be required to support disaster response and recovery operations in Johnson County. However, fire departments in Johnson County and other supporting agencies have existing emergency plans and procedures. ESF-9 is not designed to take the place of these plans; rather it is designed to compliment and support departmental staffing and procedures already in place.

Additional first responder ESF annexes include *ESF-4 Firefighting*, and *ESF-13 Public Safety and Security*. *ESF-13 Public Safety and Security* addresses criminal search and surveillance.

Specifically, ESF-9 Search and Rescue covers the following search and rescue functions:

- Structural Collapse Search & Rescue
- Waterborne Search & Rescue
- Inland/Wilderness Search & Rescue
- Aeronautical Search & Rescue

## **SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS**

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In addition to the “Situation and Assumptions” section in the Basic Plan, the Concept of Operations for ESF-9 is based on the following:

### **Situation**

1. There are 7 municipal (De Soto, Gardner, Lake Quivira, Leawood, Olathe, Overland Park, Shawnee), and 4 fire districts (Johnson County Fire District #1, Johnson County Fire District #2, Consolidated Fire District #2, Johnson County Rural Fire District #3) in Johnson County. The fire departments within Johnson County are responsible for fire suppression within their respective jurisdictions.
2. The Emergency Communications Center (ECC) is responsible for dispatching fire department resources within Johnson County.
3. Of note, the City of Bonner Springs, most of which is located in Wyandotte County, provides its own fire service to that small section of the city situated in Johnson County. Johnson County also has Johnson County Fire District #2 that provides fire service to about a 65 square mile area of northern Miami County, which includes the North Shore of Hillsdale Lake.
4. There is a county-wide inter-local mutual aid agreement in place that are utilized when necessary by all search and rescue teams.
5. Primary communications are via current county radio system. All fire agencies share common dispatch and tactical radio channels through the ECC. In addition, all fire units have access to a metro-wide mutual aid frequency. The ECC maintains “Guidelines for Field Users Johnson County Emergency Communications” to guide field usage of the radio system. Alternate communications are available through mobile data terminals, cellular or public telephones, and pagers.
6. Allocating resources during emergencies and forecasting resource needs is done by ECC in coordination with the involved fire jurisdiction(s). Mutual aid can be activated through ECC by a simple request by the Incident Commander or, in some cases, can be self-initiated by ECC.
7. All departments provide twenty four hour staffing through a combination of career and/or volunteer personnel. The Incident Commander is responsible for utilizing operational period schedules to ensure individuals are not working for extended periods of time.

## Assumptions

1. In disaster life-threatening situations, search and rescue response need to be prepared to expand their capabilities for managing larger impacted groups.
2. Jurisdictional fire districts will provide qualified personnel upon request to the County EOC as part of the ESF-9 Search and Rescue Team when activated.
3. Existing mutual aid agreements provide expanded capabilities utilizing available fire and rescue personnel and equipment to manage most emergency situations.
4. When additional or specialized support is required, assistance can be obtained from neighboring counties, state and federal agencies, through the Johnson County Emergency Communications Center or the Emergency Operations Center if it is operational.
5. In a disaster, fire departments may be called upon to do much more than their typical response to fires and emergency medical calls. The fire departments will assist with rescue and extrication of trapped persons, assess hazardous materials situations, and remove debris on primary roadways, evacuations, reconnaissance, traffic control and security.

## CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

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1. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System (ICS) is utilized throughout the county for coordinating activities among local fire organizations and other first responders. All jurisdictional fire department personnel have completed the appropriate level of NIMS training for their responsibilities. The Johnson County Fire and Emergency Services Chiefs Association adopted an interagency model procedure for the incident command component of NIMS.
  - a. On-Scene Control:
    - i. Scene Control: Law enforcement will provide traffic and scene control as directed by the Incident Commander.
    - ii. Media Access: The Incident Commander will identify a separate area, at a safe distance from the incident scene, where information will be disseminated to the media. Law enforcement will provide any security required for this area.
    - iii. Airspace: The Incident Commander may request, via ECC, that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) restrict airspace in the immediate vicinity of the incident.
    - iv. Utilities: The Incident Commander may direct, via ECC that utility companies shut off gas and/or power lines in the vicinity of the incident.

2. The Incident Commander will keep Johnson County Emergency Management and Homeland Security informed of escalating situations with the potential to require assistance from the County. This notification can be performed directly, through the ECC, or city EOC if activated. Upon receiving this notification, JCEMHS may activate the County EOC if necessary.
3. Johnson County Med-Act is the Coordinating Agency in the EOC for ESF-9 Search and Rescue. They will coordinate response efforts with the Supporting Agencies defined in the plan.
4. The mission of ESF-9 Search and Rescue is to ensure the provision and coordination of search and rescue activities required to meet the needs generated by disaster affecting Johnson County. When the county's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated, ESF-9 Team provides search and rescue support to jurisdictional EOCs, Department Operations Centers (DOCs) or Incident Commanders as needed. When ESF-9 is activated, Johnson County Med-Act will immediately respond to the EOC and ensure proper staffing for the ESF-9 Team in conjunction with jurisdictional fire departments. ESF-9 will:
  - a. Establish and maintain operational awareness of search and rescue through direct communications links with operational units (DOCs, City EOCs, liaisons, etc.) in the field and/or their appropriate coordinating entities;
  - b. Conduct search and rescue disaster impact and needs assessments, prioritize ESF-9 operational objectives in alignment with the EOC Action Plan, and coordinate ESF-9 county-wide response activities;
  - c. Collect and analyze information relevant to ESF-9 and report in WebEOC and EOC documents including EOC Action Plans and Situational Reports;
  - d. Receive, manage, & track resource requests for ESF-9;
  - e. Ensure full coordination of activities with other groups within the EOC to assist in the development and maintenance of a common operating picture.
5. A comprehensive resource inventory of jurisdictional fire department apparatus and equipment is maintained by ECC. This database also contains basic information on fire department resources in adjacent counties. Providers of specialized equipment are responsible for ensuring the proper training and certification of equipment operators.
6. The Emergency Communications Center maintains a current list of local specialized capabilities, as per the categories listed below. The ESF-9 Team can request and obtain these resources by contacting the ECC.
  - a. Aerial Search/Surveillance
  - b. Confined Space Rescue
  - c. Trench Rescue
  - d. Cave Rescue

- e. High Angle Rescue
  - f. Water Rescue
  - g. Search & Rescue Dogs
  - h. Structural Collapse
  - i. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)
  - j. Hazardous Materials
7. The ESF-9 Team will have access to additional resources at the region, state, and federal level beyond the local capabilities. A list of these resources and agencies is available in the EOC.
- a. Specialized Regional Search and Rescue Teams
  - b. Aerial Search/Surveillance
  - c. Search & Rescue Dogs
  - d. Structural Collapse
  - e. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)
  - f. Tactical Response Teams
8. Accurate documentation and records must be kept to provide information to various agencies and individuals at the completion of mitigation activities.
- a. On-Scene: Johnson County Med-Act response agency will document where injured persons were found, treated, and transported (if applicable) for additional medical care. Law enforcement, under the direction of the County Coroner, will record where deceased victims were found.
  - b. Chain of Custody: Law enforcement, under the direction of the County Coroner, will account for and secure evidence and personal belongings. (refer to ESF-8 Public Health and Medical Services).
  - c. Fiscal: The Incident Commander and/or jurisdictions will ensure the tracking and accounting of labor and equipment used.
9. All individuals/organizations involved in disaster response should collect and record information on the utilization of labor, materials, equipment, and disaster-related costs.

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

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### **ESF-9 Search and Rescue Team**

<b>The mission of the ESF-9 Search and Rescue Team is to ensure the provision of Search and Rescue required to meet the needs generated by disaster affecting Johnson County.</b>	
Coordinating Agency	<b>Johnson County Med-Act</b>
Support Agencies	<b>American Red Cross Johnson County Emergency Communications Center Johnson County Emergency Management &amp; Homeland Security Johnson County Public Works</b>

	<b>Jurisdictional Fire Departments</b> <b>Jurisdictional Law Enforcement (Refer to ESF-13)</b> <b>Jurisdictional Public Works Departments (Refer to ESF-3)</b> <b>The Salvation Army</b>
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the ESF-9 Annex annually and update as needed</li> <li>• Continually evaluate the capabilities required to accomplish the ESF-9 mission, identify any gaps, and leverage resources to address them</li> <li>• Manage the resolution of ESF-9 after-action issues</li> <li>• Develop and/or participate in relevant ESF related planning, training, and exercise activities at the local, regional, state, and/or federal level</li> <li>• Ensure necessary supplements to the ESF annex are developed and maintained (including emergency contact lists, resource lists, departmental/functional plans, procedures, protocols, &amp; EOC job aids)</li> <li>• Ensure representatives from the Coordinating Agency and Support Agencies are fully trained and prepared to respond to the County EOC as ESF-9 Team Members</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish and maintain operational awareness of search and rescue through direct communications links with operational units (DOCs, City EOCs, liaisons, etc.) in the field and/or their appropriate coordinating entities;</li> <li>• Conduct search and rescue disaster impact and needs assessments, prioritize ESF-9 operational objectives in alignment with the EOC Action Plan, and coordinate ESF-9 county-wide response activities;</li> <li>• Collect and analyze information relevant to ESF-9 and report in WebEOC and EOC documents including EOC Action Plans and Situational Reports;</li> <li>• Receive, manage, &amp; track resource requests for ESF-9;</li> <li>• Ensure full coordination of activities with other groups within the EOC to assist in the development and maintenance of a common operating picture.</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate the ESF-9 support of recovery activities</li> <li>• Coordinate the restoration of ESF-9 resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>• Ensure ESF-9 Team Members and/or their agencies provide appropriate records of costs incurred</li> <li>• Conduct an ESF-9 after action review</li> </ul>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents</li> </ul>

## ESF-9 Search and Rescue Coordinating Agency Responsibilities

<b>Johnson County Med-Act</b>	
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure each of the preparedness responsibilities identified for the County ESF-9 Team (listed above) are accomplished</li> <li>• Maintain an inventory of agency resources</li> <li>• Maintain emergency contact information</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide search and rescue support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides &amp; protocols, existing MOUs &amp; agreements, and the <i>ESF-9 Search and Rescue Annex</i></li> <li>• Ensure each of the response responsibilities identified for the County ESF-9 Team (listed above) are accomplished regardless of the activation/staffing level of the County EOC</li> <li>• Arrange for appropriate staffing of the County ESF-9 Team in the EOC throughout activations</li> <li>• Coordinate the activities of ESF-9 Team Members in the County EOC</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate the ESF-9 support of recovery activities</li> <li>• Coordinate the restoration of ESF-9 resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>• Ensure ESF-9 Team Members and/or their agencies provide appropriate records of</li> </ul>

	costs incurred • Conduct an ESF-9 after action review
Mitigation	• Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents

## ESF Support Agency Responsibilities

<b>American Red Cross</b>	
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with the ESF-9 Team preparedness activities (listed above)</li> <li>• Maintain an inventory of agency resources</li> <li>• Maintain agency emergency contact information</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide assistance (i.e. food, shelter, clothing, etc.) to those impacted by disaster in accordance with standard operating procedures.</li> <li>• Support incident response operations/responders in accordance with standard operating procedures.</li> <li>• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-9 mission</li> <li>• Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-9 Team when activated</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>• Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities</li> <li>• Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement</li> <li>• Participate in after action reviews</li> </ul>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents</li> </ul>
<b>Johnson County Emergency Communications Center</b>	
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with the ESF-9 Team preparedness activities (listed above)</li> <li>• Maintain an inventory of agency resources</li> <li>• Maintain agency emergency contact information</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide dispatching services and communications support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides &amp; protocols, existing MOUs &amp; agreements, and the <i>ESF-2 Communications Annex</i></li> <li>• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-9 mission</li> <li>• Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-9 Team when activated</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>• Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities</li> <li>• Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement</li> <li>• Participate in after action reviews</li> </ul>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents</li> </ul>
<b>Johnson County Emergency Management and Homeland Security</b>	
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with the ESF-9 Team preparedness activities (listed above)</li> <li>• Maintain an inventory of agency resources</li> <li>• Maintain agency emergency contact information</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-9 mission</li> <li>• Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-9 Team when activated</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>• Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities</li> <li>• Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement</li> <li>• Participate in after action reviews</li> </ul>

Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents</li> </ul>
<b>Johnson County Public Works</b>	
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist with the ESF-9 Team preparedness activities (listed above)</li> <li>Maintain an inventory of agency resources</li> <li>Maintain agency emergency contact information</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide heavy equipment and operators as needed to assist in search and rescue operations in accordance with departmental operations guides &amp; protocols, and existing MOUs &amp; agreements</li> <li>Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-9 mission</li> <li>Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-9 Team when activated</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities</li> <li>Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement</li> <li>Participate in after action reviews</li> </ul>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents</li> </ul>
<b>Jurisdictional Fire Departments</b>	
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist with the ESF-9 Team preparedness activities (listed above)</li> <li>Maintain an inventory of agency resources</li> <li>Maintain agency emergency contact information</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide search and rescue support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides &amp; protocols, existing MOUs &amp; agreements, and the <i>ESF-9 Search and Rescue Annex</i></li> <li>Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-9 mission</li> <li>Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-9 Team when activated</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities</li> <li>Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement</li> <li>Participate in after action reviews</li> </ul>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents</li> </ul>
<b>Jurisdictional Law Enforcement</b>	
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist with the ESF-9 Team preparedness activities (listed above)</li> <li>Maintain an inventory of agency resources</li> <li>Maintain agency emergency contact information</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide law enforcement support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides &amp; protocols, existing MOUs &amp; agreements, and the <i>ESF-13 Public Safety and Security Annex</i></li> <li>Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-9 mission</li> <li>Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-9 Team when activated</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities</li> <li>Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement</li> <li>Participate in after action reviews</li> </ul>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents</li> </ul>

<b>Jurisdictional Public Works</b>	
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with the ESF-9 Team preparedness activities (listed above)</li> <li>• Maintain an inventory of agency resources</li> <li>• Maintain agency emergency contact information</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide heavy equipment and operators as needed to assist in search and rescue operations in accordance with departmental operations guides &amp; protocols, and existing MOUs &amp; agreements</li> <li>• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-9 mission</li> <li>• Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-9 Team when activated</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>• Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities</li> <li>• Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement</li> <li>• Participate in after action reviews</li> </ul>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents</li> </ul>
<b>The Salvation Army</b>	
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with the ESF-9 Team preparedness activities (listed above)</li> <li>• Maintain an inventory of agency resources</li> <li>• Maintain agency emergency contact information</li> </ul>
Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide assistance (i.e. food, shelter, clothing, etc.) to those impacted by disaster in accordance with standard operating procedures.</li> <li>• Support incident response operations/responders in accordance with standard operating procedures.</li> <li>• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-9 mission</li> <li>• Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-9 Team when activated</li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed</li> <li>• Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities</li> <li>• Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement</li> <li>• Participate in after action reviews</li> </ul>
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents</li> </ul>

## **POLICIES, AUTHORITIES, AND REFERENCES**

*Please refer to the Basic Plan for additional Policies, Authorities, and References.*

### **Johnson County**

- Fire Stations in Johnson County- On File in JCEMHS
- Fire Service Providers by Jurisdiction- On File in JCEMHS
- Fire and Emergency Services Auto Aid Agreement - On File with JCEMHS

### **State of Kansas**

- State of Kansas Search and Rescue Response Plan

**National/Federal**

- NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications.
- NFPA 1670: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents.