

JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Developed to be a local element of the Integrated Emergency Management System
(IEMS) of the State of Kansas and of the United States by:

The Agencies, Departments and Cities of Johnson County

With the coordination and assistance of:

**The Johnson County Department of Emergency Management
and Homeland Security**

Under the guidelines established by:

The Kansas Division of Emergency Management

and the

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

-- July, 2005 --

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FOREWORD

GENERAL: Johnson County's Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) is written to consider all relevant hazards identified in the Johnson County Hazard Analysis and to address the four phases of emergency management – mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. It defines, to the maximum extent appropriate, the policies, roles and responsibilities for management of emergency operations within the constraints of existing resources and operational capabilities.

EMERGENCY PLANNING POLICY: Emergency Operations planning in Johnson County relies on a cooperative process between the county and the various cities within the county. In accordance with KSA 48-929, responsibility for emergency management and emergency operations planning resides with the county. It is the policy and intention of Johnson County, however, to encourage the cities within the county to develop emergency operations plans of their own. Such plans, however, shall reference and be consistent with the provisions of this plan. The Johnson County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Department shall:

- Render planning assistance, as requested, to any city within Johnson County,
- Review and certify city plans as valid adjuncts to this plan,
- Maintain a list of and formally endorse city plans to the Kansas Division of Emergency Management.

Cities having county-recognized plans shall conduct operations within their own city limits pursuant to those plans. Emergency operations in cities not having such plans and in the unincorporated areas of the county, as well as all emergency support activities by agencies of Johnson County government, shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions and policies contained in this plan.

The Johnson County LEOP consists of two components: The Basic Plan and functional Annexes. The Basic Plan section is a relatively broad conceptual framework describing the policy and approach to emergency operations for use by local government officials. Annexes are components of the plan that provide specific information and direction for the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Director and other managers. Although not a component of the plan, the implementing Emergency Operations Guides (EOGs) should support the annexes and contain technical and detailed operational information for operating departments and individuals to carry out assigned roles and responsibilities.

DISCLAIMER: Even though every effort has been made to make the response and recovery provisions of this plan parallel the normal, non-emergency functions of county agencies and departments, it is developed as a guide for emergency operations in a disaster or major emergency, not for the conduct of day-to-day operations. All agencies and individuals involved in emergency operations should understand that events may take place which would make it improper and inadvisable to proceed in a manner that would jeopardize lives and property simply to implement this plan, a supporting city plan, or a specific EOG. Individuals and agencies having responsibilities set forth in this plan must have the freedom to augment its provisions in order to deal with an emergency/disaster event using resources that are available and actions that are possible within the time limits dictated by the situation.

The Plan has been prepared to meet state and federal requirements and is intended to provide the overall framework within which tasked agencies will operate in a major emergency or disaster. The plan is not designed to be a checklist to specific actions during emergencies/disasters or to take the place of valid city plans, agency or departmental operating procedures or guidelines. It is intended, rather, to be an instrument that ties the various agencies and jurisdictions together as a team during such emergency/disaster situations.

PROMULGATIONS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

One of the responsibilities of Kansas counties required by K.S.A. 48-929, is the development and promulgation of a County Emergency Operations Plan with the intention of saving lives and protecting property in the event of a major emergency or disaster. This planning includes: Mitigation to reduce the probability of occurrence and minimize the effects of unavoidable incidents; Preparedness to respond to emergency/ disaster situations; Response actions during an emergency/disaster; and Recovery operations that will ensure the orderly return to normal or improved levels following an emergency/disaster.

The Johnson County Emergency Operations Plan has been developed to establish the policies, guidance and procedures that will provide the elected and appointed officials, administrative personnel, various governmental departments and private and volunteer agencies with the information required to function in a coordinated and integrated fashion and to ensure a timely and organized management of the consequences arising from emergencies/disasters.

As Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, I endorse this Plan, as approved by the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners on July 7, 2005 and direct that all personnel involved assume the roles and responsibilities and take appropriate actions as outlined herein.

Date

Annabeth Surbaugh, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

SHERIFF:

As Sheriff of Johnson County, I endorse this plan, as approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Date

Frank Denning, Sheriff
Johnson County

DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

As District Attorney of Johnson County, I endorse this plan, as approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Date

Paul Morrison, District Attorney
Johnson County