

I. Meeting Packet



State of Florida
Public Service Commission
INTERNAL AFFAIRS AGENDA

Tuesday – June 21, 2022

9:30 AM

Room 148 - Betty Easley Conference Center

1. Overview of the Florida Division of Emergency Management
by Ian Guidicelli - Bureau of Response (Attachment 1)
2. Legislative Update
3. General Counsel's Report
4. Executive Director's report
5. Other Matters

BB/aml

OUTSIDE PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON
ANY OF THE AGENDAED ITEMS SHOULD CONTACT THE
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT (850) 413-6463.



FLORIDA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

*STATE EMERGENCY
OPERATIONS CENTER*



Florida Division of Emergency Management

Concept of Operations Briefing

Florida Division of Emergency Management

Mission

Coordinate, Collaborate, and Communicate with stakeholders for a resilient Florida.

Vision

“Leading the Profession in building Safer Communities”



Division's Core Values

- ***Integrity*** – We hold ourselves accountable by demonstrating sound judgement and ethical practices, regardless of the consequences, to cultivate stakeholder trust.
- ***Teamwork*** – We commit ourselves to selflessly and humbly support one another, undivided, while promoting transparency, comradery, and mutual respect.
- ***Service Excellence*** – We advocate for our stakeholders by addressing needs timely and effectively through our roles and programs.
- ***Adaptability*** – We respond to the hazards and opportunities impacting our stakeholders through creative and innovative solutions, while working within parameters of state and federal guidelines.
- ***Collaboration*** - We coordinate with stakeholders and leverage partnerships with the whole community to strengthen existing and implement new ideas

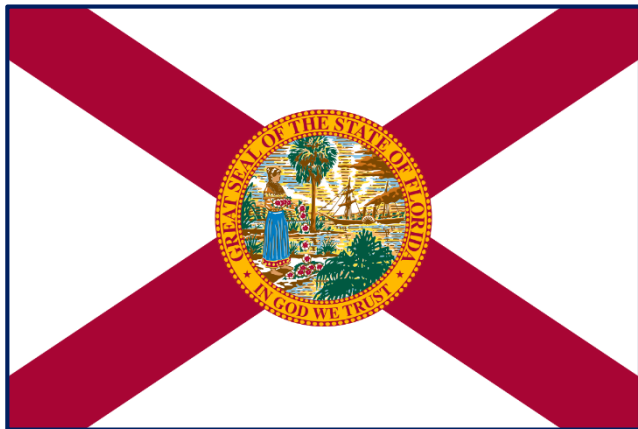


Florida Statute Chapter 252

“State Emergency Management Act”



- Authorizes the creation of a state emergency management agency to be known as the “Division of Emergency Management.”
- Charges the Division with implementing programs whose goals are to avoid or reduce the impacts of natural and man-made disasters



Disaster Risk Reduction in Florida

FDEM

- State agency within the Executive Office of the Governor
- Headed by the Director of Emergency Management
- Oversees the day-to-day, or “Blue Sky” activities of disaster risk reduction through training, planning, exercises, grant programs, and inter-agency initiatives.
- Manages and maintains the State Emergency Response Team

SERT

- Inter-agency organization authorized by law for the purpose of responding to, recovering from, mitigating against, and preparing for disasters.
- Headed by a State Coordinating Officer, an individual appointed during a State of Emergency to have emergency powers of the governor (usually FDEM Director).
- Consists of disaster risk reduction elements of all state agencies and non-profit partners in Florida.



Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan

State CEMP

- Sets the “Overall Framework”
- Provides guidance to state and local officials on procedures, organization and responsibilities
- Adopts a functional approach that combines the types of assistance to be provided under each Emergency Support Function
(e.g., *Transportation, Health*)



Natural and Technological Hazards

Natural Hazards

- Hurricanes
- Tornadoes
- Floods
- Drought
- Wildfires
- Severe Thunderstorms
- Severe Heat and Cold
- Pandemics (COVID-19, H1N1)

Technological Hazards

- Terrorism (WMD)
- Mass Migration
- Radiological (REP)
- Hazardous Materials
- Special Events (2020 Super Bowl, RNC)
- Transportation Accidents
- Active Shooter Situations



State Emergency Response Team

Comprised of response partners from other state agencies, volunteer agencies and private organizations

Grouped by Emergency Support Function

- 20 Emergency Support Functions (ESFs)
- Led by Agency Emergency Coordinating Officers (ECO) or FDEM ESF Leads



Emergency Coordinating Officers

They are the “Subject Matter Experts” and backbone of the ESF Structure

Assigned in accordance with Chapter 252, FS

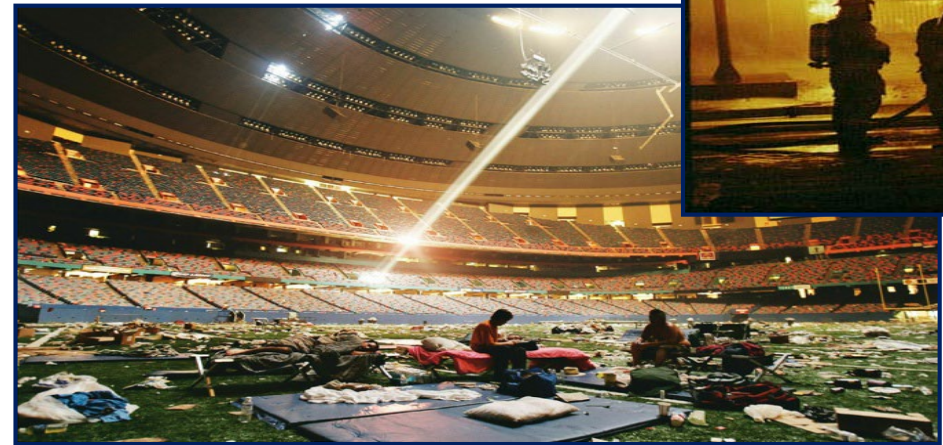
ECOs need to be empowered to:

- Represent their Agency Head and Agency
- Make critical decisions and act independently in the SEOC
- Address assigned missions and tasks from the SCO and SERT Command
- Commit agency resources including financial resources under the Executive Order to fulfill requests



Emergency Support Functions

- ESF 1** Transportation (DOT)
- ESF 2** Communications (DMS)
- ESF 3** Public Works (DOT)
- ESF 4** Fire Fighting (DFS)
- ESF 5** Info and Planning (DEM)
- ESF 6** Mass Care (DBPR)



Emergency Support Functions



- ESF 7** Resource Support (DMS)
- ESF 8** Health and Medical (DOH)
- ESF 9** Search and Rescue (DFS)
- ESF 10** Hazardous Materials (DEP)
- ESF 11** Food and Water (FDACS)
- ESF 12** Energy: Power (PSC)
- ESF 13** Military Support (DMA)



Emergency Support Functions

- ESF 14** Public Information (EOG)
- ESF 15** Volunteers and Donations (VoIFL)
- ESF 16** Law Enforcement (FDLE)
- ESF 17** Animal Protection & Agriculture (FDACS)
- ESF 18** Business and Economic Stabilization (DEO)
- ESF 19** Emergency Fuels (DEM)
- ESF 20** Cybersecurity (FLDS)



SERT Activation Levels

Level 3: Monitoring

- Normal, day-to-day operations (situational awareness)

Level 2: Activation of SERT

- Individual ESF's notified and staffed according to the needs of the event

Level 1: Full-Scale Activation

- All ESFs present with 24-hour operations, as needed



Local Ownership

All disasters start and end at the LOCAL level.

State and Federal officials should be ready to provide support and resources when local agencies are overwhelmed.



State Watch Office (SWO)

Staffed 24/7/365



Includes members of:

- Operations Section
- Meteorology
- Others as needed

In constant communication with:

- Florida's 67 County Warning Points and EM Staff
- SERT members
- Nuclear Power Plants
- Federal Partners
- Governor's Office

Where all incidents start and finish

State of Florida Initial Response

Incident Occurs / Threat is Present



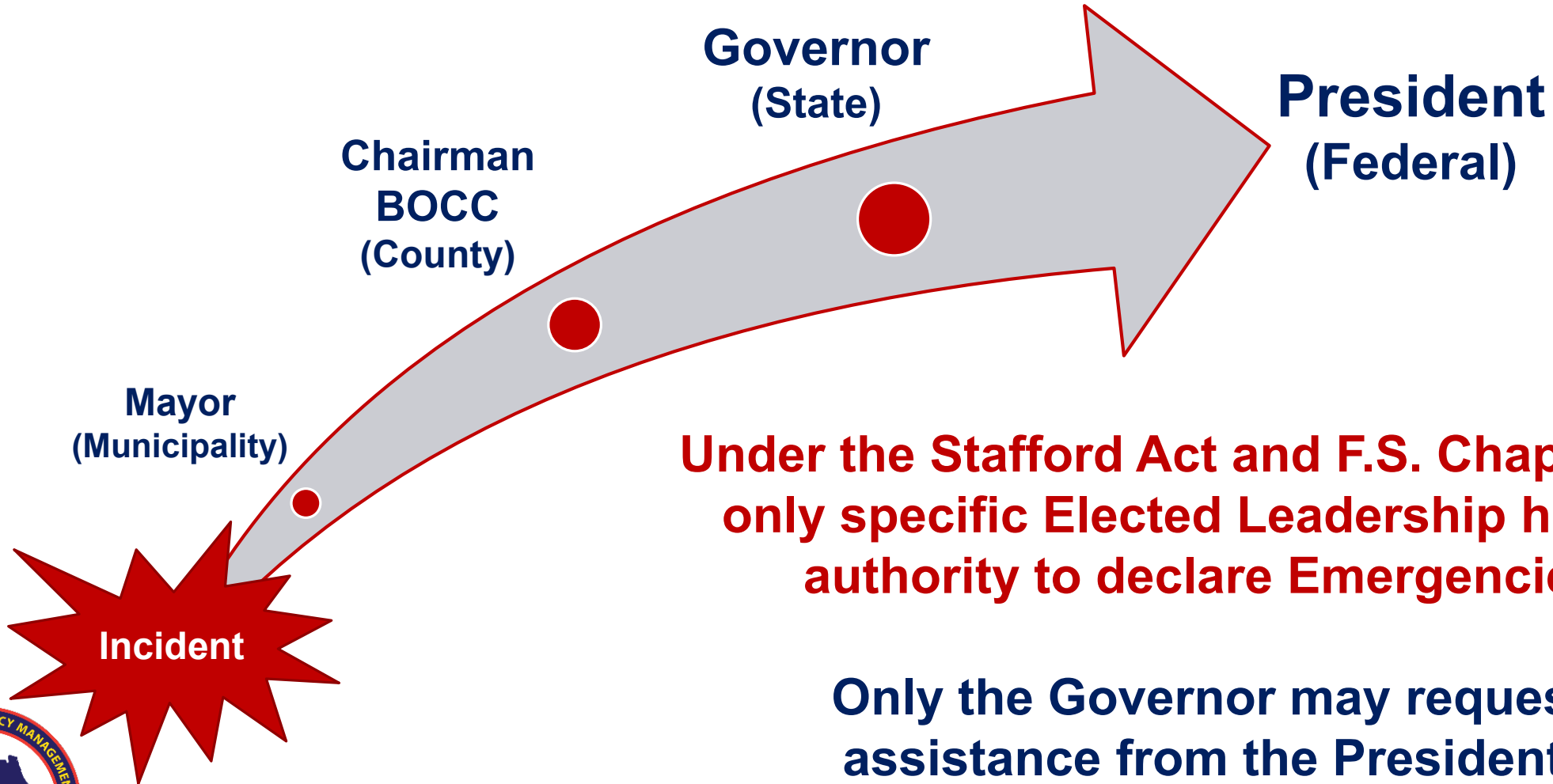
Responsible Agency Notifies the SWO



Operations Officer opens an incident report and notifies appropriate ESF's and Response Partners

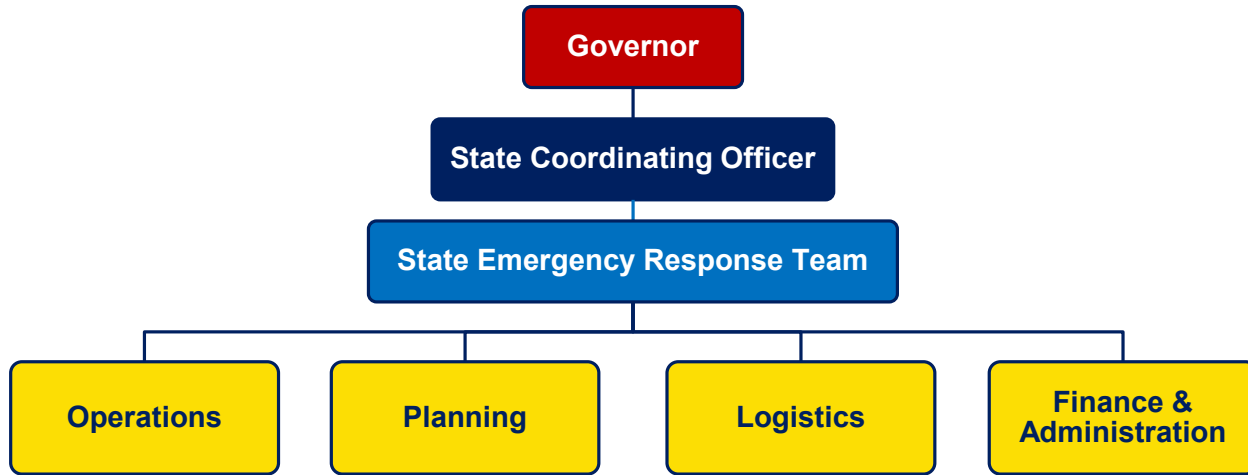


State of Florida Initial Response



SERT Organization

Follows Incident Command System (ICS) and Unity of Command



- Divided into Sections and Branches
- The Governor has ultimate authority in all disasters, per state statute
- May delegate the authority to a State Coordinating Officer
- The SERT Chief oversees the SERT



Operations Section

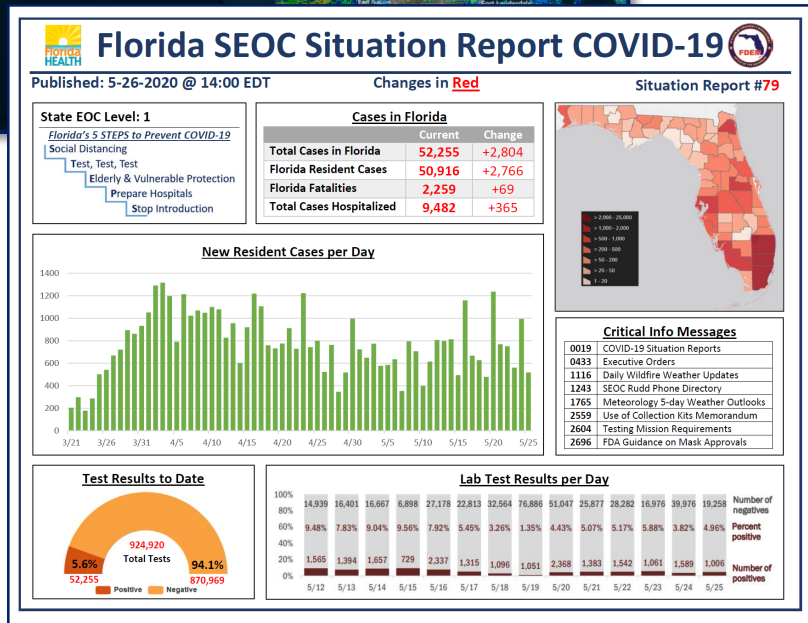
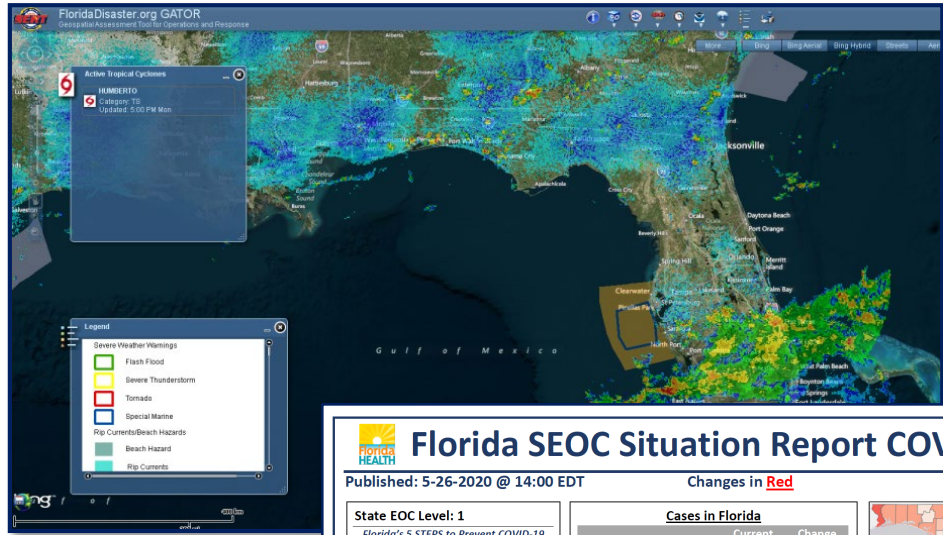
Coordinates response activities during an incident or event.

Comprised of the following Branches:

- Emergency Services
- Human Services
- Infrastructure
- Air Operations
- Operations Support



Planning Section



Provides the SERT with timely and accurate intelligence and analysis via:

- Incident Action Plan
- Situation Reports
- Critical Lifeline Reporting

Comprised of:

- Technological Services Branch (GIS, IT Support)
- Meteorology Support Unit
- Recon Unit
- Integrated Planners



Logistics Section

Coordinates logistical support for response at state and local levels, as requested.

Comprised of:

- **Mutual Aid Branch**
 - SMAA
 - EMAC
- **Contract and Vendor Management**
- **Field Logistics Operations**
 - State Logistics Response Center
 - Logistics Staging Areas (LSAs)
 - Points of Distributions (PODs)
 - Base Camps

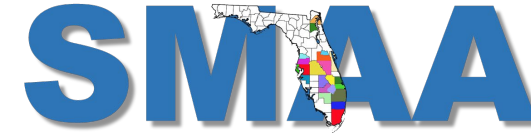


Mutual Aid Agreements



Emergency Management Assistance Compact

- Interstate mutual aid compact for state-to-state assistance
- Includes all 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the USVI
- In-state capabilities are evaluated for availability prior to requesting resources from EMAC member states
- EMAC is based on a 5-step request-and-offer process between the requesting and assisting state
- EMAC **requires** a governor's declaration to activate.



Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement

- Agreement under which county-to-county assistance is provided within the state of Florida.
- There are over 700 signatories of the SMAA, including all 67 counties.
- **Does not** require a governor's declaration for the agreement to be used
- SMAA provides for a coordinated and streamlined approach to county and personnel deployments and maximizes the use of available in-state resources.



Finance Section

Ensures the proper fiscal management of SERT response via:

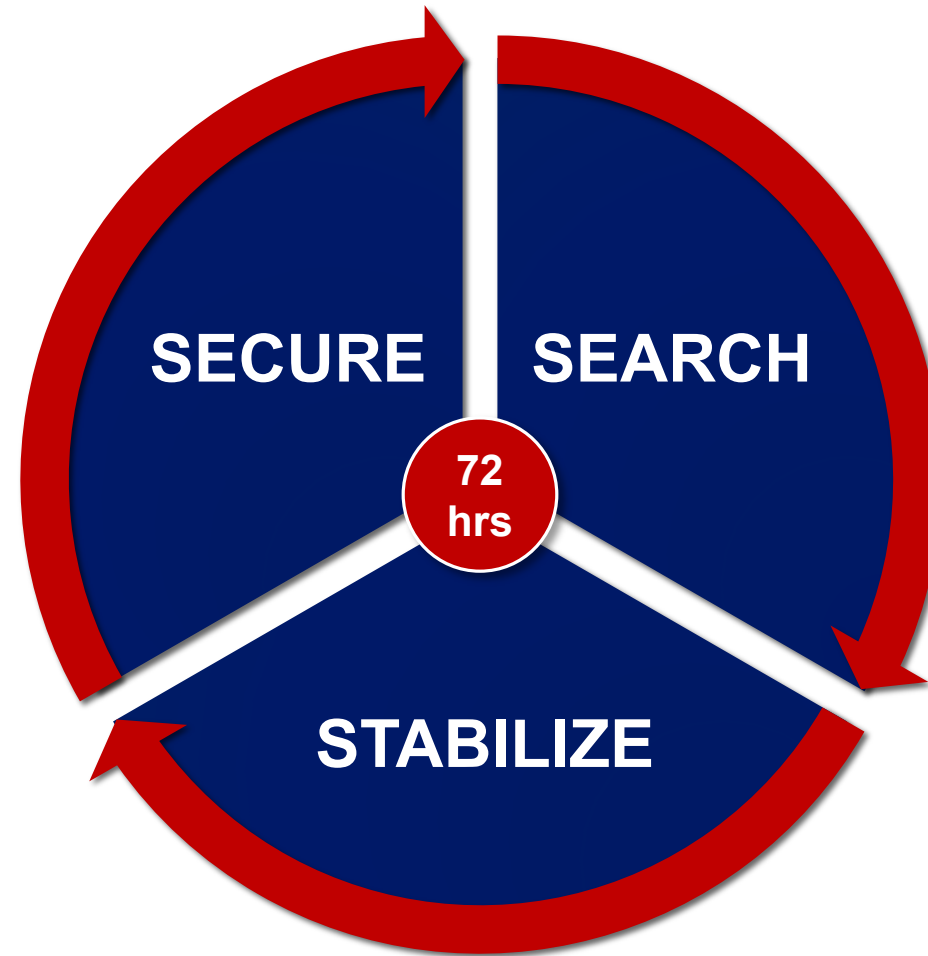
- Budgets and agency coordination
- Personnel and logistics support
- Reporting and record keeping



A critical function in all disasters



Priorities for the First 72 Hrs



Standing Orders

- 1. Establish Communication with Impacted Areas**
- 2. Search and Rescue / Security**
- 3. Meet Basic Human Needs**
 1. Medical
 2. Water
 3. Food
 4. Shelter
 5. Emergency Fuel
 6. Ice (as necessary)
- 4. Restore Critical Infrastructure**
- 5. Open Schools / Local Businesses**
- 6. Begin the Recovery**



Operational Rules



- 1. Meet the needs of survivors**
- 2. Take care of responders**
- 3. See rule one**



Transition to Recovery



When a state of emergency is declared by the Governor, the SERT will initiate response operations to assist communities impacted by the event.

As response operations are underway, the SERT will simultaneously begin the planning of recovery operations.



Activities included, but not limited to:

- Deploy Preliminary Damage Assessment teams
- Coordination and implementation of Public and/or Individual Assistance as declared by FEMA
- Coordinate the establishment of Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs)
- Deploy Disaster Survival Assistance Teams (DSATs)



Florida Division of Emergency Management

Questions?



www.floridadisaster.org

<http://www.twitter.com/#!/flsert>



III. Supplemental Materials for Internal Affairs

IV. Transcript

BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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PROCEEDINGS: INTERNAL AFFAIRS

COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN ANDREW GILES FAY
COMMISSIONER ART GRAHAM
COMMISSIONER GARY F. CLARK
COMMISSIONER MIKE LA ROSA
COMMISSIONER GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO

DATE: Tuesday, June 21, 2022

TIME: Commenced: 9:30 a.m.
Concluded: 10:15 a.m.

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: DEBRA R. KRICK
Court Reporter and
Notary Public in and for
the State of Florida at Large

PREMIER REPORTING
114 W. 5TH AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
(850) 894-0828

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN FAY: All right. Good morning.

3 Welcome to the Internal Affairs meeting for June
4 21st.5 I first would like to take up, Commissioners,
6 like we always do the Employee of the Month for
7 this month to recognize your staff, you may have
8 worked with this person, but Steve Steele is a
9 Systems Project Consultant in our Division of
10 Administration in IT. He manages some of our
11 network infrastructure, our VOIP phone network and
12 other IT related issues within our network.13 We have, the past year, had a result in of 99
14 percent network up time, which is pretty
15 impressive. And then the other part of it, as
16 unfortunately we all know too well from the
17 pandemic, our virtual mechanisms that we use to
18 sign on to our systems, and Steve is in charge of
19 that component and has dealt with some of the
20 troubleshooting on those issues.21 So his background, actually, he was a
22 corporate director of the help desk for General
23 Dynamics before, and he refused to say if we are
24 worse than a giant corporation as far as assistance
25 with IT requirements.

1 So with that, Commissioners, we will
2 recognize -- he is not here today, but we will
3 recognize Steve Steele for our May Employee of the
4 Month.

5 All right. Next we will move to our
6 presentation from Amy Godsey this morning, the
7 Division of Emergency Management. We are glad to
8 have you here.

9 You are recognized -- your presentation, did
10 we give you the clicker to roll through? Okay,
11 great.

12 And with that, Commissioners, of course you
13 can interrupt as she's going if you have questions,
14 or we will take some at the end.

15 Thank you, you are recognized.

16 MS. GODSEY: All right. Thank you, Chairman.
17 All right. Thank you, everyone, for the
18 opportunity to speak to you today about the
19 Division of Emergency Management in our
20 coordination effort with other state agencies,
21 including the Public Service Commission on disaster
22 response and resiliency.

23 My name is Amy Godsey. I am the Chief
24 Meteorologist at the Division, and I also serve as
25 the Deputy Bureau Chief of Response.

1 At the Division, we are working diligently to
2 coordinate and collaborate with state, local and
3 federal partners on efforts related to disaster
4 preparedness, recovery response and mitigation. We
5 are collaborating with new service organizations
6 and stakeholders, and communicating to our partners
7 and our citizens during times of crisis in an
8 effort to make our communities more resilient
9 against future disasters.

10 Our core values at the Division involve
11 integrity, teamwork, service excellence,
12 adaptability and collaboration; again, servicing
13 our vision to lead the emergency management
14 profession nationwide in building safer
15 communities, especially in Florida.

16 The division and the state emergency response
17 time, you will hear me refer to that organization
18 in the presentation, we are governed by Florida
19 Statute 252, which sets our provisions and
20 authorities for disaster preparedness and response
21 activities. We are mainly focused on disaster risk
22 reduction. So we oversee grant programs. Provide
23 training and exercises to first responder
24 organizations, provide technical assistance and
25 other initiatives that are geared at increasing

1 both local and state disaster response
2 capabilities.

3 The state emergency response team, which the
4 Public Service Commission is a part of, is a
5 collective of personnel; not just the Division of
6 Emergency Management, but our other state agencies,
7 nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations, we are
8 working together to ensure that Florida is prepared
9 for disasters, can recover quickly from them and
10 also mitigate future affects.

11 Our Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
12 ensures that all levels of government are able to
13 function under a unified emergency management
14 organization to safeguard the well-being of
15 Florida's residents and visitors.

16 So in the CEMP describes the basic strategies,
17 our assumptions, operational objectives and
18 priorities, and the mechanisms through which the
19 SERT will mobilize and deploy resources to our
20 citizens across Florida, and guide and support
21 local emergency management activities.

22 To facilitate this, we adopt a functional
23 approach, which basically organizes the groups or
24 types of assistance to be provided by what we call
25 emergency support functions, and there are 20 of

1 them.

2 In Florida, and through that CEMP, we adopt an
3 all hazards approach. So we train. We exercise.
4 We activate for both natural and manmade disasters.
5 We may train or activate for planned events of
6 national significance, as well as those no-notice
7 events as well, in order to make sure that our
8 response team is ready to activate in a moment's
9 notice and deploy resources in an effective and
10 efficient manner.

11 So as I mentioned before, our SERT is a
12 collective of state agencies. The division cannot
13 do this alone, so we rely on our other state
14 partners and also our volunteer organizations to
15 activate within the State Emergency Operations
16 Center. So every state agency in Florida provides
17 what we call an Emergency Coordinating Officer.
18 And that falls within one of our 20 ESFs.

19 So this person, this ECO, is basically our
20 subject matter expert. They are empowered by their
21 agency to make decisions, to coordinate resources
22 on behalf of their agent, and provide information
23 that will help the situational awareness in the
24 EOC.

25 All right. So the next three slides are the

1 list of our 20 ESFs. The Public Service Commission
2 is the lead agency for ESF number 12, which is our
3 energy and power sector. So we will have an
4 emergency coordinating officer come into the state
5 EOC, coordinate those resources amongst the
6 private/public utilities across Florida, and
7 coordinate those resources for the restoration of
8 critical infrastructure.

9 ESFs 19 and 20 are new to the SERT. They've
10 always been in existence in some form or fashion,
11 but they've expanded their capabilities. They are
12 partners over the past few years to where we've
13 established them as ESF 19, focused on emergency
14 fuel across the state, as well as cybersecurity
15 through the digital service.

16 So our activation levels at the State
17 Emergency Response Team is depending on the
18 complexity at this and the geographic nature of a
19 disaster. And that will serve as a guidance
20 document, whether we activate just particular ESFs,
21 if it's more of a smaller scale event, or if it's a
22 Level 1, such as a hurricane, a large geographic
23 area, we would respond with all of our ESFs to the
24 Emergency Operations Center to coordinate 24 hours
25 a day as needed.

1 On a day like today, we are monitoring. We
2 are at a Level 3 in the activation -- in the
3 operations center, just monitoring smaller events
4 across the state.

5 And when we do activate, it also does depend
6 on the capabilities of our local jurisdictions.
7 The local entities have the primary response
8 priorities, and they have the jurisdiction. So the
9 state comes in whenever they are overwhelmed with
10 resources, they don't have enough resources to
11 handle that crisis or emergency, and state assets
12 will be deployed to assist.

13 So during those Level 3 monitoring days, we
14 rely on our State Watch Office, which is housed
15 within the Division of Emergency Management. We
16 consider them the heartbeat of the division. They
17 are the staff members that are there 24/7, 365
18 keeping a pulse on what's going on across the
19 state. And they will utilize traditional social
20 media, other platforms to monitor events going on
21 across the state.

22 When there is an incident that does pose a
23 threat to people or the environment, the watch
24 office will receive that notification, or sometimes
25 it's a tweet observed by one of our operations

1 officers, and so that will start to spin some
2 wheels. We will notify other appropriate state and
3 local response agencies as well to provide
4 assistance. And if needed, and if it requires a
5 larger response, such as a surfside event or a
6 wildfire event, we will activate more ESFs into the
7 EOC as we deem necessary. So we say this is where
8 basically all of our activations start and finish
9 in that watch office.

10 So this is kind of the timeline where when we
11 do receive a notification, again, we will be the
12 reporting or notification type party, deploy state
13 assets as needed, coordinate that information flow
14 between the local response partners and the state
15 agencies. And if needed, again, we will deploy
16 resources, and the Governor can request federal
17 assistance from the President if our capabilities
18 are overwhelmed.

19 So going back to that functional approach with
20 the CEMP and those 20 emergency support functions,
21 we break our SERT into divisions and branches. So
22 our main sections are operations, planning, logics
23 and finance.

24 There are four ESFs, military, public
25 information, our business, our private sector

1 partners and cybersecurity that report directly to
2 our State Emergency Response Team chief, 14 others
3 report under the operations section.

4 And again, those are focused on either
5 restoring critical infrastructure, providing for
6 the basic human needs, either through sheltering,
7 food, water, or coordinating first responder
8 activities with fire, rescue, medical personnel,
9 and if needed, coordinating air assets for any
10 response needed, whether it's a situation in the
11 Keys, where the roads, the main thoroughfares, you
12 are not able to get commodities there, we will also
13 coordinate any air assets with the federal
14 government to bring in those supplies to a calm are
15 community in need.

16 The planning section has one emergency support
17 function underneath them, but basically their main
18 goal is to bring in all that information that the
19 ESFs provide that our local emergency management
20 agencies are providing to maintain situational
21 awareness, so that we are focusing on key events,
22 critical unmet needs. So when we are at, you know,
23 effectively prioritizing our response to that local
24 community.

25 In logics, again, that's a very key part of

1 both response and recovery. We utilize registered
2 vendors, contracts, mutual aid, staging of
3 resources at our warehouses across the state, and
4 deploying field, you know, standing up logistical
5 staging areas in those areas to, again, effectively
6 and quickly get those life-sustaining commodities
7 into the hands of our citizens.

8 Mutual aid, when we talk about mutual aid,
9 that comes into two forms. So mutual aid is
10 normally personnel that are deploying, and some
11 equipment. So that could be search and rescue
12 teams, fire, ambulance, strike teams. There is two
13 types of avenues we utilize for that. There is the
14 intrastate. So it's within the state of Florida.
15 Fire Departments helping other Fire Departments
16 through the statewide mutual aid agreement. So
17 there is over 700 participating entities, again,
18 that are coordinating resources, deploying across
19 the state, again, to effectively respond to that
20 emergency.

21 There is also the emergency management
22 assistance compact with the other 50 states. So we
23 could provide assistance or vice-versa to the 50
24 states and territories. We actually have nine
25 deployed staff from the division right now deployed

1 to Montana through the EMAC program to provide
2 assistance to them after their flooding event near
3 Yellowstone a few weeks ago.

4 Our finance section is our fourth one. This
5 is primarily staffed by division finance staff, but
6 it does require close coordination with every state
7 agency finance group. Anyone that's going to be
8 supplying either resources or manpower, we are
9 trying to capture those costs for possible
10 reimbursement from the federal government. So it
11 is a key function and it does require constant
12 communication amongst every state agency to make
13 sure that we are adequately capturing those costs
14 associated with our response or recovery
15 activities.

16 So the umbrella in which the SERT operates is
17 we have our priorities of in the first 72 hours, we
18 give ourselves a countdown clock, so that once a
19 disaster occurs, our goal is to secure the area,
20 make sure it's safe for our responders and our
21 citizens, search the area for any missing persons,
22 getting a grasp at the level of damage that has
23 occurred, and stabilizing that community and
24 quickly getting it on the road to recovery.

25 So we accomplish that through six main

1 objectives. The first one being establishing
2 communications with the impacted areas, making sure
3 we are receiving intelligence and actionable
4 information, getting a good grasp on what has
5 occurred in the local area.

6 Also search and rescue, again, securing and
7 stabilizing that area. And then bringing in those
8 life sustain commodities. A lot of these
9 objectives occur simultaneously. It's not a one,
10 two, three, but we do have those ESFs that are
11 focusing on these six priority areas and meeting
12 those basic human needs, such as food, water,
13 sheltering, ice as needed, additional fuel, any of
14 those basic life-sustaining commodities that a
15 community would need.

16 And then of course we have other ESFs focusing
17 on restoring critical infrastructure, including the
18 Public Service Commission, on either roads or
19 power, so that we can open schools and local
20 businesses and begin that recovery process for that
21 local community.

22 We always say in the Emergency Operations
23 Center, the survivors are number one. We are
24 focused on them. Any of those priorities,
25 anything, intel that we get from the locals stating

1 an unmet need, we are focused on meeting their
2 needs as a survivor, and everything else kind of
3 falls number two and three. But we are focused on
4 our Floridians in the state of Florida, making sure
5 that they have what they need to recover.

6 When I talk about the transition to recovery,
7 it's listed as number six as a priority, but a lot
8 of our recovery activities are actually happening
9 simultaneously with preparedness and response, to
10 make sure that when we are trying to recover from a
11 community or a disaster, there is no delay in
12 recovery assistance.

13 So we are not waiting for a disaster to
14 happen, respond to it and then start recovery. We
15 are planning for those damage assessments. We are
16 coordinating with FEMA to try to get any other
17 federal assistance that we might need, or get
18 paperwork started for declarations. And again,
19 standing up some of those recovery centers as soon
20 as we know that that area is stabilized and that
21 we've searched the area and it's secure, we are
22 bringing in those recovery resources and other
23 types of assistance to those survivors, whether
24 it's preregistering them for FEMA assistance;
25 coordinating or giving them resources for local

1 donations or service organizations. Maybe it's
2 temporary housing, you know, they -- they not are
3 allowed to, or not able to stay in their home,
4 providing those types of quick resources so that
5 they are not on their own.

6 So that's what we are focused on at the
7 Division and the SERT. So I know it was a rather
8 quick breeze-through of how we conduct emergency
9 operations, but I would be glad to take any
10 questions from the Chairman or any Commissioners.

11 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you so much.

12 I have a few questions, but I will,
13 Commissioners, if you have anything you want to ask
14 first.

15 Okay. First, if you could just talk a little
16 bit about ESF 19. So obviously, with the
17 convergence of energy and fuel, that's something
18 that's relevant to us. What specifically does ESF
19 19 focus on?

20 MS. GODSEY: So ESF 19 is our newer one. It's
21 run by -- the division is the lead agency, but we
22 are coordinating. We are coordinating with the
23 terminal operators. We do have a standby fuels
24 contract with a vendor to bring in additional fuel,
25 or have a stockpile of fuel so that we are making

1 sure that generators at critical infrastructure are
2 fueled, that our first responders have fuel; and
3 keeping a pulse, also -- again, this is a very
4 commercial type industry, much like power is, so
5 coordinating with those business owners on their
6 fuel availability. That's all part of situational
7 awareness. And if we can identify a pocket of
8 need, we can mobilize or shift resources to that
9 particular area so if fuel does become an issue,
10 such as maybe nursing home -- maybe a nursing home
11 has run out of fuel for their generator, we can
12 quickly deploy and stand up that emergency contract
13 and deploy or divert fuel to that area so that they
14 are not running out.

15 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great. And you said
16 that's a fairly new division?

17 MS. GODSEY: They have been part of ESF 12 as
18 a support to our energy, so it was almost a split
19 from ESF 12. It was energy and fuel together, but
20 fuel, again, has become such a larger issue, and
21 more partners coming on-line that we've -- they
22 work in concert with ESF 12, but they are almost
23 becoming their own entity in itself, aside from the
24 power.

25 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great.

1 I think this -- this is -- we had a hurricane
2 workshop with the Commission where the different
3 utilities came in, and I think Commissioner
4 Passidomo actually brought this issue up, but, you
5 know, everything we deal with is this constant
6 supply chain discussion as to what's accessible and
7 what's not. So just within our purview, I mean,
8 what is EDM doing to try to be responsive to that
9 issue?

10 MS. GODSEY: Yeah, great question.

11 We have been working with all of our state
12 partners, and even our volunteer organizations, to
13 look at these types of issues, whether it's supply
14 chain, or staffing even, for some of our shelters
15 or our hospitals, there could be some issues. So
16 we've taken a look and reached out to our state
17 agencies to address what are the normal commodities
18 that you would order in a larger event? Do you
19 foresee any issues? And let's collaborate on some
20 mitigation strategies. Is there a timeline where
21 we have to initiate a contract sooner? Are we
22 going to have to look at maybe multiple vendors
23 with smaller quantities to fill this need? And
24 identify some of those strategies now, before a
25 disaster happens, so that if we do have an event,

1 we know what our strategy is going forward, knowing
2 that there is going to be some possible supply
3 chain issues or some staffing needs in the future.

4 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great.

5 Yeah, and we talk a lot about the expectation
6 of power to come back on quickly with Floridians
7 and consumers. So do you have conversations
8 related to the supply chain issue with vendors or
9 utilities, or is that something you sort of look to
10 the PSC to be doing?

11 MS. GODSEY: Oh, no. We are reaching out with
12 everyone, so including the Public Service
13 Commission and other state agencies, we've met with
14 our public and private utilities. We've met with
15 some co-ops to talk specifically about their
16 strategies and something they might see that we are
17 not seeing, you know.

18 We are contracted with our normal vendors that
19 we use for larger commodities, such as base camps
20 or feeding kitchens. We are working with all of
21 our vendors that we would normally contract with to
22 see what they have available as a stockpile, or
23 what that lead time would be, trucking, you know,
24 we may have the commodity but do we have the
25 drivers to get it there?

1 So we have been reaching out to our vendors
2 and all of our partners that we would normally
3 coordinate with in the EOC, food kitchens, foods
4 pantries across the state, looking at their
5 inventory, just to see would we need to turn on or
6 look at federal assistance even sooner than we
7 normally might.

8 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you.

9 I know, during large storms, we will -- you
10 will activate EOC and ESF 12 will essentially staff
11 it 24/7. We have staff in our agency who, you
12 know, work through that and provide the aggregate
13 outage data. So we provide that to you, and
14 essentially to other public agencies or private
15 entities that need that information. What -- are
16 we providing sufficient information? Is there
17 anything else that you need when we do that?

18 MS. GODSEY: Well, that's a great question.
19 We greatly appreciate that outage data that we get
20 from ESF 12. That is not only feeding our
21 situational awareness and getting a grasp at the
22 impact of a disaster, but it's also helping us to
23 establish priorities. Are we seeing a larger
24 geographic area where a large number of customers
25 are without power? Or perhaps the estimated time

1 of restoration is of, you know, a long duration,
2 and we can shift those resources, bring in comfort
3 stations. If we know that people are going to be
4 without air conditioning for a long period of time,
5 we can bring in cooling stations. We can bring in
6 areas where people can come charge their phones,
7 come get cooled off a little bit. Oh, and while
8 you are here, here are some other resources to get
9 you on the road to recovery with FEMA or the Small
10 Business Administration.

11 So we greatly appreciate that. You know, we
12 are, I know you feel it too, we are almost in the
13 Amazon culture, where everything needs to be quick,
14 so sometimes information also needs to be quick, so
15 -- but we -- that's all part of the training. We
16 work with our emergency coordinating officers on
17 established timelines for reporting, and relying on
18 our ESFs, too, to tell us what is possible and what
19 isn't.

20 You know, if you are not getting information
21 from your energy partners only six hours at a time,
22 that's just their operation, we need to know that,
23 okay, so that way we are not bothering a certain
24 ESF with hourly updates. If it's not possible, we
25 need to understand that tempo from our ESFs.

1 But we greatly do appreciate that information
2 as some intelligence to helps strategize the
3 prioritization of resources.

4 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Yeah. And I think even
5 sometimes we provide it regionally, or is that part
6 of the process too?

7 MS. GODSEY: It is. It's by county, by
8 utility. Again, if it's -- if it's just one
9 utility that's really having a hard time with
10 restoration, maybe we will -- we will start to work
11 with them a little bit more. What is slowing
12 things down? What do they need? That's kind of
13 one of to the strategies we utilize.

14 So we'll look regionally. We will look
15 county-based. You know, is it a person percentage
16 of the total population out where we need to shift
17 resources, or is it just pockets here and there?
18 So we will look at it in several different ways.

19 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you. I know it's
20 historically been a great partner with our staff
21 and your team, so I greatly appreciate that.

22 MS. GODSEY: Yeah. We greatly appreciate your
23 partnership.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN FAY: Last question, and you may not

1 answer this, but I'm going to throw it out there
2 anyway with your title of Chief of Meteorology, we
3 are obviously looking to try to anticipate, you
4 know, what we are going to see this year and
5 potentially what our state might be facing as it
6 relates to storms and outages. I know we have the
7 National Hurricane Center, do you, I guess, have
8 any expectation sort of what this season might look
9 like or what we can anticipate?

10 MS. GODSEY: Yeah. It could be busy, right?
11 So there are seasonal forecasts that come out when.
12 We generate those, NOAA does release a hurricane
13 forecast for the season. We generally look at the
14 climatological conditions that would fuel tropical
15 cyclone activity, and also lines point to favorable
16 conditions, which is not good news for
17 non-meteorologists. Meteorologists tend to get
18 excited for more storms. So if I'm happy, that
19 normally means people are upset.

20 So, again -- but when you look at that, there
21 could be anywhere between 14 and 21 named systems
22 this year, of which half of them could be
23 hurricanes. So it is something that we need to be
24 prepared for, and a message we have been hitting
25 from the division through social media and through

1 some of our exercises, that chances are, you know,
2 we might see something this year. We experienced
3 storms last year with Fred, Elsa and Mindy too.

4 And it also doesn't have to be necessarily a
5 hurricane to have serious challenges within the
6 state. If you remember Tropical Storm Fay from
7 2008, it was never a hurricane, but it crossed the
8 state four times, and dropped 24 inches of rain,
9 and there was serious impacts across the state.

10 So getting that nuance and that information
11 out to our citizens is important too, that it
12 doesn't have to be a hurricane to take out your
13 power. It doesn't have to be a hurricane to flood
14 your home.

15 So what those seasonal predictions can't
16 really tell you is where and when a storm will
17 strike. So we always have to be ready, as a
18 division and the emergency response team, to
19 quickly activate. We've seen rapid intensification
20 with Hurricane Michael. A lot of our Category 5s
21 aren't Category 5s until they are on their
22 doorstep. So we have to be ready for that.

23 CHAIRMAN FAY: Yeah. Great. Thank you.

24 And just for clarity, Hurricane Fay, there is
25 no correlation as to how horrific that was.

1 MS. GODSEY: That's right.

2 CHAIRMAN FAY: I think it might be -- don't
3 they retire the name, I mean, if they cross the
4 state, like, multiple times at some point, so --

5 No, I appreciate the feedback on it. And of
6 course we don't know what to expect, but we, as an
7 agency, want to be responsive however within our
8 purview. And then on the back end, we, you know,
9 look at the cost-related components to that. And
10 so I think we are all hopeful that we won't see an
11 active season and, you know, we won't have
12 Floridians impacted. But to your point, some of
13 the variables point to us expecting an active
14 season.

15 So with that, I really do appreciate your
16 time. I want to make sure we don't any questions.

17 Commissioner La Rosa, you are recognized.

18 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Thank you, Chairman. I
19 thought there was a relation to Hurricane Fay,
20 but --

21 So one of my questions was also to ESF 19, you
22 talked a little bit about, I guess, you know, fuel
23 capacities and reserves, and whatnot. Is that
24 known beforehand? And I guess is -- I guess maybe
25 talk a little bit more about how that's reported.

1 And I think you used ALFs as the example, but if
2 you could maybe just dig a little bit deeper
3 because I am interested in kind of --

4 MS. GODSEY: Yeah. Sure.

5 We coordinate with our port terminals, the
6 main port entities as to whether are open, are
7 there any issues -- that's how Florida receives
8 most of its fuel is through our port terminals.
9 And then some by freight, obviously, and pipelines.

10 So, yes, our -- since we are the lead agency,
11 we do have staff dedicated even blue sky to keep
12 tabs on this. They are doing forecast models to
13 generate demand forecast, much like power might do
14 we do with food as well, forecasting that demand.

15 So they have partners across the states,
16 again, and they have contacts with, again, just the
17 ports, but also some the larger companies that
18 supply our fuel in Florida. And then establishing
19 that emergency fuels contract that was awarded last
20 year to a vendor, again, to help fill those gaps.

21 If we are keeping a tab on the availability to
22 distribute fuel now, and identifying those gaps,
23 that's where this company would come in from global
24 resources, they are a global company that would
25 help bring in that surge of fuel.

1 So, again, heat mapping, they will even use
2 Gas Buddy, I mean sometimes apps are great at
3 showing us what's happening in realtime. So we've
4 had Gas Buddy in the EOC with us helping to feed us
5 that intelligence so that we -- again, we can
6 strategize the movement of resources.

7 But with something like fuel, you get it from
8 so many places, there is not a single entity you
9 can go to, so that's why we have those blue sky
10 staff members that are coordinating with those
11 terminal vendors, even the truckers, the Florida
12 Trucking Association, some of those larger
13 companies that would transport fuels from the port
14 terminals out to the gas stations, seeing what
15 their issues are. Is there a manual operation? Is
16 there override? How does their communication work?

17 So we do have their satellite phone numbers,
18 you know, in case cell phones go down. Redundant
19 communications is very important to us.

20 So there is not a simple way to answer your
21 question, but having that list of partners and
22 resources, and communicating them -- with them
23 before a disaster to get a status on the realtime
24 fuel availability and what issues they are seeing
25 so that we can bring in other resources as

1 necessary.

2 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: And I know preplanning
3 obviously is a big part of it certainly in that
4 area and many of the different segments. I have
5 noticed over the last few years I feel like Florida
6 has gotten better and better as far as preparing
7 for not just hurricanes but other, you know,
8 potential natural disasters or events that could
9 happen.

10 You talked a little bit more about how the
11 communication with the locals, you know, happens
12 and kind in that preplanning phase, and you
13 mentioned something that was unique, was that not
14 every area is the same, of course, right. A very
15 diverse state, you know, lots of different makeups
16 as far as density and so forth.

17 I guess my question is, are they aware if
18 maybe they don't have necessarily the resources,
19 and how do you guys communicate to say, hey, if X,
20 Y or Z happens in this area, maybe we would respond
21 differently, maybe we would, maybe in Miami-Dade or
22 maybe a more dense area that have the resources.

23 MS. GODSEY: That's a great question.

24 So there are several things that we do as a
25 division to get awareness of those possible gaps

1 across our counties. We do have regional, what we
2 call field assets. So we have field coordinators
3 that our division staff that are out, they live in
4 our seven regions every day. Their goal is to work
5 with these county emergency management agencies
6 that keep tabs on their capabilities. There is a
7 capability checklist through that Comprehensive
8 Emergency Management Plan. So just like the state
9 has one, every county has one too, addressing their
10 hazards, their vulnerabilities, their priorities.
11 And we do a capability assessment on every county,
12 understanding that resources are different, and so
13 it does help us know that this county only has one
14 fire station. You know, it may be a rural or a
15 fiscally constrained county where they would need
16 state assistance even sooner.

17 So having those field seats is step number one
18 in that capability assessment. But in advance, if
19 we know a disaster is coming, say it's a hurricane,
20 we will host calls twice daily with all of our
21 county emergency management agencies across the
22 state just to get some situation update, where we
23 see the storm going, what we think the hazards
24 would be. And then asking the county, okay, what
25 are your concerns? Where do you have gaps?

1 And it could be something minor, where, hey,
2 our delivery of oxygen at our hospital is late, you
3 know, and it could be something small like that,
4 but that's a big deal to that county, and so
5 working with DOH or another state partner or a
6 vendor to get that resource there so that we are
7 not worrying about oxygen depletion for a hospital.

8 So we ask them, you know, are you standing up
9 shelters? How many? How many do you have in your
10 shelters? Do you need staff?

11 So we are constantly keeping that
12 communication going leading up to a larger event,
13 as well as day-to-day. It could be a small
14 wildfire, but a division field unit is there at
15 their command post. What do you need? What can we
16 help you with?

17 So we are constantly communicating with them.

18 COMMISSIONER LA ROSA: Awesome. Thank you
19 very much.

20 MS. GODSEY: You are welcome.

21 CHAIRMAN FAY: Commissioner Clark.

22 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
23 Just a couple of observations.

24 First of all, I think that DEM does a
25 fantastic job at coordinating these situations. I

1 have had an opportunity to be in the EOC on a
2 number of occasions during activation, and the
3 amount of buzz and activity that goes on there is
4 overwhelming at times, and my hat is off to you
5 guys for the fantastic job that you do.

6 Just a couple of observations, I -- we were
7 talking about -- I want to play off of what
8 Commissioner La Rosa said. It was something that
9 had crossed my mind earlier regarding staffing at
10 the local EOC level.

11 One of the things that we have long advocated
12 was for the utility companies to have a liaison in
13 any affected county that was under activation at
14 the time for that hands-on contact. And I know you
15 have field coordinators, but you have a limited
16 number. But in a situation where you had a
17 regional activity activated, would it be possible
18 for the state EOC to have a local representative in
19 that office that had -- I have been on those calls,
20 those two times a day calls that can last for an
21 hour, hour-and-a-half, and a lot of information
22 probably not getting communicated because of the
23 public nature of the call even, but if DEM had
24 someone in a regional basis that was in those -- in
25 those local EOCs, would that be an advantage?

1 MS. GODSEY: I think it would. We have always
2 invited our utility partners to the state EOC as
3 well to integrate into ESF 12. We appreciate the
4 partnership. Again, they are responsible for their
5 utility, so if there is the capability -- if they
6 have the capabilities, great. If they don't, let
7 us help you. Let us use mutual aid. Let us use
8 some other states to help fill those gaps.

9 We haven't seen too much of a challenge at the
10 state level. We always know who to reach out to
11 and how to get the information we need, but we have
12 seen a benefit to inviting Walmart to the state
13 EOC, right? Larger public partners, even smaller
14 once too, not -- no disrespect to our local co-ops,
15 but I know they have staffing limitations as well,
16 but the invitation is always open, the invitation
17 is open to Commission as well to see how we conduct
18 business and to identify some of those strategies
19 to increase that coordination and collaboration at
20 an emergency response level.

21 We have had smaller situations on a regional
22 level, where we've, for example, and it's not
23 utility related, however, a flooding situation in
24 Dixie County, where they were having problems with
25 just some flooding that a couple of small private

1 damns maybe eroded. So we brought in the water
2 management district, which is a regional type
3 entity, to that Emergency Operations Center, and
4 once that happened, that communication flow was
5 there. They started working together on
6 prioritization and really getting a handle on that
7 flooding situation for one county, and that made
8 all the difference to them.

9 So we would definitely advocate for any
10 utility partner to come take a seat at the EOC,
11 learn how we do business, you know. See where we
12 can coordinate and get our citizens recovered
13 quicker.

14 COMMISSIONER CLARK: My second question is
15 kind of just a tell me what's going on in terms of
16 we are expecting some really, really warm weather
17 over the next couple of days. This is not
18 necessarily, I assume, something that would cause
19 an activation of the EOC, but what is DEM doing to
20 help mitigate some of the, I guess, impacts that we
21 are going to see over the next week from the
22 current heatwave?

23 MS. GODSEY: Yeah. Great question.

24 Again, using those field assets, keeping tabs
25 on the county, we've learned that a few counties

1 are going to activate a heat plan, opening up
2 public buildings for people to come get some cooler
3 air.

4 We are looking at our warehouse supplies right
5 now, what commodities could we distribute. So we
6 have water at the ready. We have generators ready.
7 We have cooling fans ready, so that if a request
8 were to come in from a local county that says,
9 we -- yes, we have public buildings open, but maybe
10 now we have a power outage, something else happened
11 that generated the power outage and now we need
12 more assistance to help keep our citizens cool, we
13 are there. We are kind of preplanning, not
14 deploying anything yet, but also walking through
15 those steps and keeping that communication going.
16 Because it is going to be a long duration event.
17 We had a heatwave last week.

18 And so when you talk about long duration
19 events, or compounding, we tend to see more
20 hospital admittances. So look -- working with our
21 health departments and our hospital associations,
22 make sure are they seeing an uptick in an
23 admittances related to heat related issues? Is
24 there any support they need from a staffing level
25 or a medical supply level to keep care of their

1 patients?

2 So we also, as a meteorology unit, you know,
3 we will put out situational awareness packages for
4 record type events like this. If we see severe
5 weather coming, we will send that out just so
6 everyone is aware that something could be coming
7 that could affect our citizens and our response
8 partners, and kind of verbally put some motions in
9 place to make sure that everyone has what they need
10 so that if something were to happen, we are ready
11 to go.

12 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you.

13 MS. GODSEY: Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN FAY: With that, I think we will
15 close. We do appreciate your time so much. We
16 know how busy you are, and to come over from your
17 agency. We hope to deep this partnership going,
18 and really thank you for your time. It's been very
19 informative today.

20 MS. GODSEY: My pleasure. Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN FAY: So thank you.

22 And we do have agency are coming after this.
23 You have a lot of work to do, so we would welcome
24 you to go back to the emergency management, you
25 know, deal with other things that you have to, but

1 you are welcome to stay just in case you would like
2 to.

3 MS. GODSEY: I appreciate that.

4 CHAIRMAN FAY: Thank you so much.

5 All right. Commissioners, with that, we will
6 move to our reports. The first is a legislative
7 update you are recognized.

8 MS. SLATTERY: Thank you. Good morning.

9 I just have a small update on the State
10 budget. It was passed the and signed by Governor
11 DeSantis, the Freedom First budget, that is, on
12 June 2nd of this year after vetoing a record of
13 \$3.1 billion from the Legislature's first proposed
14 budget. So now the budget totals to \$109.9
15 billion, which is an \$8.3 billion increase over the
16 last year.

17 I am just going to list a few of the budget
18 highlights that I know were circulated earlier last
19 week.

20 There is a 5.38 percent salary increase for
21 all state employees effective July 1 of this year.
22 And then there is also, the budget includes funds
23 to increase all state employees to that \$15 per
24 hour benchmark also beginning July 1 of this year.

25 There is also \$1.24 billion in tax relief

1 efforts and funding for various tax holidays, one
2 of which is the usual every year 14-day school
3 supply holiday, and then also a 12-day disaster
4 preparedness tax holiday.

5 That's all I have for right now. I am happy
6 to answer questions if you have them.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you so much.

9 Next we will move to the General Counsel's
10 report.

11 MR. HETRICK: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, I don't
12 have any report at this time, but thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great. Thank you, Mr.
14 Hetrick.

15 And next we will move on to Braulio for our
16 Executive Director's report.

17 MR. BAEZ: Good morning, Commissioners. No
18 report, except looking down the road, we have our
19 next Agenda on July 7th, and our next Internal
20 Affairs on July 12th.

21 And I want to put a -- I want to put a plug in
22 to the folks at DEM that make the list for the
23 storms, or if they know anybody, I would like to
24 put in a plug for, you know, Hurricane Braulio.

25 CHAIRMAN FAY: We already have Hurricane

1 Braulio here.

2 MR. BAEZ: Well, what you have is a tropical
3 depression, but I digress.

4 CHAIRMAN FAY: Thank you so much --

5 MR. BAEZ: Thanks, Commissioner.

6 CHAIRMAN FAY: -- Executive Director.

7 With that, Commissioners, any other matters?

8 And seeing none, the prehearing will be in
9 this room in five minutes following the conclusion
10 of this meeting.

11 Thank you so much.

12 (Proceedings concluded.)

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