

**EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 13:
PUBLIC SAFETY, LAW ENFORCEMENT & SECURITY**

Responsibility Summary

Primary Agencies:	Columbia County Sheriff’s Office
Support Agencies:	Columbia County Emergency Management Department
	Columbia County Emergency Medical Services
	Columbia County Fire Protection Districts 1, 2, & 3
	City and County Public Works Departments
	Columbia County Public Information Officer
	WA Department of Fish & Wildlife
	WA State Patrol
	US Forest Service
	Central & Southeastern Chapter of the American Red Cross
	Amateur Radio Emergency Services

I. INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The purpose of Emergency Support Function (ESF) 13 is to effectively coordinate local, county, and state law enforcement operations, including law enforcement agencies outside of Columbia County that are included in the Washington Mutual Aid Peace Officers Powers Act (RCW 10.93). This ESF also addresses the coordination between law enforcement and other agencies such as fire service, emergency medical service, or other agencies that may be involved with emergencies or disasters requiring a law enforcement response.

Scope

The intent of ESF 13 is to outline the method by which public safety and security resources will be provided to support incident operations, including threats, pre-incident and post-incident activities. The specific actions will be determined by the nature and magnitude of the event or incident.

This ESF provides the broad guidelines for direction and control necessary to determine public safety and security requirements, resource capabilities and priorities and maintaining communications throughout the event and/or incident.

Policies

The primary responsibility for jurisdictional public safety lies with the local, tribal, state, and/or private-sector agencies. Private-sector authorities have primary responsibility for site-specific

security. These entities, therefore, are typically the first line of response for public safety and security, respectively. The first priority is responder and public life safety.

In most incident situations, local jurisdictions have primary authority and responsibility for law enforcement activities, utilizing the Incident Command System (ICS) on scene. In larger scale incidents, additional resources should first be obtained through the activation of mutual aid and assistance agreements with neighboring localities and/or state authorities, with incident operations managed through a Unified Command structure. Federal resources supplement local, tribal, state or other federal agency resources when requested or required, as appropriate, and are integrated into the incident command structure using National Incident Management System (NIMS) principles and protocols.

Law enforcement agencies will, within the limits of their resources and authority, coordinate with other local, state, and federal law enforcement organizations to support essential law enforcement operations. In addition to other state and local regulations and ordinances, law enforcement also functions under applicable portions of RCW 38.52 (Emergency Management.

ESF-13 does not supersede plans, procedures, and protocols implemented by public safety agencies or law that address scene management and emergency operations

II. SITUATION

Hazard and Threat Analysis

Specific local hazards that may require public safety, law enforcement, or security involvement include: wild fires, urban fires, dam failures, and flooding. Refer to the Columbia County Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Analysis (published separately) for a full report on the natural and manmade events that may affect Columbia County.

Emergencies or disasters can occur in rural or heavily populated areas, and can occur at any time or any season. The management of multiple law enforcement officers and agencies can be quite complex. Law enforcement emergencies or disasters can occur independently, or along with other man-made or natural disasters.

Planning Assumptions

Regional relationships among local partners representing critical infrastructure positively impact information-sharing capabilities. Information sharing leads to a general improvement in the county's ability to ensure public safety and security. An aware public augments the general safety and security of the county.

Local jurisdictions will utilize all their law enforcement resources before requesting assistance from mutual aid partners and the state.

State agency personnel and resources will provide assistance, as available, during an emergency or disaster.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

General

In time of an emergency or disaster, law enforcement agencies are called upon to perform a wide range of functions. These include, but are not limited to, warning and evacuation, search and rescue, emergency medical services, communications access, traffic control and enforcement of emergency traffic regulations. This is in addition to maintaining normal service operations.

Assistance between law enforcement agencies within the state are facilitated by the Washington Mutual Aid Peace Officers Powers Act (RCW 10.93) and where applicable, by signed law enforcement mutual aid agreements.

When local law enforcement resources are exhausted, supplemental assistance may be requested through local and state emergency management channels. Local law enforcement will seek assistance from outside resources or request the local emergency manager coordinate the acquisition of mutual aid or state resources. Law enforcement units provided by other levels of government will remain under the command of the parent agency.

The Washington State Patrol (WSP) will coordinate statewide emergency or disaster law enforcement activities once activated. In this case, Incident Command may expand into a Unified Command system for the coordination of response and recovery activities.

This ESF manages support activities by coordinating the implementation of resources, including law enforcement personnel, for public safety and security to protect the people, property, and critical infrastructure of Columbia County.

ESF 13 is activated when local public safety and security capabilities and resources are needed to support incident operations. This includes the threat of, pre-incident as well as post-incident situations.

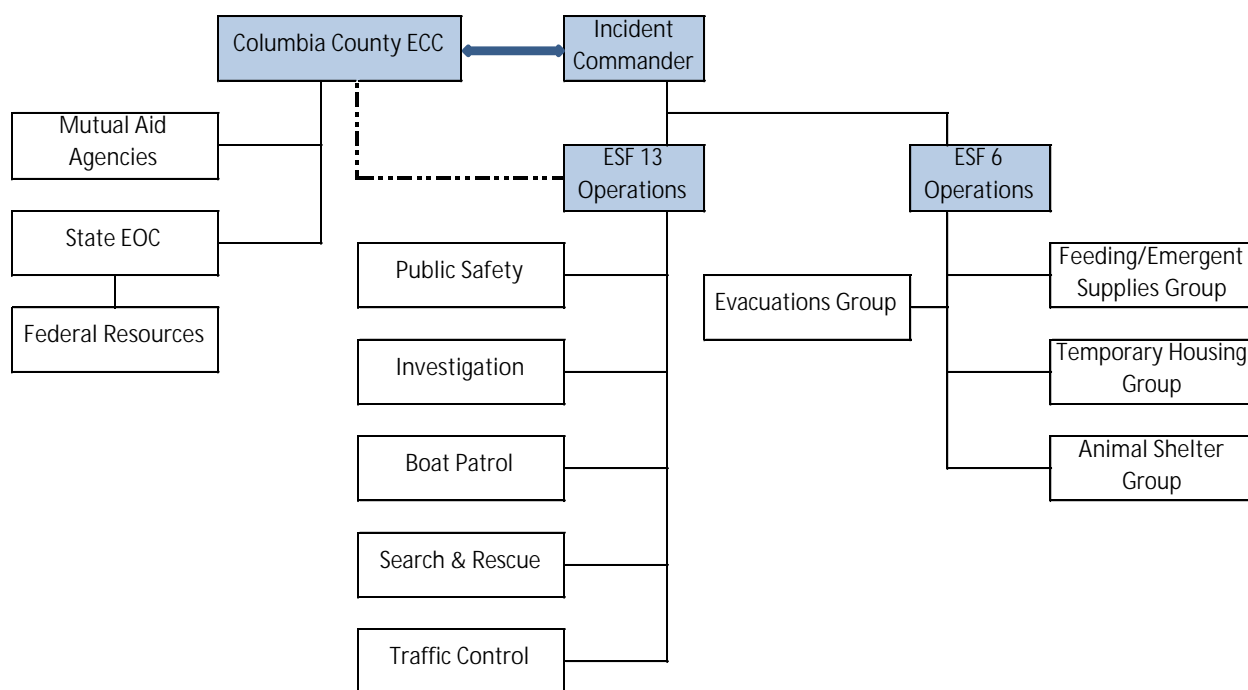
When ESF 13 is activated the County Sheriff, with assistance from supporting departments and agencies assesses and responds to requests for local public safety and security resources to include law enforcement resources and planning or technical assistance from affected local, tribal, state or federal agencies, or other ESFs.

ESF 13 maintains communication with supporting agencies to determine capabilities, assess the availability of resources, and track resources that have been deployed as a result of approved and funded mission assignments.

Columbia County EMD and/or ECC will coordinate with the state EOC for state or federal assistance, if required or requested.

Organization

The Columbia County Sheriff’s Office (CCSO) has primary responsibility for law enforcement operations in unincorporated Columbia County as well as the municipalities of Dayton and Starbuck. During an emergency, CCSO’s authority continues. It is likely that the Sheriff will hold the role of Incident Commander during an emergency or major disaster. However, the Incident Commander, regardless of rank, has the authority to request support and assistance from the ECC or County EMD, mutual aid partners and/or the State, as needed. In this case, a Unified Command structure may be utilized to manage response and recovery activities.



The incident commander may also be responsible for establishing the need for evacuation and conducting operations during an incident. Evacuation is discussed within Annex A.

Columbia County EMD and/or the county ECC will establish any necessary coordination to provide support functions. The appropriate legislative authorities will establish overall policy for operations, if necessary.

Procedures

Local agencies and jurisdictions will be managed under the Incident Command System (ICS) while performing public safety, law enforcement, and security activities as outlined in state and local regulations, SOPs, and this plan.

Law enforcement operations are conducted by the sheriff's office within the limits of its resources and authority. In the event that additional law enforcement resources are required, these may be requested through local and regional mutual aid.

Law enforcement procedures are outlined in CCSO's standards of operating procedures manual.

Some law enforcement procedures may be found in various Emergency Support Functions within this Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).

Mitigation

The Columbia County Sheriff's Office has established mutual aid agreements with other law enforcement organizations. The CCSO conduct special planning activities with other agencies, facilities, or community events that require special security, public safety, or traffic control operations. The support agencies in this plan each have their own proactive approaches to risk reduction. Each agency promotes information about prevention and safety.

Preparedness

Primary agencies will develop and maintain disaster or emergency situation procedures and ensure that personnel are familiar with and trained in the implementation of those procedures.

Support agencies will develop and maintain procedures on their roles and responsibilities during a public safety incident and will ensure that personnel are trained in the implementation of their roles and responsibilities during an evacuation.

Law enforcement agencies may coordinate in the development of emergency management plans and participate in emergency response training and exercises. They develop their operational procedures for the effective use of resources.

Response

Depending on the type and size of the incident, a variety of outside resources may be needed. It is critical for law enforcement or any other emergency services provider first on the scene to provide an accurate and timely assessment. A single IC must be designated but due to the incident it is likely that command will be transitioned to a Unified Command (UC). The IC needs to promptly identify a staging area, and assign a staging officer. The IC will assign personnel to specific areas or tasks, and coordinate and assign resources.

Law enforcement may need to coordinate their command with fire or emergency medical services and/or special groups such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), or other governmental agencies who may be involved in the incident. The Incident Command System (ICS) will be followed by all responding agencies.

The CCSO assesses the need for ESF 13 resources and coordinates response assistance and support in close cooperation with field ESF 13 elements. CCSO may convene ESF 13 support agencies in a meeting or conference call to coordinate local public safety and security assistance efforts or may request activation of the ECC to support coordination efforts.

Law enforcement agencies assist local authorities with law enforcement operations. The sheriff will provide liaison personnel to the local ECC who will coordinate public safety resources from the ECC for operations.

The county EMD or EOC will activate appropriate functions and notify legislative authorities of the situation, establish an emergency public information function, and provide alerting or warning to the public using mass communication systems and other available means.

Other support agencies will respond per their own established procedures. The following are general guidelines for specific situations:

Aircraft Incidents

The FAA is to be notified immediately if there is an aircraft accident or unusual event. Command would be turned over to the FAA once represented at the incident. Local law enforcement will secure the area and protect the scene, provide traffic control until the FAA investigators arrive, or the FAA communicates permission to clear the scene and/or move the aircraft. The law enforcement commander should establish a UC with fire service and EMS immediately. The various agencies can then extinguish any fire, and care for any patients, while protecting the scene as much as possible.

Terrorism/Bomb Threats/Bomb Found

Local law enforcement is the Command Agency in a bomb threat situation. If something is believed to be an explosive device WSP is contacted via Yakima Dispatch number (509) 249-6700 or at the Walla Walla detachment office at (509) 527-4472 to report the situation.

While law enforcement may request fire service and/or EMS standby or other assistance, law enforcement is responsible for establishing safety zones and other safety, site, and evidence protection measures. Law enforcement should establish UC with all agencies involved. Special communication procedures must be put in place as additional security and safety protocols in this situation.

DO NOT DISPATCH EMERGENCY SERVICE UNITS VIA RADIO TONES IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO BOMB THREAT SITE. IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMIND EVERYONE RESPONDING TO THE SCENE TO STAY OFF MOBILE AND PORTABLE RADIOS WHEN IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE LOCATION OF THE BOMB THREAT. RADIO TRANSMISSIONS COULD DETONATE THE DEVICE.

Insure everyone dispatched to the location knows who the incident commander is, and where to find him/her.

Civil Unrest/Crowd Control

Local law enforcement is the Command Agency for these types of hazards. The IC may request assistance from other mutual aid law enforcement agencies as needed. If other departments or agencies are requested, a UC may need to be established. If the situation exceeds local capabilities, the commander may request assistance from the WSP, who can then act as liaison should additional state resources be needed. The commander may request standby or other assistance from fire service and/or EMS. However, fire and/or EMS personnel are not to be asked to make any aggressive type of actions toward those involved in the civil unrest or crowd control situation. Fire and EMS are there to extinguish fires and provide medical assistance to emergency workers and the public.

Fire

Fire Service is the Command Agency for fire related emergencies as described in ESF 4. Law enforcement and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) have the authority to re-route traffic, close streets and roads, and perform other traffic related activities. The Sheriff or other law enforcement agency may request further law enforcement assistance if needed. WSP and WSDOT are responsible for state highways; the Sheriff's Office is responsible for all roads within their jurisdictional boundaries. On potential criminal charges, law enforcement will work closely with fire investigation personnel with respect to fire cause determination, protection of possible evidence of a crime, evacuations, and other legal issues.

Hazardous Materials

WSP is the Command Agency. If local law enforcement is the first agency on scene, a quick assessment is critical. Identification of the hazardous material may be possible by reading placards or interviewing the responsible party. Initial actions may include clearing people away from the area, and securing the perimeter. Law enforcement on scene may receive helpful information from the fire department or hazardous materials team while they are still in route to the scene.

Law enforcement must work closely with fire command, to assure that law enforcement and the public are not in a danger zone. Extensive hazmat emergency response is discussed within ESF 10.

Search and Rescue

Per RCW 38.52.400, the chief law enforcement officer of each political subdivision is responsible for search and rescue activities in their jurisdictions. CCSO is the command agency for search and rescue efforts in Columbia County and detail discussions in regards to SAR activities can be found in ESF 9.

Disruption to Communication/Transportation

It is imperative that there is law enforcement representation at the county ECC if there is widespread or significant disruption to communication or transportation. Columbia County Public Works and WSDOT will also be key representatives to the ECC in this situation. Actions will need to be coordinated through all involved agencies and a UC is highly likely. Accurate, timely reporting of bridge damage, road damage, debris blocking roadways, or other hazards to motorists and emergency vehicles are high priority. Equally important is the identification and reporting of routes that are safe and passable, and which routes are only to be used by emergency vehicles. By coordinating with public works personnel, priorities for clearing of debris or emergency road repairs (and the resources to accomplish this work) can be determined.

Communication may be supplemented with a portable repeater, battery powered radios, radio relays, and incorporation of Amateur Radio equipment and operators. Amateur Radio operators will be operating under the National Amateur Radio Emergency Services protocols, and will be coordinated through liaison between their Emergency Coordinator and the ECC. If agencies, departments or units have communication needs, those requests should go directly to the ECC. Other communications systems may be used. See ESF 2.

If telephone services are disrupted, it may be necessary to establish communication points throughout the affected area. It may be helpful to send trained radio operators and portable/mobile radios to churches, schools, or businesses that would allow their facilities to be communication points. These facilities would need to be identified in some way, and the public would need to be informed of their location.

Recovery

As control is regained, law enforcement agencies can reduce the personnel and resources required for response efforts and will continue public safety and security operations through the recovery period as the situation requires.

Each department, agency and individual shall maintain accurate records of the incident. They will be responsible for maintaining disaster and recovery expense records for future possible reimbursement. Financial issues such as supplies used, equipment lost or damaged, wages for hours worked including overtime, and other costs require documentation before reimbursement can be made, if available.

If emergency vehicles, communications equipment, or stations are damaged, special contracts may be needed for their quick repair or replacement, and temporary or long-term arrangements may be needed. During recovery phase, communication and coordination should be maintained with the ECC.

Law enforcement agencies may provide public information regarding safety issues as people return to their homes and businesses. This may be directly for smaller incidents or through the use of a PIO if activated on larger incidents. Departments, districts, and individuals involved in

the emergency or disaster should participate in post event reviews and critiques (After-Action Reports), and contribute to written reports regarding observations and recommendations.

Support for law enforcement and other emergency services personnel is also part of recovery and returning to normal operations. This support may include counseling, or Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM). EMD can coordinate CISM services when requested.

Law enforcement departments will continue to communicate with the ECC and coordinate recovery activities, as priorities and resources allow. They will continue to assist with damage assessment reports and other requirements necessary for obtaining financial assistance for the County, City of Dayton and/or Town of Starbuck as needed.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

Primary Agencies

Columbia County Sheriff's Office:

- Initiate operations.
- The sheriff will designate a deputy as Coordinator and provide training for that individual.
- Maintain Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for conducting operations. Review at least annually for possible revisions.
- Call out volunteers, as needed.
- Notify State EMD and obtain a state mission number, unless County EMD has been directed to do so.
- Provide updates to EMD/ECC and PIOs throughout the incident.
- Before, during and after an operation is completed verify with EMD the personnel and resources that were utilized during the operation to ensure a complete record and tracking of resources.
- Assist local organizations with the recruiting and training of volunteers.

Support Agencies

Columbia County Emergency Management Department:

- Coordinate any requests for state, federal or out of county resources that are needed or are being used.
- Notify county commissioners when request of activation of an Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) has been received, if appropriate.
- Notify the county's Emergency Public Information Officer, of necessary.
- Provide state EMD with periodic status reports.

- Make final reports to state EMD to close out missions.
- Review and revise this ESF, if needed, after any major operation or at least every four years.
- Assist the sheriff's office in recruiting and training of volunteers.
- Assist the sheriff's office in maintaining a current inventory of SAR resources.

Columbia County Emergency Medical Services

- Provide medical treatment to on scene personnel or victims as needed.

Emergency Public Information Officer

- Provide information, a coordinated message at the direction of the Incident Commander regarding statistics pertaining to the emergency.

Fire Districts 1, 2, &3

- Provide additional manpower or specialized equipment when necessary or requested.

V. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

- Law enforcement agencies will provide their own internal support such as vehicles and equipment for their personnel.
- Support agencies, departments, and districts will provide workers, officers, or other leaders, vehicles, and equipment as requested and if available.

VI. REFERENCES

ESF 4 – Firefighting
 ESF 6 - Mass Care, Housing and Human Services
 ESF 7 – Resource Support
 ESF 9 – Search and Rescue
 ESF 10 – Hazardous Materials
 ESF 15 – Public Affairs

