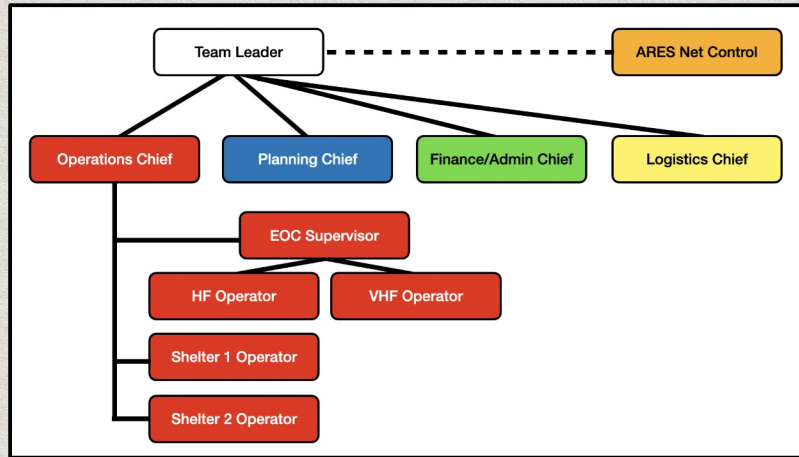


# Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS)



**Brought to you by:**

**Brett R. Wallace**

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# **Topic Learning Objectives**

By the end of this presentation, you will be able to:

1. Understand where the Incident Command System (ICS) comes from.
2. Understand what the National Incident Management System (NIMS) is and is not.
3. Understand how to apply ICS.

Estimated time: 15 Minutes



# Disclosure Statement

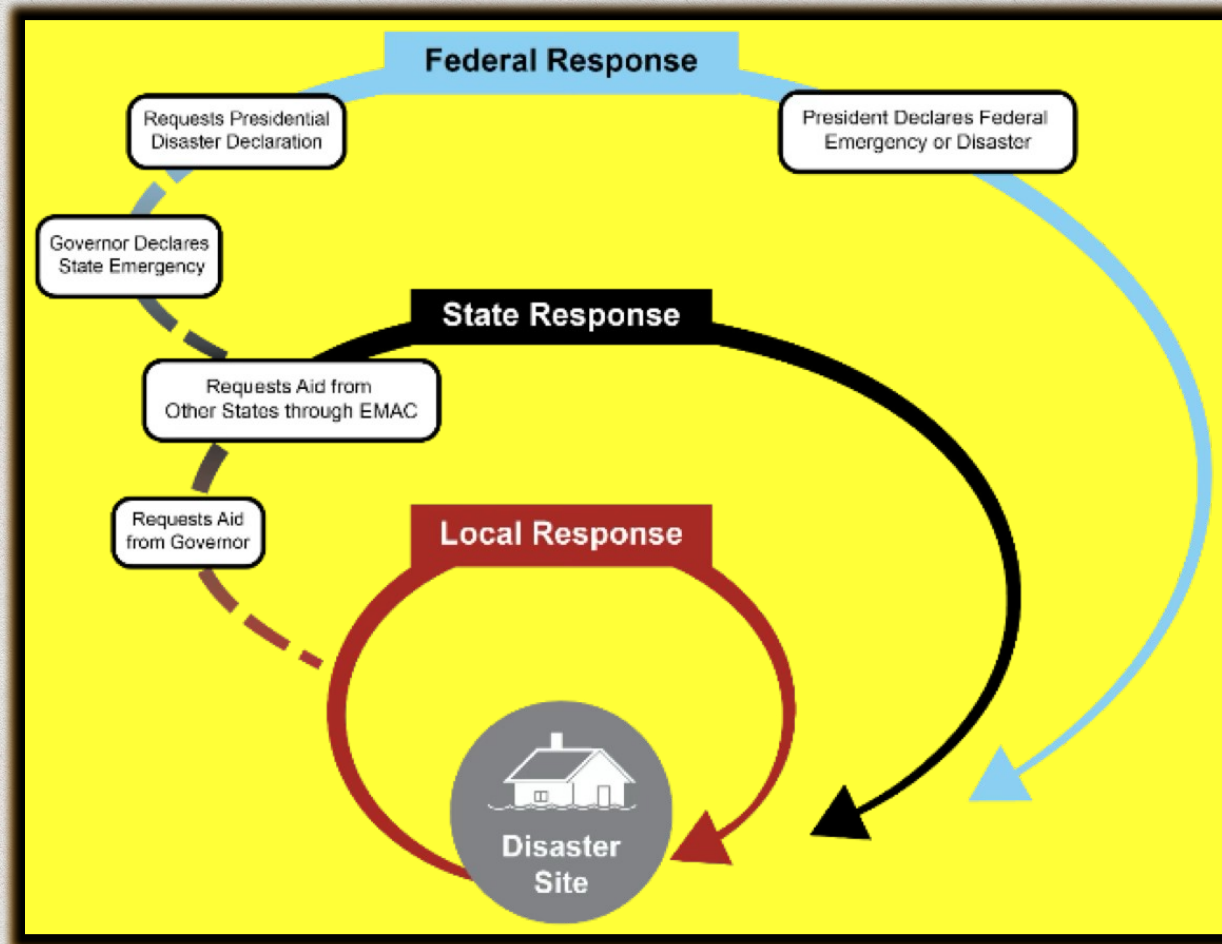
I have no conflicts of interest to declare. The content and images used in this presentation were either created by me or FEMA and are used under the *Fair Use* doctrine for non-profit educational purposes.

<https://www.copyright.gov/fair-use/index.html>





# All Disasters Start and End at the Local Level





## Origin of the Integrated Command System

The Incident Command System (ICS) is a subset of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). It was created out of necessity fighting wild land fires in California in the '70s;

FIRESCOPE (FIrefighting REsources of Southern California Organized for Potential Emergencies).

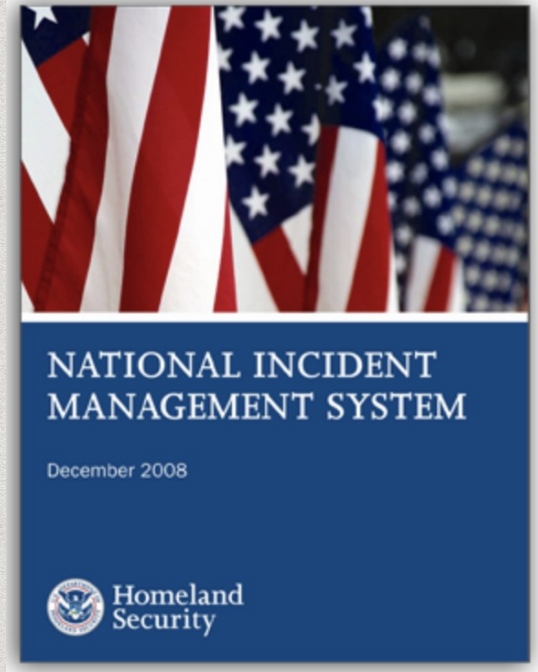
Note: Most of the staff at FEMA that voted to adopt ICS had military backgrounds.

[https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema\\_npd-20-years-of-nims.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_npd-20-years-of-nims.pdf)



# National Incident Management System (NIMS)

The purpose of the NIMS is to provide a common approach for managing incidents. The concepts provide for a flexible but standardized set of incident management practices with emphasis on common principles, a consistent approach to operational structures and supporting mechanisms, and an integrated approach to resource management.



[http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nims/NIMS\\_core.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nims/NIMS_core.pdf)



| NIMS Is   | NIMS Is Not   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A comprehensive, nationwide, systematic approach to incident management, including the command and coordination of incidents, resource management, and information management</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only the ICS</li> <li>• Only applicable to certain emergency/incident response personnel</li> <li>• A static system</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A set of concepts and principles for all threats, hazards, and events across all mission areas (Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, Recovery)</li> </ul>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A response plan</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scalable, flexible, and adaptable; used for all incidents, from day-to-day to large-scale</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used only during large-scale incidents</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard resource management procedures that enable coordination among different jurisdictions or organizations</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A resource-ordering system</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essential principles for communications and information management</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A communications plan</li> </ul>   |



# NIMS

**How does NIMS relate to local incident command?** A basic premise of NIMS is that all incidents begin and end locally. NIMS does not take command away from State and local authorities. NIMS simply provides the framework to enhance the ability of responders, including the private sector and NGOs, to work together more effectively. The Federal Government supports State and local authorities when their resources are overwhelmed or anticipated to be overwhelmed. Federal departments and agencies respect the sovereignty and responsibilities of local, tribal, and State governments while rendering assistance. The intention of the Federal Government in these situations is not to command the response, but rather to support the affected local, tribal, and/or State governments.





# National Preparedness Goal

**“A secure and resilient Nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk.”**

- Describes each of the “mission areas” of protection, prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery.
- Establishes and organizes core capabilities essential for execution of each mission area.
- The document explores high-level risks through the lens of each mission area.



## National Frameworks

**Prevention**: Defined as the capabilities necessary to avoid, prevent, or stop a threatened or actual act of terrorism. Prevention refers to preventing imminent threats.

**Protection**: Describes the core capabilities, roles, and responsibilities, and network of coordinating structures that facilitate the protection of individuals, communities, and the Nation.



## National Frameworks

**Mitigation**: Mitigation is defined as the capabilities necessary to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters.

Mitigation strategies focus on proactive measures to build more resilient communities.

**Response**: Response includes saving lives, stabilizing community lifelines, protecting property and environment, and meeting basic human needs when an incident occurs.

Identifies lead federal agencies responsible for coordinating emergency support functions (ESFs).





# National Frameworks

**Response (Con't)**: The Fourth edition utilizes **“Community Lifelines”** to support emergency management from pre-incident, incident response, and stabilization of the incident.



Communications



Energy  
(Power & Fuel)



Hazardous  
Materials



Food, Water,  
Shelter



Health and  
Medical



Safety and  
Security

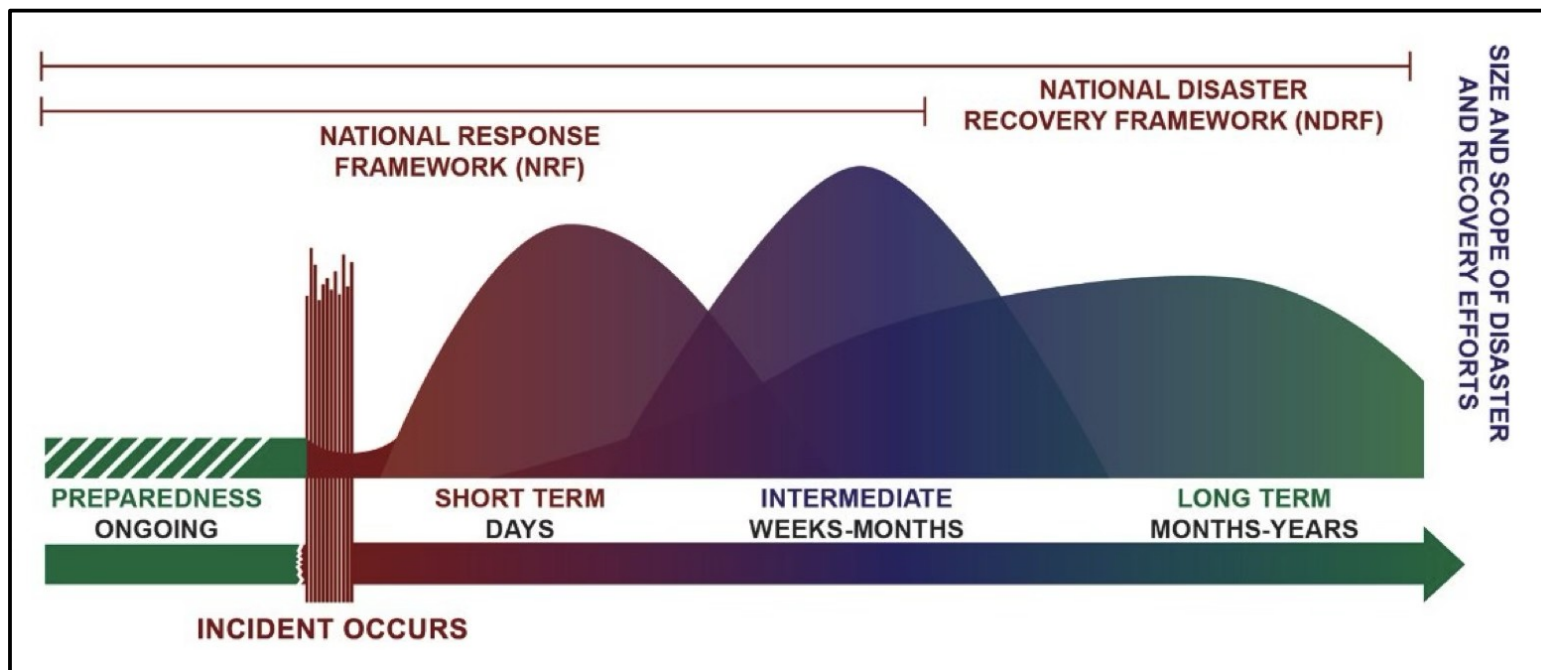


Transportation



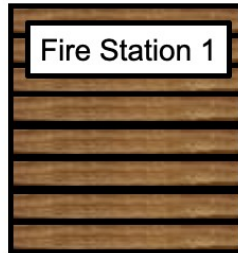
# National Frameworks

## Recovery:

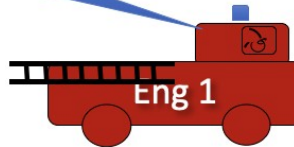




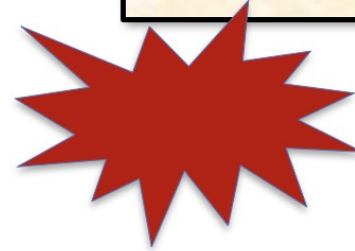
# NIMS/ICS in Firefighting



*I got this!*



1st Alarm Fire



One fire, one fire engine, straight forward. The Engine Company Officer is the on-scene Commander as well as the **Incident Commander** (IC).



Note: for the sake of this discussion, we will omit the jurisdictional debate that may take place once law enforcement arrives.





# NIMS/ICS in Firefighting

1st Alarm Fire

Where do I go?



Big Fire! We need more help!

2nd Alarm Fire



We need more help!

The level of complication increases with the number of fires to extinguish. The focus of control is no longer at the scene. A higher-level overview is necessary to allocate scarce resources.

# Emergency Support Functions

**ESF-1** Transportation  
**ESF-2** Communications  
**ESF-3** Public Works & Engineering  
**ESF-4** Firefighting  
**ESF-5** Emergency Management  
**ESF-6** Mass Care & Housing  
**ESF-7** Logistics

**ESF-8** Public Health and Medical Services  
**ESF-9** Search & Rescue  
**ESF-10** Hazmat  
**ESF-11** Agriculture & Natural Resources  
**ESF-12** Energy  
**ESF-13** Law Enforcement  
**ESF-14** Long-Term Community Recovery  
**ESF-15** External Affairs



## Alachua County Emergency Operations Center

Main Floor Phone List

VoIP Phones: (352) 565-XXXX

| EOC Director's Staff                                      |           |
|---|-----------|
| Function  | Extension |
| EOC Director  | 6483      |
| Jurisdictional Liaison                                    | 6463      |
| Public Information Officer                                | 6469      |
| Safety Officer  | 6468      |
| Situational Awareness Section                             |           |
| Function  | Extension |
| Communications (ESF 2)                                    | 6481      |
| Public Information (ESF 14)                               | 6475      |
| Business, Industry, and Economic Stabilization (ESF 18)   | 6480      |
| 311 Critical Information Line                             | 6474      |
| GIS Specialist  | 6478      |
| Situational Awareness Specialist                          | 6479      |
| Resource Support Section                                  |           |
| Function  | Extension |
| Transportation (ESF 1)                                    | 6456      |
| Public Works (ESF 3)                                      | 6460      |
| Firefighting (ESF 4)                                      | 6459      |
| Resource Support (ESF 7)                                  | 6464      |
| Public Health and Medical (ESF 8)                         | 6462      |
| Law Enforcement (ESF 16)                                  | 6458      |
| Planning Support Section                                  |           |
| Function  | Extension |
| Information and Planning (ESF 5)                          | 6482      |
| Mass Care (ESF 6)   | 6457      |
| Search and Rescue (ESF 9)                                 | 6465      |
| Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection (ESF 10) | 6455      |
| Food and Water (ESF 11)                                   | 6450      |
| Utilities (ESF 12)  | 6454      |
| Military Affairs (ESF 13)                                 | 6448      |
| Volunteers and Donations (ESF 15)                         | 6451      |
| Animal Protection and Agriculture (ESF 17)                | 6449      |
| EOC Support Section                                       |           |
| Function  | Extension |
| Center Documentation Specialist                           | 6446      |
| Center Purchasing Specialist                              | 6447      |
| Facility Feeding Specialist                               | 6453      |
| Facility Support Specialist                               | 6452      |
| IT Support Specialist                                     | 6499      |

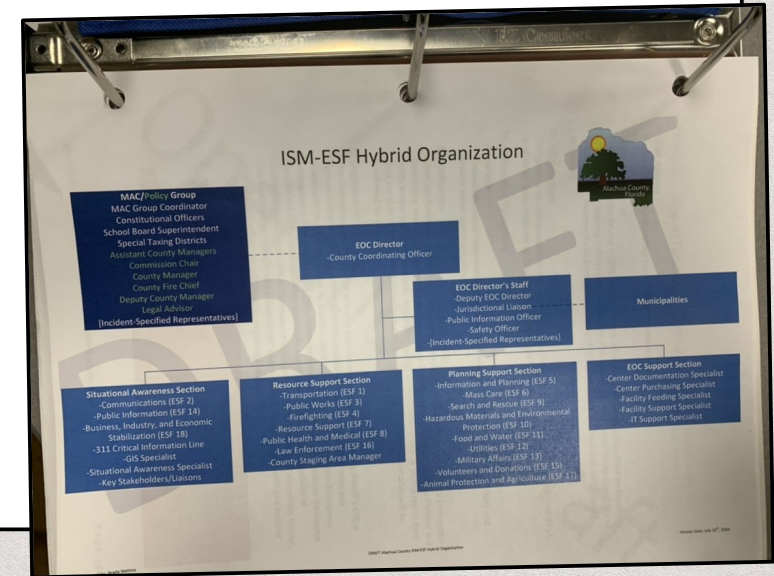
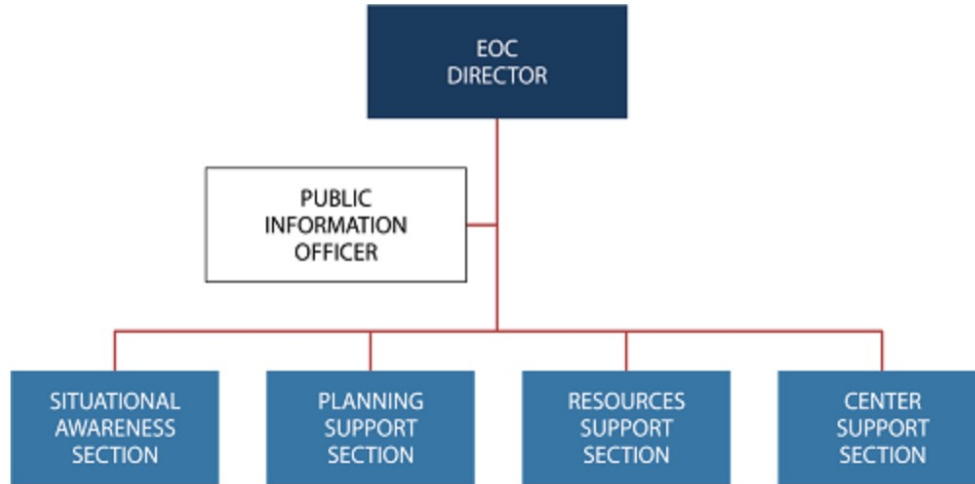




# Incident Support Model (ISM)

## Incident Support Model (ISM) EOC Structure

Jurisdictions/organizations that focus their EOC team's efforts on information, planning, and resource support may choose to separate the situational awareness function from planning and combine operations and logistics functions into an incident support structure.



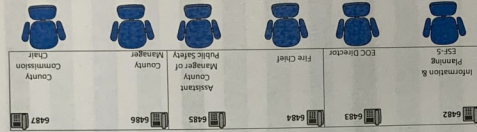
<https://emilms.fema.gov/ISO700b/curriculum/1.html>



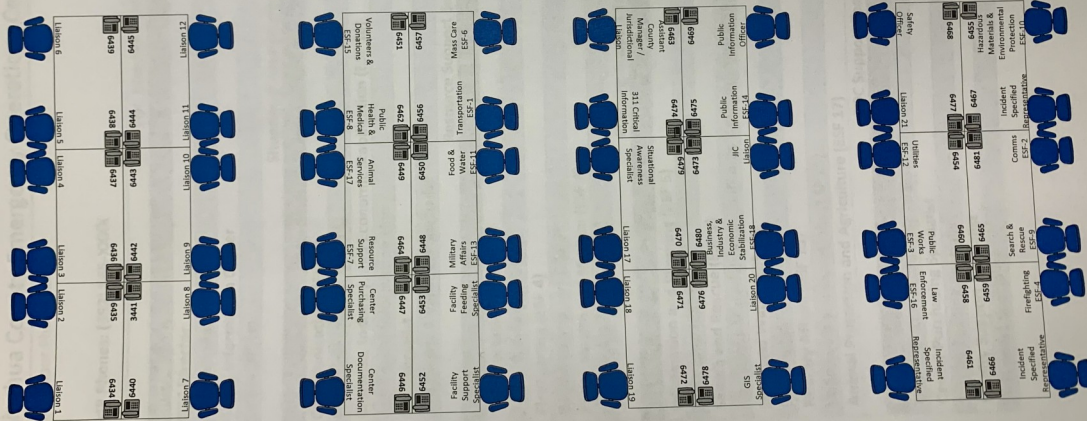


# ESF #2 Communications

EOC Seating Chart



NF4AC  
Radio Room



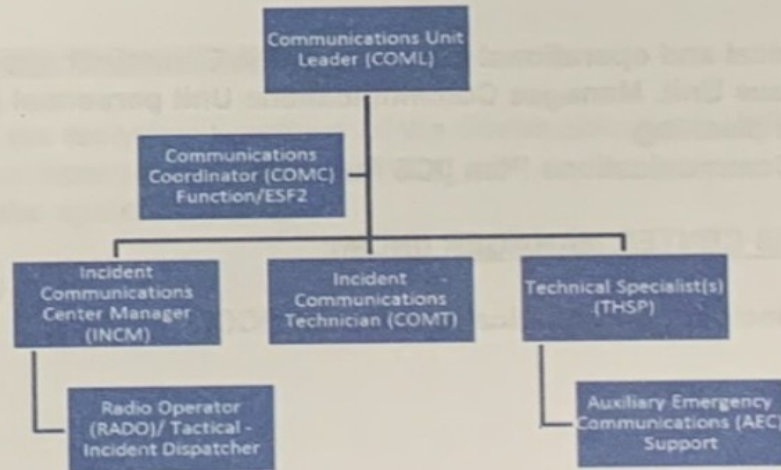


# Florida Communications Field Guide

## FLORIDA COMMUNICATIONS FIELD OPERATIONS GUIDE

FEBRUAR

### Communications Unit Organization Structure



We are Here





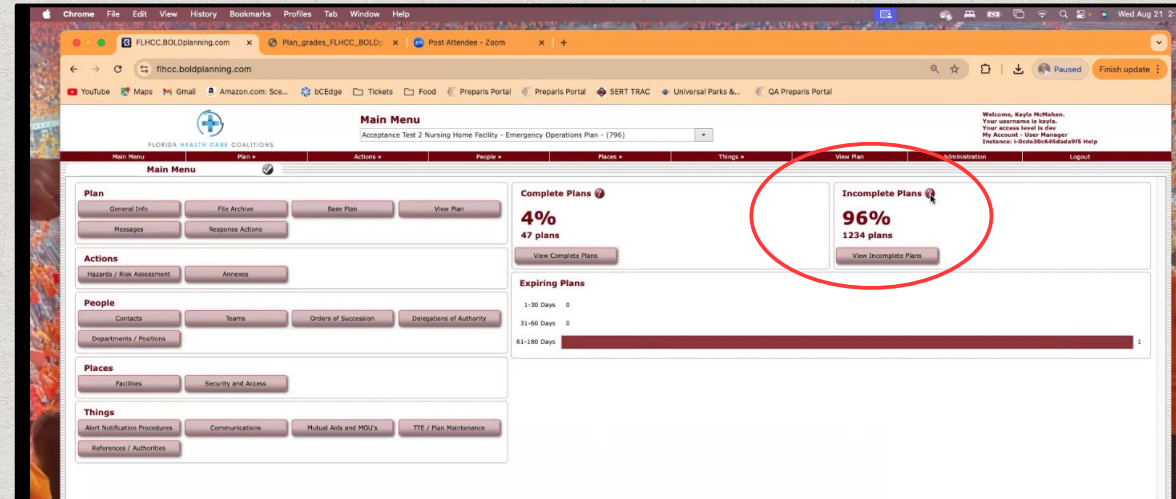
# Two Notes

| Organizational Element               | Leadership Position Title | Support Positions    |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Incident Command                     | Incident Commander        | Deputy               |
| Command Staff                        | Officer                   | Assistant            |
| Section                              | Chief                     | Deputy, Assistant    |
| Branch                               | Director                  | Deputy               |
| Divisions/Groups                     | Supervisor                | N/A                  |
| Unit                                 | Unit Leader               | Manager, Coordinator |
| Strike Team/Resource Team/Task Force | Leader                    | Single Resource Boss |
| <u>Single Resource</u>               | <u>Boss, Leader</u>       | N/A                  |
| Technical Specialist                 | Specialist                | N/A                  |

**We are at the Resource Team or Single Resource Level:**  
e.g.AUXCOMM Leader vs. IC

**DRAFT CEMP:** Note that it is very common for the EM Plan to remain in draft form.

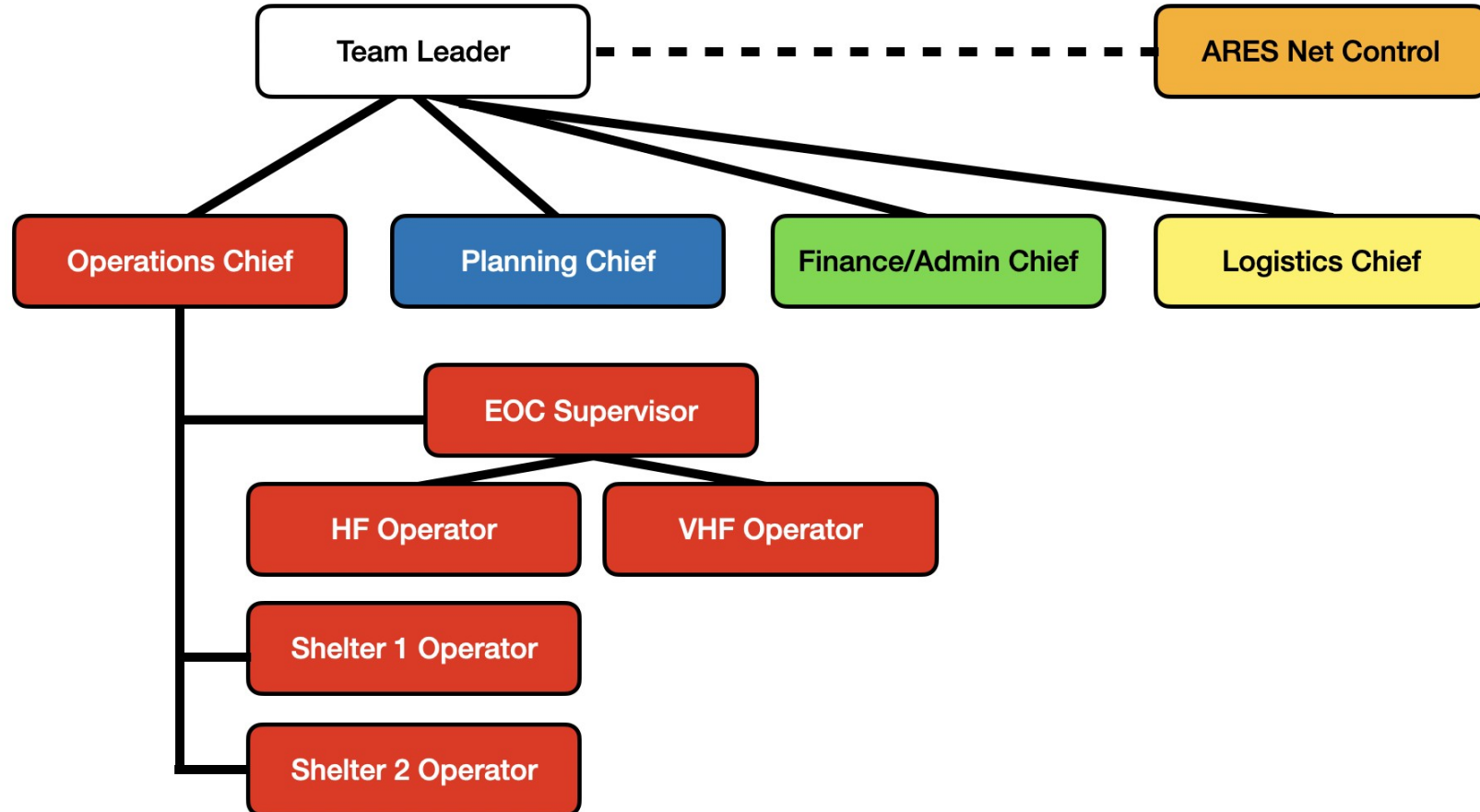
This is from a training I watched through the Central Florida Emergency Medical Coalition







# NF4AC "Ideal"





# NF4AC "Most Likely"

## Team Leader

Operations Chief

Planning Chief

Finance/Admin Chief

Logistics Chief

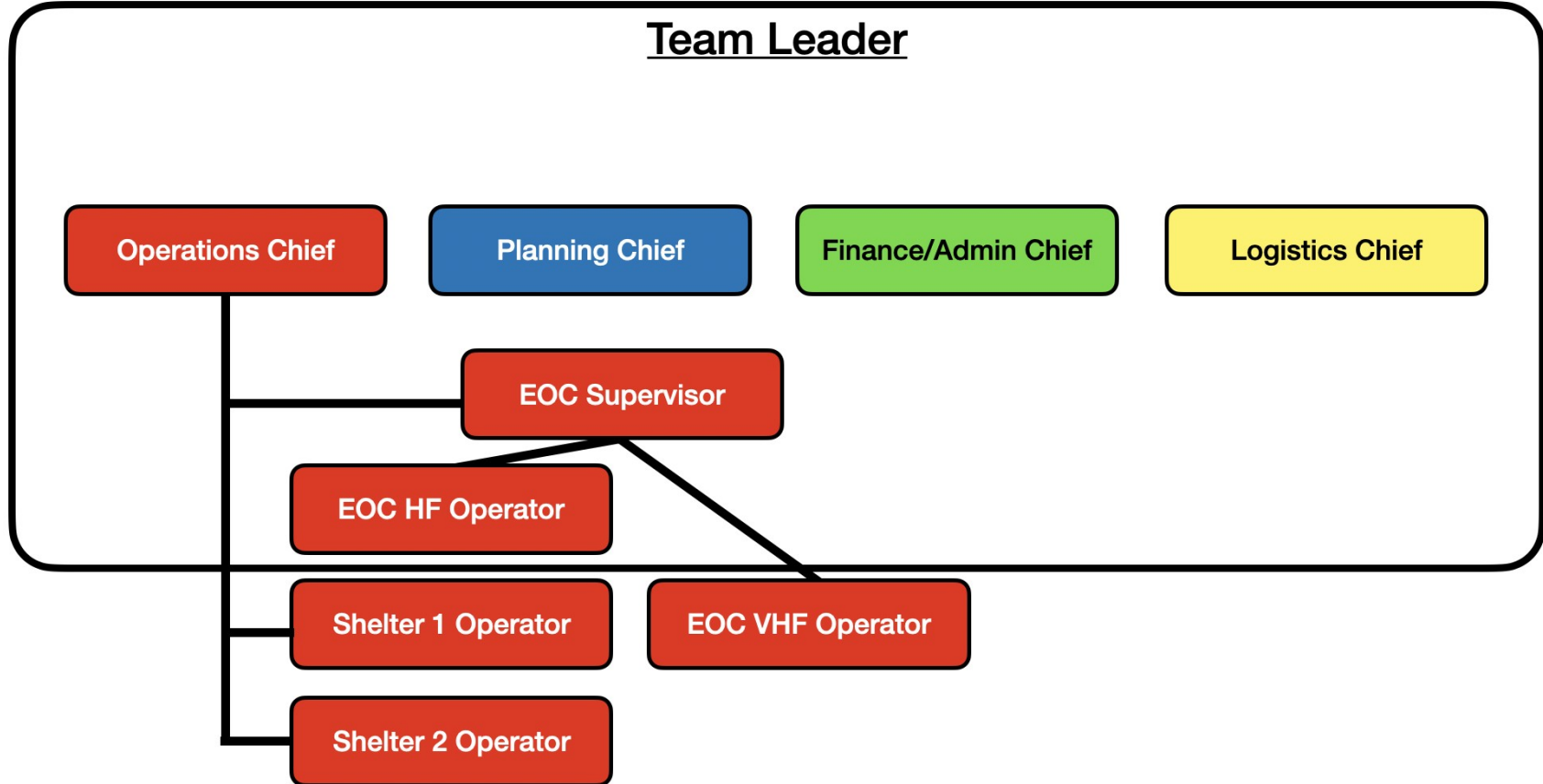
EOC Supervisor

EOC HF Operator

Shelter 1 Operator

Shelter 2 Operator

EOC VHF Operator





## Volunteer Protection Act of 1997

Supports and promotes organizations relying on volunteers by *providing some protections from liability for economic damages relating to organization's work*

Volunteer must have been acting within scope of responsibilities

Must have appropriate licensure or certification if required

Must not have acted with gross negligence, reckless disregard, willful or criminal misconduct, or flagrant indifference

**NF4AC**

**“Communication creates community”**

Dr. Rollo May



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