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# Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) / National Incident Management System (NIMS) / Incident Command System (ICS) / Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Activation

## 218.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) are designed to provide a comprehensive approach to incident management that is applicable to all jurisdictional levels and across functional disciplines. Both of these systems use the Incident Command System (ICS) as a key component.

## 218.2 HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

As a result of lessons learned from the Loma Prieta Earthquake in 1989 and problems identified in operations at the Oakland Hills Fire in 1991, the State of California enacted SEMS (California Government Code §8607). SEMS contains several systems as part of its framework for responding to and managing emergencies involving multiple jurisdictions or multiple agency response. Most significant of these systems is the ICS. The use of SEMS is required for State disaster assistance.

On February 28, 2003, President Bush issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5). HSPD-5 directed the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and administer NIMS. NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template that enables all government, private sector, and non-governmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents. The components of NIMS are similar and complimentary to the SEMS components. NIMS has as a key component the use of ICS. The use of NIMS is required for Federal disaster assistance.

ICS is a standardized on-scene emergency management system designed for meeting the demands of a small or large emergency or non-emergency situation. It represents best practices and has become the standard for emergency management across the country. It can be expanded or contracted to meet the needs of the incident and it may be used for planned events, natural disasters, and acts of terrorism.

## 218.3 TRAINING

It is the policy of the Irvine Police Department to be fully compliant with the SEMS and NIMS training requirements as established by the State of California as well as the Federal Government.

## 218.4 SYSTEM ACTIVATION PROTOCOL

Both SEMS and NIMS have been formally adopted as standards for incident management in the City of Irvine. Use of ICS is required during any multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-functional (i.e. law and fire) incident that could potentially become a local, state, or federal disaster. The use of ICS

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is encouraged whenever it will assist in the orderly and professional management of personnel and resources during a planned or unplanned event.

The materials necessary to implement ICS (vests, forms, checklists, etc.) are located in the Emergency Operations Center, Mobile Communications Vehicle, and Mobile Command Post Vehicle.

#### **218.5 EOC ACTIVATION**

The City of Irvine Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located adjacent to the Irvine Police Department's Communications Bureau. Instructions for assembling the EOC are located in a binder on the wall as you enter the room. Should the primary EOC become uninhabitable, an alternate EOC is located at the Operations Support Facility on Oak Canyon.

The EOC's purpose is to coordinate the overall City response and support for an emergency event. There are three levels of EOC activation:

1. Level III – Monitoring (Decentralized Coordination and Direction)
  - (a) A minor to moderate incident characterized by adequate local response capability and sufficient resources to favorably resolve the situation. A local emergency may or may not be proclaimed. The EOC will be staffed minimally and activities will typically be limited to information gathering and very few requests coming in from the field or Department Operation Centers (DOC).
2. Level II - Partial Activation (Centralized Coordination and Decentralized Direction)
  - (a) A moderate to severe emergency characterized by a possible need for mutual aid to ensure a favorable resolution of the situation. In most cases, a local emergency will be proclaimed. A State of Emergency may be proclaimed by the Governor. Activation of the EOC may occur. Activation of one or more DOCs may occur. EOC is staffed with a Section Chief for each of the five sections. Additional positions will be staffed based upon the needs of the incident.
3. Level I – Full Activation (Centralized Coordination and Direction)
  - (a) A major disaster exemplified by depletion of resources and mutual aid response capability area wide, necessitating extensive Statewide and Federal assistance. Generally, a local emergency and state of emergency will be proclaimed. A Presidential Declaration of major disaster or emergency will likely be requested. EOC is staffed with all pre-identified positions and possibly more; as driven by the needs of the incident.

Pursuant to the City of Irvine Operations Plan, the decision to activate the EOC lies with the City Manager or other designees including: Assistant City Manager, Chief of Police, Director of Public Works, Police Watch Commander, and Emergency Management Administrator.

If it becomes necessary to activate the EOC, the City of Irvine Emergency Management Team will be recalled to assist with the necessary set-up. If these staff members are not readily available, the Police Watch Commander may designate any appropriate staff to set-up the EOC based on the procedures set forth in the EOC set-up binder.

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## **218.6 EXECUTION OF HEALTH ORDERS**

Any sworn member of this Department may execute and enforce all orders of the local health officer issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease (Health & Safety Code §100106).