

**KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN  
EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 22  
LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**PRIMARY AGENCY:** King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO)

**SUPPORT AGENCIES:** King County Executive  
King County Council  
Office of Prosecuting Attorney  
District Courts  
Superior Courts  
Department of Adult & Juvenile Detention  
Department of Executive Services  
Department of Judicial Administration  
Department of Transportation  
Other Law Enforcement Agencies

**I. INTRODUCTION**

A. Purpose

The purpose of this ESF is to identify law enforcement roles and responsibilities within King County during a disaster.

B. Scope

ESF 22 discusses maintaining law and order through traffic and crowd control, providing security for vital facilities and supplies, controlling access to operating scenes and vacated areas, and preventing and investigating crimes against people and property.

**II. POLICIES**

King County Sheriff's Office will coordinate with other federal, state and local law enforcement organizations to support essential law enforcement operations.

King County Sheriff's Office will maintain normal policies and procedures whenever possible, but may make adjustments when necessary to protect life, property and the environment.

**III. SITUATION**

**A. Emergency/Disaster Conditions and Hazards**

King County will periodically experience emergency situations that may overwhelm current law enforcement capabilities. Equipment and personnel may be damaged or unavailable at times when they are most needed. The King County Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Analysis (HIVA), and the Basic Plan describe situations and planning assumptions that affect our area that may impact resource availability.

**B. Planning Assumptions**

The King County King County Sheriff's Office maintains a 24-hour operational capability.

The Department of Adult & Juvenile Detention shall maintain a 24-hour operational capability to provide jail services for police agencies and courts.

Municipal law enforcement agencies will exhaust local resources before requesting help from county resources.

Assistance between law enforcement agencies is facilitated by mutual aid agreements in effect for all law enforcement agencies, which operate in the County and neighboring jurisdictions.

The Washington State Patrol maintains jurisdiction for traffic enforcement and control on all state and interstate roadways within the county.

**IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

**A. General**

In times of an emergency or disaster, law enforcement agencies are called upon to perform a wide variety of functions. These include but are not limited to warning and evacuation, search and rescue, access control, enforcement of traffic regulations, fighting crime and responding with other types of services to unusual events.

Distribution of personnel and equipment will be determined by the event. Mobilization of county resources will occur by landline, pager, King County Sheriff's Communication Center, and will occur in the following order:

- precinct mobilization

- department mobilization
- mutual aid mobilization

During a countywide event, coordination of law enforcement resources will be managed by King County Sheriff's Office with assistance from other agencies. Law enforcement resources provided by other agencies will remain under the command of their parent agency.

## **B. Organization**

The operational structure of the King County Sheriff's Office may be modified during emergency operations by using the Incident Command System (ICS). When necessary, a field command post may be activated and staffed as outlined in the department manual and standard operating procedures. It may be necessary for the command structure to incorporate into an Incident Management System with other response agencies such as fire, medical, and transportation. Any established field command posts will relay information, either by phone, radio or liaison, with their Department representative in the King County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) when it is activated.

## **C. Procedures**

When circumstances dictate emergency or disaster operations, law enforcement agencies will follow guidelines identified in procedure manuals for their organizations.

When the King County Emergency Operations Center is activated, a representative of the King County Sheriff's Office will respond to the EOC when requested to coordinate and exchange information with field units and other county departments. At times it may be necessary to establish an Incident Command Post to centralize coordination of all Department activities.

Upon receipt of mobilization authorization, division chiefs, commanders, and subordinate supervisors will alert all personnel assigned to them on mobilization rosters.

Field communications posts may be established whenever the emergency requires the response of multiple public units and coordination of police activities in the field.

Staffing of support functions including the Communications Center, precinct offices, and other offices, will be maintained at a level to

adequately support the event.

Additional resources beyond local capabilities and mutual aid agreements will be requested and coordinated through the King County Emergency Operations Center.

**D. Mitigation Activities**

King County Sheriff's Office will comply with facility, property, and personnel protection mitigation plans promulgated by King County.

**E. Preparedness Activities**

King County Sheriff's Office will develop and maintain emergency management plans, procedures, and supplies as they relate to emergencies and disasters.

**F. Response Activities**

King County King County Sheriff's Office will operate in accordance with plans and procedures during times of emergencies and disasters. It will coordinate activities with other departments and agencies to meet the general mission of King County during the event.

**G. Recovery Activities**

King County King County Sheriff's Office will participate in recovery efforts as they relate to law enforcement and overall King County Government recovery efforts.

**V. RESPONSIBILITIES**

**A. Primary Agency –King County Sheriff's Office**

Per King County Ordinance 2.16.060, the King County Sheriff's Office is responsible to keep and preserve the public peace and safety, including the discharge of all duties of the office of sheriff under state law, except those duties relating to jails and inmates which are performed by other departments of county government. The functions of the department include a plan to coordinate resources for the public safety and welfare in the event of a major emergency or disaster.

These tasks include but are not limited to:

- law enforcement
- search and rescue activities
- enforcement of emergency orders designated by the County Executive
- emergency traffic control
- security and perimeter control at incident scenes, shelters/staging areas in unincorporated King County, and the Emergency Operations Center when needed
- providing resources for warning, emergency information and emergency evacuations

The King County Sheriff's Office will lead coordination with other law enforcement agencies within King County during regional events. They will also participate in command structures to support other agencies that may have the lead for a major emergency

The King County Sheriff's Office will also provide a representative who will work with the Office of Emergency Management in providing department and regional coordination of law enforcement services during times of emergencies and disasters.

#### **B. Support Agencies**

The Department of Adult & Juvenile Detention shall maintain and coordinate all operations necessary to provide for the security and basic human needs of the population of its facilities.

Each supporting agency will adhere to mutual aid agreements or any other action necessary to protect the safety and welfare of people and property.

## **VI. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS**

Sufficient commissioned law enforcement officers, support staff and equipment to provide 24 hours a day coverage until the demands of the emergency situation or disaster is over is required.

**VII. REFERENCES**

Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan  
Revised Code of Washington (RCW)  
Washington Administrative Code (WAC)  
King County Code (K.C.C.)  
King County King County Sheriff's Office General Orders Manual  
King County Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Analysis

**VIII. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

See Appendix 4, Definitions

**AGENCY APPROVAL:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE :** \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheriff