

OREGON TASK FORCE 1
URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE
POSITION DESCRIPTION



SAFETY OFFICER

Functional Description

The USAR Safety Officer is responsible for monitoring and assessing the safety aspects of the Oregon USAR Task Force during incident operations. The USAR Safety Officer reports directly to the Task Force Team Leader.

Description of Duties

The Safety Officer is responsible for:

1. Overseeing all health and safety aspects of the task force team response and the fitness and welfare of task force team personnel.
2. This includes the personal safety at the Assembly Point; in transit vehicles used during transit, at layover sites, the Mobilization Center/Reception Center, at the Base of Operations, and the operational work sites.
3. All roles will be evaluated to assure that optimal safety and injury prevention is being practiced at all times. This is particularly important for respiratory and other protective equipment at the work sites, safe operation of motor vehicles and tools and other considerations.
4. In cooperation with the Medical Technician, investigating, completing, and forwarding all reports in regards to Task Force Team personnel injuries and illnesses to the appropriate organization.
5. Preventing injuries and illnesses among the Task Force Team members.
6. Immediate intervention of activities to prevent the loss of life and prevention of injuries.
7. Preparing and maintaining entry permits, records and reports.
8. Developing and implementing the safety component of the Task Force Team Action Plan.
9. Accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment.
10. Adhering to all safety procedures.
11. Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned during a mission.

Position Requirements and Criteria

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become a Safety Officer in the Oregon USAR Task Force. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent Safety oversight and management information in the urban disaster environment. The requirements and criteria for the position are identified in the following categories:

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Task Force General Requirements

- A. Must be physically fit as governed by the sponsoring organization.
- B. When on assigned rotation able to mobilize within 30 minutes of request and be self sufficient for at least 72 hours.
- C. Must be capable of improvising and functioning for long hours under adverse conditions.
- D. Must be able to function safely at heights and on or around rubble.
- E. Must be aware of the signs, symptoms, and corrective measures of critical incident stress syndrome.
- F. Must understand and adhere to safe working practices and procedures as required in the urban disaster environment.
- G. Must have a working knowledge of the Oregon US&R Response Systems and organizational structures, operating procedures, safety practices, terminology, knowledge of all task force equipment, and communications protocols.
- H. Must have successfully completed, as a minimum, the First Responder Operations Level for Hazardous Materials per OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.120 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response or equivalent.
- I. Must understand the needs of and provide support to their counterparts with the task force specific operations, techniques and application of tools and equipment.
- J. Must be current on annual training on Bloodborne Pathogens per 29 CFR 1910.1030 Standard on Bloodborne Pathogens (Oregon OSHA OAR 437, Division 2/Z, Toxic and Hazardous Substances).

Skills

- 1. To effectively communicate orally and in writing.
- 2. Must possess an awareness of other disaster organizations.
- 3. Must have a knowledge of supervisory and personnel management skills.
- 4. Must possess good interagency coordination skills; work well with technical experts, local officials, and other organizations.
- 5. Must be able to be flexible, improvise, share information, resolve conflicts, and problem solve.
- 6. Must effectively communicate orally and in writing.
- 7. Manage assigned personnel, specialized equipment and support resources during a disaster situation.
- 8. Capable of coordinating and directing multiple rescue Company operations.
- 9. Effectively organize and plan during crisis situations.

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Task Force Safety Officer Training Requirements:

- 1) Successful completion by 06/01/2006
 - a) OR-TF1 Cache Course
 - b) Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) training.
 - c) National Fire Academy Incident Safety Officer course-16 hour.
- 2) Successful completion by 06/01/2007
 - a) Incident Command System (I-300)
- 3) FEMA Structural Collapse Technician – 80hr course
- 4) Meets or exceeds DPSST Technician level for Rope, CSR, Trench and Vehicle/Heavy Machinery.
- 5) National Fire Academy Incident Command for Structural Collapse incidents (ICSSCI)