

Big City Partnership-Dallas, TX

Summary

We have a city public-private partnership that focuses largely on public safety issues. It is the Dallas Emergency Response Team (DERT). Our Police, Fire, and Emergency Management offices work with several businesses and non-profits across the city on everything from traffic issues when they arise, to crime activity, to disaster exercises.

Background

On March 28, 2000 a strong F2 tornado roared through Fort Worth killing five people, injuring another 100, and causing more than \$500 million in damages. As the dust settled, it became clear to many in both the private and public sectors that there needed to be more communication and coordination between organizations BEFORE a disaster happens.

Goals and Objectives

1. Public Safety Issues
2. Collaboration between the City and the private sector.
3. Information sharing on critical issues or situations and preparing for special events.

Description

The City of Dallas partnered with business leaders in the city's Central Business District (CBD) and in 2001 created a collaborative relationship among the public and private sectors. The Dallas Emergency Response Team (DERT) was born from these early meetings and is fostering strong relationships between the public, private and non-profit sectors of our community.

The Dallas Emergency Response Team (DERT) has become a public-private partnership that is leading the nation in collaboration and communication between local government and the business community. DERT is built around the concept that a city that prepares together will respond and recover more effectively when disaster strikes. The partnership focuses on communications before, during, and after emergencies, exercising disaster plans, and sharing training opportunities for anyone seeking to become better informed and better prepared.

Since 2000, DERT has expanded beyond the CBD to include organizations in the North Central and Northwest areas of the city. In 2007, the Office of Emergency Management, Dallas Police Department, and Dallas Fire-Rescue began working to broaden this program with the inclusion of businesses, volunteer organizations, and non-profits throughout the city. On April 1, 2008, the First Annual DERT Conference was held to educate the public on the citywide effort to expand the DERT program and introduce a new communications tool, USP3.

Big City Partnership-Dallas, TX

The City of Dallas is committed to seeing DERT expand and develop through collaboration and communication between the public, private, and non-profit sectors so that we will be better prepared for any disaster.

Requirements for Success

The key requirement is simply communication. We meet regularly and talk via email regularly. The funding is done by each business and agency.

Resources

DERT has the following resources available through its partnership- A seat in the Emergency Operations Centers; Resources to help prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters; web resources; and emergency or disaster exercises and planning.

Training and Exercises

DERT hosts and participates in joint training exercises with the private sectors.

Communication Tools

DERT uses the following methods of communication with their public private sectors— Email alerts; in-person meetings; conferences and other events; newsletters; website; media outreach; public service announcements.

Links

<http://dallasalert.org/index.html>

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DISCLAIMER

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High Rise Exercise

City of Dallas – May 2005



Exercise Agenda

9:00 a.m. *Welcome, Introductions, Table Assignments*

Field Group (Unified Command)

Field Group (Operations – Police, Fire, EMS, Other)

City Hall Group (Emergency Operations Center)

– Mayor, City Manager, Police Chief, Fire Chief,

Medical Director, Public Wks Dir., Water Dir., etc.

9:15 a.m. *Start of the Day*

10:00 a.m. *The Crisis*

10:45 a.m. *The Incident*

11:30 a.m. *Wrap-Up and Key Findings*

Background



Background

**Thursday
May 26
0900 hrs**

Consider actual events and issues for this date.



National & International Concerns



Local Issues



DALLAS -- Dallas Mayor Laura Miller will hold weekly anti-crime meetings starting Tuesday night as Dallas city leaders say something must be done about the city's rising crime rate.

ExxonMobil

Taking on the world's toughest energy challenges.™

Dart Rails Bedeviled By Rampaging Juveniles

SHORTSTAFFED, POLICE STRUGGLE TO PROTECT PUBLIC

May 19, 2005 2:55 pm US/Central
By Todd Bensman and Robert Riggs

The Investigators
CBS-11 News

Dallas Morning News – May 24, 2005



Oak Cliff office tower evacuated

“Firefighters helped evacuate a 15-story office building just south of downtown Monday morning after maintenance workers smelled a strong natural gas aroma that reached “explosive limits.”

Module 1
Start of the Day
“The First Six Minutes”

Start of the Day

- May 26th starts as another beautiful day in Dallas. The Mid-East conflicts, recent terrorism incidents, and subsequent tensions are in the news as usual as the day begins.
- An after action debriefing is taking place regarding a recent high rise evacuation at a Bank of America building in Oak Cliff
- **At 0900 a series of events begins to unfold...**
- 0900 - an argument erupts between two foreigners in the north lobby of the Bank One Center. The 2 security guards on duty rush to that location.

Start of the Day

- 0900 - Simultaneously, a white van pulls up at the West entrance to the building where work vans unload regularly.
- Four men wearing white painter's uniforms quickly exit the van, 3 are carrying 5-gallon buckets marked "paint", the other carries 2 canvas bags apparently filled with tools.
- They have stopped the van, entered the building, and are in an elevator in less than 1 minute. The security guards are still dealing with the arguing foreigners.

Start of the Day

- At 0902, the argument stops and the 2 men leave peaceably. A woman tells one of the guards that she just got off the elevators and a bunch of painters were getting on. She could smell a strong odor of gasoline.
- At 0903 Dallas 911 receives 2 calls from businesses in the Bank One Building and 1 from a cell phone advising that 4 painters just went through the main lobby, and now they can smell gasoline very strongly...and some even splashed on the floor. The men are described as “might be caucasian, hispanic, or arab not really sure”

Start of the Day

- At 0904, the 911 Supervisor has ordered both a Police and Fire response to check out reports of 4 suspicious men in painters uniforms and a gasoline smell in the Bank One Center. Two police units and a first alarm fire response are dispatched.
- At 0905 the 911 Supervisor has called and advised the Downtown Police Commander and Battalion Chief of the situation. PD orders a call to the security guards and to notify the SWAT team to be on alert. He also calls 2 detectives on the phone to respond and notifies Chief Reyes. The BC orders a second alarm response and he notifies the Deputy Chief.
- At 0906, a CNN Special Report comes on: an explosion has just occurred in a high-rise building in St. Louis. Video shows flames coming from a top floor of St. Louis' highest building.

Tabletop Exercise

- **Among other issues consider:**
- **Who needs to be notified?**
- **Communications issues**
 - **Interagency**
 - **Command**
 - **City Officials**
 - **Hospitals**
 - **Media – Local & National**
 - **Radio**
 - **Telephone**
- **Secondary Incidents?**

Tabletop Exercise



- **Module 1 “Start of the Day” - the first 6 minutes.**
- **Discuss the situation and your initial reactions or responses - 10 minutes**
- **Report - 10 minutes**

Module 2
“The Crisis”

The Crisis

- At 0906, the 911 Center receives 3 more calls simultaneously from upset employees expressing that there are men with guns on the 26 - 32nd floors of the Bank One Building in the Law Offices. One caller says that they are running up and down the interior stairway. Another says they have four elevators propped open with buckets and you can smell gasoline on Floor 32.
- At 0907, the 911 Supervisor calls or pages the on-call police and fire assistant chiefs. She also pages the SWAT, HAZMAT, MMST, and Bomb teams to call her by phone.
- The first police officer on the scene at Bank One advises that the fire alarm was just set off somewhere and that people are running out of the building.

The Crisis

- At 0908 the 911 Center is swarmed with several more calls from Bank One complaining about gasoline smell, elevators not coming to floors above Floor 32, and one woman who says she is hiding under her desk on 27th floor offices says that a bunch of painters with strong foreign accents are in there with automatic rifles and are gathering other employees into the law library on the east side and that “one of them is wearing a vest of dynamite sticks”.
- At 0910, CNN reports that high rise towers have been overtaken by apparent terrorists in Memphis, Kansas City, and Houston.
- At 0911 the Police Commander orders a major incident response, orders that the area all around Bank One be cordoned off, and sets up a Police Command post at Elm and Ervay.
- At 0911 the Deputy Fire Chief arrives at the Fire Command Post at Main and Ervay. He orders a third and fourth alarm and assumes Command.

The Crisis

- Fire Command asks PD to secure a “large area” in every direction around the building.
- At 0912, BC 1 is assigned as Operations Chief, BC 2 as Rescue Chief. Rescue crews are assigned to stairwells only. Lines are laid into the north side of the building. Engine 1 reports that they are having **considerable difficulty in catching the Main St. standpipe due to construction**. Command requests all available Rescue/EMS units to a staging “base” area at Commerce and Ervay.
- Approximately 200-300 people have exited the building and are reporting that there are **handicapped people** on several floors...also that there are a lot of people who **would not leave** the building with them. Several are having respiratory distress and anxiety, two complain of chest pain.
- **At 0914, CNN reports that there have now been explosions on high floors at the buildings in Kansas City, Memphis, and Houston.**
- At 0914, four EMS units and the MMST arrive at the staging / base area. Two units respond to the Main and Ervay location to treat several patients - two have sprained ankles, 4 have respiratory problems from hurrying down stairs or anxiety.

Tabletop Exercise

- **Among other issues consider:**
- **Mutual Aid?**
- **Hospitals – MCI?**
- **Other Agencies?**
- **City Hall – EOC?**
- **Media – JIC, PIO's?**
- **Other Buildings?**

Tabletop Exercise



- **Module 2 “The Crisis” - the next 9 minutes.**
- **Discuss the situation and your reactions or responses - 15 minutes**
- **Report - 15 minutes**

Module 3

“The Incident”

Hospital Note

- EMS note: Baylor and Parkland have been on full diversion since yesterday.



The Incident

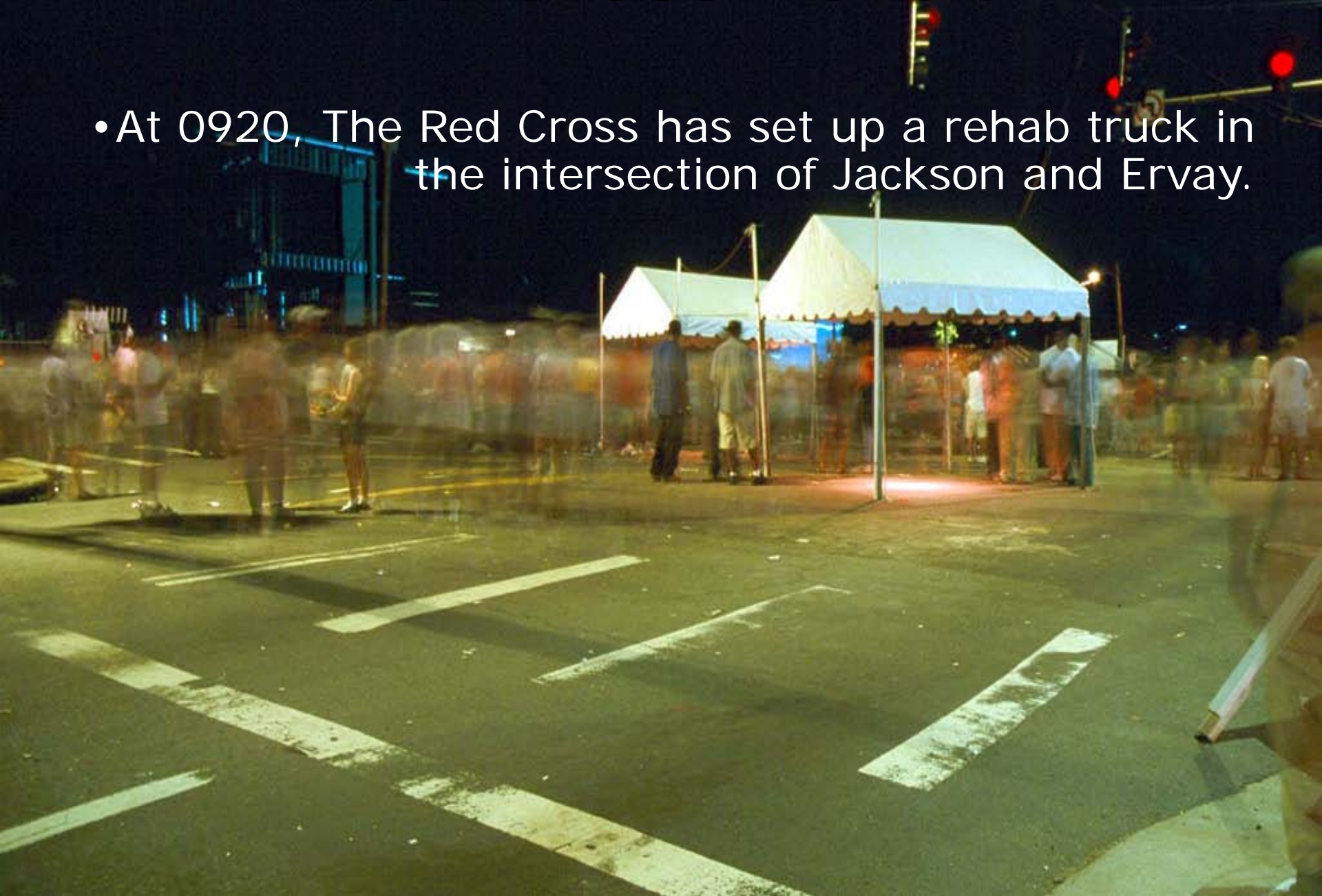
- At 0915, the 911 Supervisor reports to the Incident Commanders that the explosions have occurred in the other cities.
- At 0916, both Commanders order all personnel out of the building. Police and Fire officers inside report that they have a lot of people still coming down the stairs and elevators and **they have to stay and help.**
- One fire crew and a police officer report that they are on the 32th floor hooking to the standpipe and are **ready to go in.**
- At 0917, an explosion rocks the 27th Floor. A fireball followed by heavy smoke and fire comes out of several windows on the East and West sides of the building. **Very few fire or police officers have exited.**

The Incident

- The crew on the 32nd Floor reports extreme heat and they can see fire coming up the interior stairway...they advise they are going to go in and fight the fire.
- At 0918 one police and one TV helicopters are **hovering over** the Bank One Tower.
- At 0919, 32nd Floor Crew reports they have more fire than they can handle and that they are retreating.
- At 0920, other media folks are seen near the building. The City Manager and Mayor arrive at the Command Post and ask for an update.
- At 0921, two windows are broken on floor 55 and 3-4 people are seen waving towels.

Red Cross Rehab

- At 0920, The Red Cross has set up a rehab truck in the intersection of Jackson and Ervay.



The Incident

- At 0921, firefighters begin to carry out 2 victims with 3rd degree burns. One says they are from another office on the 28th floor and that there were about 12 of them hiding in a bathroom when “everything exploded”. He thinks they all made it to the stairway, but he lost them on the way down.
- At 0921, you are having trouble making cell phone calls. The 911 Supervisor reports an overload of incoming calls of worried citizens. Several officers are reporting trouble controlling the crowd and keeping people from the Tower area...many are hysterical looking for relatives.
- CONSIDER:
 - How to evacuate people, firefighters, police
 - How and where to treat injured
 - What kind of loss you anticipate
 - Security of the area
 - How to deal with massive citizen and media calls
 - What happens at City Hall?

Tabletop Exercise



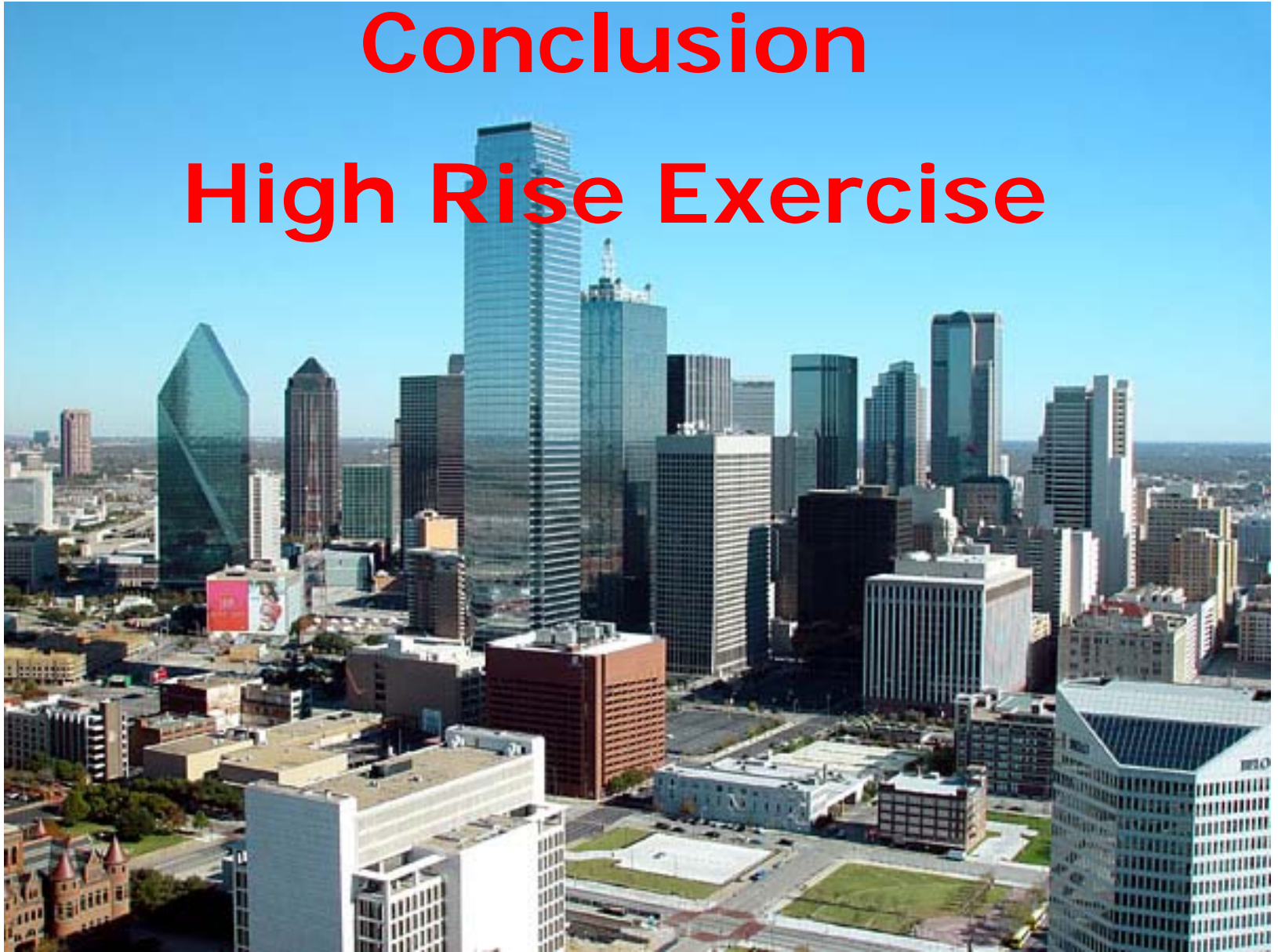
- **Module 3 “The Incident” - the next 8 minutes.**
- **Discuss the situation and your reactions or responses - 15 minutes**
- **Report - 15 minutes**

Tabletop Exercise

- **Among other issues consider:**
- **Mutual Aid?**
- **Other Agencies?**
- **City Hall – EOC?**
- **Media – JIC, PIO's?**
- **Other Buildings?**

Conclusion

High Rise Exercise



DETR – the Dallas Emergency Response Teams

A Public-Private Partnership

Protecting the Population Through
Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery

City of Dallas Office of
Emergency Management



Mission Statement

Mission of the team is to maintain a strong public/private partnership in addressing components of joint emergency mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery in order to increase the Dallas stakeholders' understanding and confidence in emergency plans.

TEAM GOALS

- Plan together
- Communicate before, during, & after emergencies
- Develop Perimeter Access Procedures
- Work together to determine Damage Assessment following disasters

Who are some of the Stakeholders?

- Property owners/managers
- DOWNTOWN DALLAS (DID)
- Business owners
- Security Directors
- Office Tenants
- Customers
- Residents
- The City of Dallas
 - Police, Fire-Rescue, OEM, CMO
- Visitors & Tourists
- Others

Emergency Response Plans

- The City of Dallas Master Emergency Operations Plan
- High-rise Evacuation Plans
- Traffic Control Plans
- The Dallas Building Owners and Managers Association's (B.O.M.A) Guidebook
- The Emergency Management Guide for Business and Industry – American Red Cross

The City OEM Responsibilities in an Emergency

- Activate Emergency Operation Center (EOC)
- Request all needed agencies respond to the EOC
- Activities done in EOC include
 - Coordinate information
 - Coordinate resources
 - Coordinate and resolve policy issues



Day to Day Responsibilities

- Develop plans

Develop relationships with:

- allied agencies
- nonprofit organizations
- faith based groups,
- private sector

A few examples:

Fed, State, Local Agencies

Law Enforcement

Fire, Rescue, EMS

Hospitals

Red Cross

Volunteer Center

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Dallas Emergency Response Team

Health Departments

Citizen Emergency Response Teams

COMMUNICATIONS

- Web Site - www.DallasAlert.org
- AM Radio Frequency – 1680 (CBD)
- Emergency Hotline Voice Mail Box
- Dallas Alert Messaging System (email, text & voice messages)
- Contacts database
- Media relations
- Tenant communications
- Private Sector Liaison in EOC



PERIMETER ACCESS PROCEDURES

- First responder concerns
- Private entity concerns
- Incident Command System
- Pre-issuance of perimeter passes
- Issuance of perimeter passes during critical incidents
- Media credentials

PERIMETER PASS



The DERT Resource Manual

- Agency responsibilities
- Private sector guidelines
- Preparation of recovery and restoration plans
- Training, drills, and exercises
- Emergency preparedness kits
- Identifying building access levels
- Guidelines for specific critical incidents

Allied Agencies

- City of Dallas (especially Public Safety)
- DOWNTOWN DALLAS (DID)
- FBI
- AT&T / Oncor / Atmos
- DART
- American Red Cross
- BOMA
- Hospitals
- Federal Agencies
- State Agencies
- Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

Training, Drills, and Exercises

- Like all emergency plans – they must be exercised!
- The NY Port Authority developed evacuation plans after the 1993 attack on the WTC which saved hundred of lives on September 11th
- Drills conducted every half-year and fire/floor wardens were selected for each floor
- 99% of the people below site of impact survived.
- Notify neighbors and police when conducting evacuation drills

Guidelines for Specific Critical Incidents

- Evacuations
- Bomb Threats
- Fire
- Tornado
- Terrorism - Biological/Chemical/Radiological
- Workplace violence
- Major utility disruptions
- Hazardous materials
- Flooding
- Severe winter storms
- Civil Disorder

Other Non-classified Information Sites

Emergency Response Network/InfraGard

www.infragard-northtexas.org

BOMA Emergency Resource Center

www.boma.org/emergency

American Society for Industrial Security

www.asis-10.org

Department of Homeland Security

www.ready.gov

DERT – the Dallas Emergency Response Team

A Public-Private Partnership



DOWNTOWN
DALLAS INC

DOWNTOWN DALLAS EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (DERT)

A partnership to prepare, respond and recover.

June 10, 2010



DOWNTOWN
DALLAS INC

THE FOUNDATION OF DERT

Downtown Dallas, Inc., in partnership with the Dallas Police Department, created DERT after witnessing the devastation caused by a massive tornado in downtown Fort Worth in 2000. Since then, DERT's programs to prepare for, and respond to, natural disasters, terrorist threats and emergency situations have been replicated not only throughout the city of Dallas, but have been applied nation-wide.

The mission of DERT is to maintain a strong public/private partnership in addressing components of joint emergency mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery in order to increase the Dallas stakeholders' understanding and confidence in emergency plans.

DERT Goals:

- Plan together
- Communicate before, during, & after emergencies
- Develop Perimeter Access Procedures
- Work together to determine Damage Assessment following disasters





DOWNTOWN
DALLAS INC

DERT ALLIANCE

Downtown Dallas, Inc. and Downtown Safety Patrol

Dallas Police Department

Dallas Fire-Rescue

Downtown Property Owners/Managers/Security Personnel

City of Dallas Office of Emergency Management

Downtown Office Tenants

Downtown Residents

Homeland Security

FBI

AT&T/Oncor and Atmos Energy

American Red Cross

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)





DOWNTOWN
DALLAS INC

DERT'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS

- Master Emergency Operations Plan
- High-Rise Evacuation Plans
- Traffic Control Plans
- Downtown Building Owners and Managers Association Guidebook
- The Emergency Management Guide for Business and Industry (American Red Cross)





DER T COMMUNICATIONS

- Web Site – www.DallasAlert.org
- AM Radio Frequency for Central Business District – 1680
- Dallas Alert Messaging System (email, text and voice messages)
- Emergency Contacts Database
- Media Relations
- Tenant Communications
- Private Liaison with Emergency Management
- Downtown Video Boards



DOWNTOWN
DALLAS INC

DETR TRAINING SIMULATIONS

- Like all emergency plans – they must be exercised!
- The NY Port Authority developed evacuation plans after the 1993 attack on the WTC which saved hundred of lives on September 11th
- Exercises are conducted at least quarterly, simulating situations such as:
 - Evacuations
 - Bomb Threats
 - Fire
 - Tornado
 - Terrorism - Biological/Chemical/Radiological
 - Workplace violence
 - Major utility disruptions
 - Hazardous materials
 - Flooding
 - Severe winter storms
 - Civil Disorder



DOWNTOWN
DALLAS INC



MORE DERT TOOLS

- Downtown Camera System led by DDI
 - 90 cameras monitored 24-7 in the CBD
- Perimeter access protocol
 - First responder concerns
 - Private entity concerns
 - Incident Command System
 - Pre-issuance of perimeter passes
 - Issuance of perimeter passes during critical incidents
 - Media credentials
- DERT Resource Manual
 - Agency responsibilities
 - Private sector guidelines
 - Preparation of recovery and restoration plans
 - Training, drills, and exercises
 - Emergency preparedness kits
 - Identifying building access levels
 - Guidelines for specific critical incidents



DOWNTOWN
DALLAS INC

RECENT DERT ACTIVATION

- Terrorist threat to Fountain Place, a premier office building in Downtown Dallas
- Hurricane Katrina and Ike response (Dallas, particularly several locations Downtown, served as a primary evacuee shelter)
- Oncor electricity substation explosion on the perimeter of Downtown
- Record winter weather hazards in 1Q 2010



Mission Statement:
Strengthen emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities in the City of Dallas through public-private partnership.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Meta Leadership Summit
- Resources
- Emergency Administration & Disaster Planning Degree program
- Summer Heat

META-LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

The City of Dallas recently hosted the Meta-Leadership Summit for Preparedness at the Fairmont hotel on May 7-8. This Summit is a very unique opportunity that brings together leaders from the public, private and non-profit/philanthropic sectors in a collaborative environment to discuss and prepare our leadership for critical incidents impacting Dallas. The goal of the Summit is to encourage leaders to leverage their shared resources more effectively and to work together more cohesively during times of crisis.

Over 150 attendees enjoyed presentations and participated in meaningful discussions between the sectors mentioned above. The facilitators for the Summit came from the Harvard School of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Foundation.

The entire event was funded completely by the Robert Wood Johnson and CDC foundations in Atlanta, and by local sponsors The Communities and Meadows Foundations.

This Summit was the first in a series of events to bring together the public, private and non-profit/philanthropic sectors to develop connections and cross-sector collaborations that will benefit everyone that works, lives or plays in Dallas!

— Resources —

Regional Emergency Preparedness Info.	http://www.knowwhat2do.com
Assembling an Emergency Kit. getakit/	http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/
Dallas Emergency Response Team (DERT).	http://www.dallasalert.org/
Business CERT	http://www.dallascert.com/

EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING (EADP) DEGREE PROGRAM

By James M. Kendra, Ph.D., Program Coordinator—EADP, Department of Public Administration
1155 Union Circle, #310617
University of North Texas
Denton, Texas 76203

The Emergency Administration and Planning Program (EADP) at the University of North Texas was the first program in the country to offer an undergraduate degree in emergency management. The program was founded in 1983 and since then some 1000 students have graduated to take positions at all levels of government and in the private and non-profit sectors.

2

Our program takes an all-hazards approach, looking at the full range of natural, technological, and human-induced crises across the ‘four phases’ of disaster—mitigation (what we can do to lessen the possibility of disaster), preparedness (what we can do to be ready for disasters that do happen), response (how we manage a disaster), and recovery (what we do afterward to restore the community and, hopefully, reduce the likelihood of future disasters...that is, mitigation!). The program is grounded in the natural and social sciences, and it recognizes the foundation of emergency management in such areas as geography, sociology, public administration, political science, and psychology. The faculty have backgrounds in environmental science, urban planning, public administration, international relations, and geography, so that students are prepared to enter different areas of the emergency management profession. Students also get the advantage of a well-defined career field along with the flexibility to pursue particular subjects of interest to them.

In addition to university requirements, students complete a core of six courses in EADP, along with electives chosen in the department or in other areas. One of the most important features of the program is the internship, which allows students to put into practice what they learn in classes. We’re very grateful to the many agencies and organization in the Metroplex who host our interns and provide valuable career contacts for our graduates. But there’s more to EADP than the formal curriculum. We have a very active student chapter of the International Association of Emergency Managers. Students have participated in local disaster exercises as well as in disaster response operations and have been involved in numerous community education and outreach activities. Upon graduation, students join a close-knit network of alums and other emergency officials who have been friends and longtime supporters of the program.

We’re particularly pleased to report a significant new development in the program, the introduction of an Emergency Operations Center as a teaching and research facility. Inaugurated last year, this lab forms the basis of two new courses, EOC Design and Operations and Exercise Design, and supports teaching in several other courses as well. Grainger Corporation, a supplier of industrial equipment, and NC4, a supplier of crisis management software, have been important supporters of our efforts to bring advanced technology into our courses.

We always look forward to any inquiries from anyone interested in emergency management. Let me know if we can answer any questions, tell you more about the program, or be helpful in any way. Just drop me a note (jmkendra@unt.edu) or feel free to call ((940) 565-2213). You can also check out our website (www.padm.unt.edu/eadp).

Old City-County Civil Defense Emergency Operations Center at Fair Park

Please click the link below for a virtual tour:

<http://www.civildefensemuseum.com/fallout/dallaseoc.html>

HEAT WAVE SAFETY

As we move into the Summer months, it is very important to be aware of the dangers created by extreme heat, and the safety measures we can all take to avoid becoming casualties of the North Texas Summers.

Excessive heat kills more people in the U.S. than tornadoes, hurricanes, floods and lightning combined. The elderly, very young, obese and those who work outdoors or have substance abuse problems are most at risk from succumbing to heat. Additionally, people in urban areas are more susceptible as asphalt and cement tend to hold in heat throughout the night.

When temperatures soar, follow these safety rules:

- **Slow down.** Avoid strenuous activity. If you must do strenuous activity, do it in the coolest part of the day, which is usually in the morning between 4 a.m. and 7 a.m.
- **Stay indoors as much as possible.** If air conditioning is not available, stay on the lowest floor, out of the sunshine.
- **Drink plenty of water regularly and often, even if you don't feel thirsty.** Water is the best liquid to drink during a heat wave. Avoid alcohol and caffeine as they can intensify the heat's effect on your body. This is especially true about beer because it accelerates dehydration.
- **Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing.** Light colors will reflect away some of the sun's energy.
- **Never leave children or pets in the car, even with the windows down.** When the outside temperature is only 83 degrees Fahrenheit, and your window is down two inches, the temperature inside of your car can reach 109 degrees Fahrenheit in 15 minutes.
- **Avoid using salt tablets unless directed to do so by a physician.**

Heat Cramps: Heat cramps are muscular pains and spasms due to heavy exertion. Although heat cramps are the least severe, they are an early signal that the body is having trouble with the heat.

Heat exhaustion: Heat Exhaustion typically occurs when people exercise heavily or work in a hot, humid place where body fluids are lost through heavy sweating. Blood flow to the skin increases, causing blood flow to decrease to the vital organs. This results in a form of mild shock. If not treated, the victim may suffer heat stroke. Signals include cool, moist, pale or flushed skin; heavy sweating; headache; nausea or vomiting. Body temperature will be near normal.

Heat Stroke: Heat Stroke is life-threatening. The victim's temperature control system, which produces sweating to cool the body, stops working. The body temperature can rise so high that brain damage and death may result if the body is not cooled quickly. Signals include hot, red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing. Body temperature may be very high—as high as 105 degrees. If the person was sweating from heavy work or exercise, skin may be wet; otherwise, it will feel dry.

More information on heat wave safety is available through the National Weather Service, <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/heat/>.