

Incident Management Structure

1. **CAS Level #1** – Situational Awareness and Monitoring

The declaration of CAS Level #1 in the SEOC starts a formal assessment process designed to create situational awareness, stimulate communication within the Ohio EMA staff, and structure ongoing information sharing and consultation with local jurisdictions and/or state organizations to assess and monitor the incident from the time of inception to transition to Joint Field Office operations.

The Planning & Information Section Coordinator will organize ESF #5 personnel, Ohio EMA management, and state agency representatives to facilitate a briefing in the Assessment Room of the SEOC. In the Assessment Room, information is gathered and the event is monitored in cooperation with local emergency management personnel. Representatives of a Core Group of State Agencies report on information they are obtaining through their local resources and activities they are performing as part of their agency's normal mission requirements. Depending upon the course of development of the incident, CAS Level #1 is either brought to closure or is transitioned to CAS Level #2.

2. **CAS Level #2** – Increased Monitoring/State Agencies Providing Direct Assistance

Under CAS Level #2, Ohio EMA state liaison personnel are sent to the site of an incident to assess damage, provide information relevant to emergency event or incident and to assess the needs of the political jurisdiction as the situation or incident escalates. State-agency field liaisons are sent to the site of the emergency event or incident to evaluate the situation and to provide information to the SEOC. The affected local jurisdiction may declare emergency if local resources have been exhausted and the need arises to employ state resources. If assistance from state agencies is required, the Governor of the State of Ohio will declare a state of emergency and representatives of State Agencies respond to the EOC to work and report any assigned missions and brief them in the EOC at scheduled times. Ohio EMA will keep FEMA Region V, and any other appropriate local, state, federal or private partner informed of situational issues during CAS Level #2 in a Situation Report or other appropriate means. If the incident warrants, state resources may be prepositioned at the site of a potential incident and/or event. If state assistance is not needed, the state will continue to monitor the incident until the incident is closed or is transitioned to CAS Level #1.

3. **CAS Level #3** – State Resources and Federal Response Assistance

Activation of the SEOC with Operations Room staffing at various levels from day-time hours through 24-hour staffing and with the activation of State ESF's occurs at CAS Level #3. The Governor of Ohio may declare a state of emergency for the affected jurisdiction, and FEMA Region V monitoring may increase to the point that a Federal Emergency Support Team (FIRST) or a FEMA Emergency Response Team – Advance (ERT-A) team is sent to Ohio and federal resources are pre-positioned for federal response assistance. State-level damage assessments, need assessments and information-gathering operations will continue. If the incident continues to escalate and state resources are inadequate to

address response and/or recovery needs, then the Governor of the State of Ohio may request response and recovery resources and assistance from the federal government. Ohio EMA will coordinate emergency response with the federal Joint Field Office (JFO) as appropriate, and State Agencies that have assigned ESF responsibilities in the Ohio EOP as Primary and Support Agencies will coordinate activities with their federal ESF counterparts. In CAS Level #3, the state maintains close coordination with local emergency management agencies to assess the incident. Operations staff will continue to monitor the situation and coordinate the application of state resources to identified missions until CAS Level #3 is brought to a close or is transitioned to CAS Level #2 or CAS Level #1.