

# The Do's and Don'ts of Exercise Planning

## DO:

- Select exercise planning team that includes key decision makers
- Identify subject matter experts who can be consulted outside the design team
- Research previous exercises that similar to what you are doing
- Set an achievable exercise development timeline
- Be flexible and creative
- Use technology
- Ask for support from other jurisdictions

## DON'T:

- Name a specific group/demographic as the catalyst for the scenario (i.e. political, religious, etc.)
- Allow for exercise creep when planning; stay focused on objectives
- Build artificial assumptions that are not realistic
- Build your scenario first; start with your objectives
- Recreate the wheel
- Be lazy
- Attempt a no-notice unplanned drill that may cause panic and lack of control