URBAN SHIELD
ALAMEDA COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE
2013

FIRST RESPONDERS
WE HAVE THE WATCH

BAY AREA URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE
Urban Shield is the largest disaster preparedness/tactical training exercise in the nation. Urban Shield provides a multi-layered training exercise at critical infrastructure locations throughout five counties in the San Francisco Bay Area to enhance the skills of first responders and those responsible for managing large scale events.

- Law enforcement, fire and EMS personnel, representing agencies throughout the Bay Area UASI Region, participated in some, or all, of 60 realistic scenarios.
- Their capabilities and equipment were evaluated to provide an accurate regional assessment, a Gap Analysis, After Action Report (AAR) and Improvement Plan for the Region.
- Urban Shield operates under the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), and the Incident Command System (ICS) structure.
Exercise Purpose

- Full-Scale Exercises (FSEs) include multiple agencies, jurisdictions, and organizations required to validate the many facets of preparedness.
- First Responders are confronted with complex and realistic problems that require critical thinking, rapid problem solving, and effective responses by trained personnel.
- Urban Shield 2013 is a response-focused FSE. Regional first responders were mobilized and deployed to 60 realistic scenarios to accurately evaluate the related capabilities.
- The Urban Shield 2013 FSE assessed the overall Bay Area UASI Region’s capabilities, assets, plans, policies, and procedures for responding to multiple emergency situations occurring simultaneously within the Bay Area.
URBAN SHIELD 2013 CORE CAPABILITIES

- RCPGP
- Operational Coordination
- Public and Private Services and Response
- Public Information and Warning
- Fatality Management Services
- Situational Assessment
- Health and Social Services

- URBAN SHIELD
- Operational Coordination
- Operational Communication
- Interdiction and Disruption
- Mass Search and Rescue
- On-Scene Security and Protection
Exercise Goals and Lessons Learned
**Exercise Goal:**
Test and evaluate the region's ability to establish a fully integrated response system under SEMS/NIMS guidelines, and to maintain effective communications between IC/DOC, Area Commands/EOCs, and responders in the field.

**Identified Strengths:**
Participants displayed significant competency at operating within NIMS/ICS guidelines.

New communications technology which allows linking smart phones with radio communications was successfully tested.

**Area for Improvement:**
The exercise identified a delay between transmitting and receiving radio communications when multiple trunk radio systems are linked. The delay was exacerbated slightly during the test of the VOIP technology.

**Recommendation:**
Training with an emphasis on the need to mitigate the delay during initial transmissions is recommended.

Additional solutions include the use of a secure IP radio pathway over existing LTE networks.
Exercise Goal:
Test and evaluate the Bay Area's ability to successfully implement regional catastrophic response plans following a mass fatality incident.

Identified Strength:
Contra Costa County Emergency Services and Coroner Divisions effectively requested mutual aid resources and coordinated regional response to the mass fatality incident through the Emergency Operations Center in accordance with the Regional Logistics and Mass Fatality Plans.

Area for Improvement:
The Bay Area currently lacks some of the equipment required to establish a portable field morgue prior to the arrival of federal assets.
**Exercise Goal:**

Test EMS' ability to provide accurate and timely pre-hospital triage, treatment and tracking during critical incidents.

**Identified Strength:**

EMS/Medical first responders did well recognizing visible medical injuries that needed immediate intervention with no apprehension in approaching individual patients and applying tourniquets and chest seals independently.

**Area for Improvement:**

Law Enforcement and EMS/Medical first responders had very limited interaction and planning prior to entry. This gap has been seen in previous Urban Shield exercises.

**Recommendation:**

EMS teams should continue to train with other disciplines with a focus on conducting briefings and receive additional training in the area of Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) or Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC).
**Exercise Goal:**
Evaluate Regional Bomb Squads’ core competencies and their ability to render devices safe in a hazardous/WMD environment utilizing proper PPE and dismounted operations.

**Identified Strength:**
EOD teams used good tactics addressing the need for safety and crime scene considerations, using basic PPE when possible and quickly transitioning to Level A PPE when encountering a possible biological agent laboratory.

**Area for Improvement:**
EOD teams displayed varying levels of competency securing their command post and searching for secondary devices.

**Recommendation:**
Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams should consider focusing on fundamental safety and security skills, emphasizing the need to employ effective search techniques when securing command posts and evaluating their surroundings for additional threats.
Exercise Goal:
Test and evaluate Regional HazMat Teams' ability to respond to hazardous substance releases during transportation, at fixed facilities and Weapons of Mass Destruction post blast.

Identified Strength:
HazMat teams maintained a high degree of safety by the creation of exclusionary and control zones designed to minimize exposure to radiation and chemical hazards. Teams also made the appropriate selection and use of personal protective equipment.

Area for Improvement:
HazMat teams displayed deficiencies in responding to radiological emergencies. Identified deficiencies include:

- Failing to make timely contact with victims,
- Conducting contamination surveys while still in the hot zone, not taking steps to minimize the spread of contaminants,
- Conducting victim surveys too quickly or not according to established model procedures,
- Failure to search victims for weapons.

Recommendation:
Further training in handling radiation contaminated victims and the use of detection and monitoring equipment.
**Exercise Goal:**
Determine regional USAR capability to search for, provide initial medical stabilization and rescue trapped victims utilizing specialized training and equipment.

**Identified Strength:**
USAR teams effectively created, placed, and operated shoring, as well as raising and lowering rope rescue systems.

**Area for Improvement:**
Incorporating patient care into USAR operations. Deficiencies include failure to make and maintain early contact with the victim until the rescue is complete; no assessment for illness or injury, or provisions for needed medical care prior to extrication, particularly for victims at risk for crush syndrome.

**Recommendation:**
Additional training in incorporating medical care into USAR operations, including the etiology of crush syndrome. Participation in USAR training scenarios where the provision of medical care is a required competency.
Law Enforcement Tactical Teams

Exercise Goal:
Assess the regional capabilities of law enforcement to deploy, communicate and use specialized equipment and training in coordination with other agencies for the successful search and interdiction of terrorists and the rescue and treatment of any hostages.

Identified Strength:
Tactical teams did well maintaining situational awareness and decisive decision making. Team leaders appropriately redirected their forces as needed by shifting their plan to deal with new and unexpected events.

Area for Improvement:
Tactical teams had difficulty with IEDs in several scenarios. Teams continue to have difficulty locating and inadvertently setting off booby-traps and IEDs they encountered. Tactical teams also showed differing levels of proficiency dealing with booby-traps.

Recommendation:
Additional training in locating, identifying and overcoming booby-traps and IEDs during tactical operations.
Supporting Agencies 2013

Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

CAL Office of Emergency Services
35 Participating Tactical Teams
38 Participating Fire Teams
Alameda County Fire Department

Central County Fire Department

Contra Costa Co. Fire Protection Department

Marin County Fire Department

Menlo Park/Woodside Fire Protection Districts

Monterey County Operational USAR Team

Napa Interagency Rescue Team

San Francisco Fire Department

San Jose Fire Department

Santa Clara City Fire Department

Santa Clara County Fire Department

South San Francisco Fire Department

St. Paul Minnesota Regional

Stockton Fire Department
7 Participating EOD Teams
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Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
SCENARIO SUMMARY

- 28 Tactical
- 18 Fire (HAZMAT/USAR/Maritime-Water Rescue)
- 5 EOD
- 4 Medical Checkpoints
- 3 Physical Challenges
- 1 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Plan Mass Fatality Validation
- 1 Technology Showcase
SWAT/Fire/EMS Integration
AIRCRAFT INTERDICTION
SWAT Challenges
RED COMMAND
(HazMat, US&R, Water Rescue)
Fire Hazmat Scenarios
Fire Technical Rescue/Water Rescue
Scenario F15  Sinking Boat with Passengers in Water
• Host: Oakland Fire Department
• Location: Oakland

Scenario F16  Pollution Control Response
• Host: Oakland Fire Department
• Location: Oakland
• Technology: Protective Industrial Products-Pacific Rescue Wireless Helmet Camera
Maritime-Water Rescue

Scenario F17
Shore Based Rescue Boat Handling / Hoist Rescue
- Host: Oakland Fire Department
- Location: Oakland

Scenario F18
Assessment of Critical Infrastructure Technical Rescue
- Host: Oakland Fire Department
- Location: Oakland
Explosive Ordnance Detection
Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Plan Mass Fatality Validation

- Host: Contra Costa County and Alameda County Sheriff’s Office
- Location: Martinez
Hot Wash / Dinner Banquet
Monday, October 28, 2013 | 1600 - 2100 hrs.
Oakland Marriott Convention Center

- Program included:
  - Traditional Bagpipes and Honor Guard
  - Keynote Speaker

Wesley Clark, Sr., General, U.S. Army (Retired)

- Hot Wash
- Presentation of Awards