

## WARNING/EMERGENCY INFORMATION

### I. PURPOSE

This annex describes the warning systems in place in the jurisdiction and responsibilities and procedures for using them. All components of the system will be identified and the provisions that have been made to implement warning described.

### II. SITUATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS

#### A. Situation

1. Hazardous material spills, tornadoes, or other hazards will require warning of the general public and emergency response groups in an expeditious manner. Warning sirens and commercial radio announcements are methods which will alert the citizens of the city.

2.

#### B. Assumptions

1. Some people who are directly threatened by a hazard may ignore, not hear or not understand the warnings issued by the City Government of Salem.

2. Special need groups such as the hearing impaired, sight impaired, physically disabled, or institutionalized (e.g., in mental treatment facilities, jails/prisons/detention facilities, etc.) Require special attention to ensure a workable warning system is established.

3. Emergency response organization such as fire and police may be called upon to assist with warning of the public.

4. Radio/TV stations will be willing to issue warning announcements.

5. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Warning Radio stations will disseminate watches and warnings issued by the NWS. NOAA tone alert radios are automatically activated when such warnings and watches are

issued. NOAA Weather Radio will also be activated for other type of Emergency situations for public announcements.

6. The need to warn the public and alert government officials is common to all disaster situations.

7. The time available for warning may vary, from ample to none, on the speed of onset.

8. The Fire District can activate their siren to assist with warning the public.

9. Provisions may be made to warn areas no covered by the outdoor warning systems.

### III CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. The Marion County 911 (PSAP) radio system will be the primary source to notify emergency response organizations concerning warnings about to be issued.

B. Most of the emergency services have there own alert warning systems that can back up the 911 system if needed, to notify there own response.

C. Appropriate government officials will be notified by telephone or by media announcements, or if nessasary by direct person contact.

D. The dissemination of alerts and warnings to the general public can be accomplished in the following ways:

1. Activation of the Outdoor Warning System: The City of Salem have 5 outdoor warning sirens that can be activated by the 911 or EOC communications to alert the residents to an actual or impending emergency. These sirens are tested the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 A.M. The Outdoor Warning Siren System should be activated for extreme emergency situations such as a Tornado Warning or other pre-stated emergency situation.

2. Commercial radio station broadcast: Radio station WJBD 100.1 F.M. and WJBI) 1350 A.M. 24hr station, can be requested to make emergency

announcements:

3. Emergency service vehicle PA systems: Most emergency service vehicles have sirens with a build-in PA system that can be used to broadcast emergency information.

4. Telephone: This should only be used to notify a small number of people due to the time-consuming process.

5. Door-to-door notification: This should only be used for an isolated area with few residents in a slowly-developed situation.

6. NOAA Weather Radio station KXI 49: The NOAA Weather Radio Station KXI 49 transmitter is located near Salem and is operated by the National Weather Service in St. Louis Mo. The system can be used for Emergency Messages by contacting the National Weather Service in St. Louis by calling this toll free number: 1-800-852- 7497.

7. Scanners: Residents with scanners can monitor emergency situations, example; when 911 alerts Fire, EMS or other emergency services of emergency situations.

E. Warning for special locations such as schools, hospital, nursing homes, recreational facilities, child daycare and adult daycare, public assembly areas, and major industrial sites will be accomplished by direct contact by telephone or in-person contact and/or NOAA weather warning radios. Warnings will be augmented by commercial radio and TV broadcasts as well as the outdoor warning sirens.

F. There is not a significant population of the hearing impaired or non-English speaking groups in the City of Salem requiring special warning provisions; However, the TTY system which is located in the Salem Police/911 communications will be utilized when possible.

G. A single tone warning siren signal will be sounded for all warnings. No “AU Clear” tone will be given.

#### H. Inter-jurisdictional Relationships

1. Both County 911 PSAP’s have the authority to activate the warning sirens,

notify the National Weather Service to activate Weather Warning Radios, and notify commercial radio and TV Stations to broadcast warnings

2. City of Salem DOEM and/or the EOC have the authorization to activate the warning sirens, notify the National Weather Service to activate weather warning radios, and notify commercial radio and TV stations to broadcast warnings.

3. Industrial complexes and transportation services that use, produce, store or transport hazardous materials should immediately alert 911 PSAP's or EOC when an emergency situation involving hazardous material occurs. Any warning, if necessary, will be instituted by 911 PSAP's or EOC, or DOEM.

4. Any affected nearby jurisdiction shall be warned of the Haz-Mat incident by any means possible to alert them of the potential threat of the situation.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION OF ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

##### A. Chief Executive Official (CEO)

1. Specifies who has authority to order activation of warning sirens.

2. Assigns a single organization the responsibility of activation of the various warning systems in the jurisdiction. The organization must be able to initiate the warning systems around-the-clock. In the City of Salem, the 911 system has this responsibility.

3. Designates public service agencies, personnel, equipment, and facilities that can augment the jurisdiction's warning capabilities.

##### B. Warning Coordinator(DOEM Coordinator)

1. When notified of an emergency situation, reports to the EOC. (However, when practical, this individual should be permanently assigned to the EOC.)
2. Works with the Public Information Officer (PIO) to ensure pertinent warning information is provided to the print media for distribution to the public.
3. Activates public warning systems.
4. Implements call-down rosters to alert emergency responders or provide situation updated.
5. Implements contingency plans to provide warnings if established warning system fails to work.
6. Coordinates warning frequencies and procedures with the 911 Coordinator and EOC's at higher levels of government and with adjacent communities.
7. Will coordinate with Marion County 911 Coordinator on operation of all warning and communication procedures.

#### C. EOC Manager

1. Assists DOEM Coordinator with overall operations of the EOC.
2. Activates the warning section of the EOC.
3. Issues cancellation of warning notice or otherwise ensures emergency responders and the public are aware of the fact that the emergency situation is terminated.
4. Ensures emergency warning systems are activated when directed to do so.

#### D. All Tasked Organizations

1. Upon receipt of a warning message or signal, initiate internal organization notification actions to:

A. Alert employees and volunteer augmenters assigned emergency response duties to the emergency situation.

B. As appropriate to the situation”

1) suspend or curtail normal business activities.

2) recall essential off-duty employees.

3) send non-critical employees home.

4) evacuate the organization’s facilities.

2. If appropriate, augment the EOC’s effort to warn the public through the use of vehicles equipped with public address systems, sirens, employees going door to door, etc.

## V. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS

### A. Administration

1. Listing of all phone numbers and radio frequencies of emergency response groups can be found in the Resource Manual in the EOC and in the 911 PSAP’s both Salem and Centralia.

2. Maps of the warning siren system and coverage area can be found in the Salem EOC and also in the Appendix A and B of this section.

### B. Logistics

1. County 911 PSAP's located in both Salem and Centralia Police Departments will alternate testing warning sirens the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 A.M. The Salem Fire District may test its siren with the steady blast if asked to do so.

2. The City of Salem will be responsible for maintaining, repair, and/or replacement of damaged warning siren equipment.

3. Agreements with the private sector such as commercial broadcast stations to augment warning capabilities are not needed.

4. IC's shall maintain warning equipment at their immediate disposal such as PA systems, radio alerts systems and mobile sirens.

#### VI. DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF WARNING ANNEX

1. The responsibility for revisions, keeping attachments current, and developing necessary documents for the annex belongs to DOEM.

2. The responsibility for revisions and maintaining SOP's belongs to the emergency response groups and the 911 PSAP's.

#### VII. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

1. The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.

2. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act (P.A.87-168, January 1, 1992).

3. The City of Salem DOEM Act adopted by the City of Salem Council. 76-8

#### VIII. APPENDICES

A. Siren Locations in the City of Salem.

B. Siren Locations in the County of Marion.



