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TDEM Initiatives

- Texas Government Code Chapter 418 endows TDEM with a variety of powers and duties, including:
 - 418.042 - Prepare and keep current a comprehensive state emergency management plan
 - 418.043(6) - Establish and operate training programs and programs of public information or assist political subdivisions and emergency management agencies to establish and operate the programs



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TDEM Initiatives

- 418.043(13) - Cooperate with the federal government and any public or private agency or entity in achieving any purpose of this chapter and in implementing programs for disaster mitigation, preparation, response and recovery



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TDEM Initiatives

- Implement 44 recommendations made in Eye of the Storm Report; Governor's Commission to Rebuild Texas, released December 2018.



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Emergency Management in Texas

- Budget
- Population
- Disaster Thresholds



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How TDEM Is Funded

- The state of Texas funds TDEM approximately ~\$10 million
- Federal government preparedness grants provide approximately \$20 million to TDEM (around \$6 million is passed to jurisdictions)
- Other federal grants supply about \$1.7 million for dedicated programs (HMEP, WIPP, Pantex)
- Included in the budget is approximately \$1.3-\$2 billion in disaster grant funding that is passed through to affected jurisdictions (amounts vary greatly on # of disasters)



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Texas Population Growth

- Large and growing population compounds disaster numbers
- 2010 Texas population*: 25,145,561
- 2018 Texas population *estimate*: 28,701,845
- *Estimated* population increase of 3,556,284 residents



* U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census

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Texas by the Numbers

- 254 Counties | 1,216 Cities | 1,026 ISDs
- Six of the most populated cities in the U.S.
 - #4 Houston
 - #7 San Antonio
 - #9 Dallas
 - #11 Austin
 - #13 Fort Worth
 - #21 El Paso



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Stafford Act in Texas

- 2010 – Present:
 - Major Disaster Declarations – 18
 - Emergency Declarations – 5
 - Fire Management Assistance Declaration (FMAG) – 65



Updated: 9/11/2018

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Disaster Declaration Threshold

• To qualify for federal assistance after a disaster, states must meet a pre-established, population based damage threshold

Thresholds	
Texas	\$ 38,975,620
Arkansas	\$ 4,519,673
Louisiana	\$ 7,026,727
Oklahoma	\$ 5,814,595
New Mexico	\$ 3,191,728



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Major Disaster Declarations Since 1953*

- 10. Iowa 66
- 9. Arkansas 68
- 8. Mississippi 69
- 7. Alabama 70
- 6. Louisiana 72
- Florida 76
- 4. New York 76
- 3. Oklahoma 88
- 2. California 100



*As of 9/11/19

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Major Disaster Declarations Since 1953

1. TEXAS	101
EMER	16
FMAG*	247
TOTAL	364

- The Lone Star State has recorded 101 **Major Disasters** in 68 years.
- 1 EVERY 8.1 MONTHS

*This total includes FMAGs and Fire Suppression Authorizations (predecessor to FMAGs)



*As of 9/11/19

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How We Respond In Texas!

- Local level
- State level
- Federal level



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Incident Management in Texas

- Incidents begin and end locally, and are managed on a daily basis at the *closest possible* geographical, organizational, and jurisdictional level



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Local Governments

- Local governments (counties, cities, or towns) respond to *emergencies* daily using their own resources
- They rely on mutual aid and assistance agreements with neighboring jurisdictions
- When local jurisdictions cannot meet incident response resource needs with their own resources or with help available from other local jurisdictions, they may ask for state assistance



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Local Authority in Texas

- **Mayors** and **county judges** serve as emergency management directors
- Responsible for maintaining an emergency management program within their respective jurisdictions
- Officials often appoint an emergency management coordinator (EMC)
- **Mayor** and **county judge** are authorized by the Texas Disaster Act to declare a local disaster when conditions exist or when there is an immediate threat



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Local Plans

- Texas jurisdictions develop emergency operations plans that consist of a basic plan and functional annexes and appendices
- The Basic Plan outlines a jurisdiction's approach to emergency operations, and provides general guidance for emergency management activities



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State of Texas

- States have significant resources of their own
- If additional resources are required, the state may request assistance from other states through interstate mutual aid and assistance agreements such as the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)



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Texas State Law

- Chief, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) is appointed by the Governor and serves at the pleasure of the Governor



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State Regions

- Texas is divided into 6 regions
- Each region has a TDEM Assistant Chief Responsible for emergency Management in their region



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State Disaster Districts

- Texas has 24 disaster districts
- Each disaster district has a TDEM District Coordinator(s)
- TDEM Assistant Chiefs oversee the emergency management team In their regions



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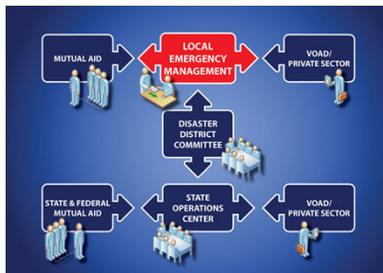
Federal Government

- If an incident is beyond local and state capabilities, the Governor can request federal assistance
- The governor's request is made through the FEMA Regional Administrator and based on a finding that the disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local governments, federal assistance is granted



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Requesting Assistance



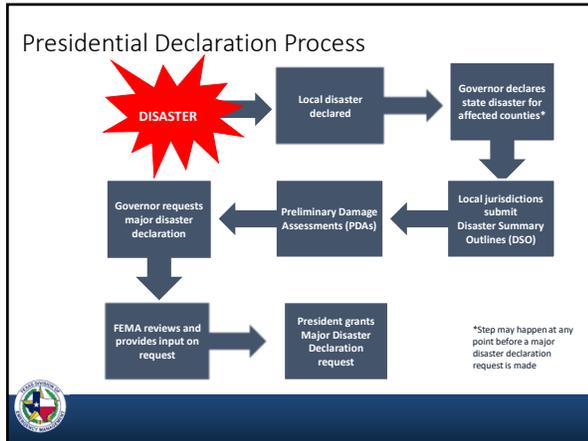
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The Stafford Act

- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (PL 93-288)
- Authorizes President to declare an emergency or major disaster in a state
- Requests to the President come from the Governor
- Makes federal assistance available to supplement state and local resources



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- ### Emergency Management Council (EMC)
- Texas Military Department
 - American Red Cross
 - Department of Information Resources
 - General Land Office
 - Texas Division of Emergency Management
 - Public Utility Commission of Texas
 - Railroad Commission of Texas
 - Salvation Army
 - State Auditor's Office
 - State Comptroller of Public Accounts
 - Texas Animal Health Commission
 - Texas Attorney General's Office
 - Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
 - Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
 - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 - Texas Commission on Fire Protection
 - Texas Department of Agriculture
 - Texas A&M University System
 - Texas Department of State Health Services
 - Texas Workforce Commission
 - University of North Texas System
 - Texas Department of Criminal Justice
 - Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
 - Texas Health and Human Services Commission
 - Texas Department of Insurance
 - Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
 - Texas Department of Public Safety
 - Texas Department of Transportation
 - Texas Education Agency
 - Texas Facilities Commission
 - Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service
 - Texas A&M Forest Service
 - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
 - Texas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
 - Texas Tech University System
 - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
 - Texas State University System
 - University of Houston System
 - University of Texas System

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- ### Emergency Operations
- **Level IV** Normal Conditions
 - **Level III** Increased Readiness
 - **Level II** Escalated Response Conditions
 - **Level I** Emergency Conditions

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State Operations Center (2020)



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Texas – Strong Partners in Disaster Response

- Local jurisdictions
- Regional Organizations (RACs)
- Voluntary Organizations
- Special Response Teams (Emergency Medical Task Force [EMTF], Texas Task Force 1, Public Works Response Team [PWRT])
- Local volunteer special response teams (Search One, TEXSAR, TCSAR, AASAR)
- Private Sector
- State Government (TDEM and the Emergency Management Council)
- Federal Government (FEMA, USGS, NWS)
- Media (TV, Print, Social)



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Importance of Private Sector

- Equal and equally responsible partners in all phases of emergency management:
 - Prevention
 - Protection
 - Response
 - Recovery
 - Mitigation



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Importance of Private Sector

- Private sector partners have the financial capacity to provide resources at the onset of a disaster and promptly help survivors
- An estimated **25 percent** of businesses don't open again after a major disaster, according to the Institute for Business and Home Safety.
- Re-opening businesses helps to stabilize the local economy after a disaster



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Private Sector Preparedness

- Commit to preparedness
- Conduct hazard vulnerability assessments
- Develop an emergency response plan
- Implement the emergency response plan
- Help your community prepare



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Why Is Preparedness Important?

- Remember Texas is #1!
- 2016, Texas experienced several significant events:
 - DR-4255 (January Blizzard and Severe Weather)
 - DR-4266 (March Storms, Tornadoes and Flooding)
 - DR-4269 (April Storms and Flooding)
 - DR-4272 (May – June, Storms and Flooding)
- 2017: **Hurricane Harvey** DR-4332
- 2018: Severe Storm and Flooding DR-4377
- 2018: Severe Storms and Flooding DR-4416
- 2019: Severe Storms and Flooding DR-4454
- 2020: COVID-19 Pandemic DR-4485
- 2020: Hurricane Laura DR-4572



S114

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Slide 33

SJ14

Added 4454

Suzannah Jones, 9/10/2019

How do Texans Support Each Other?

- DO:
 - Build relationships before a disaster
 - Conduct combined planning, training and exercises
- DON'T:
 - Wait until a disaster happens
 - Self-deploy



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Communication and Collaboration

- Remember: single, consistent messaging is a must!
- Conflicting messaging equals potential public confusion
- Work together!
- Numerous entities, working separately from each other, can create unintended conflicts and/or repetition



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Personal Responsibility

- Are you ready?
- Is your family prepared?
- Does your workplace have a plan?
- Does your church, place of worship or civic organization have a plan?
- Does your neighborhood have a plan?



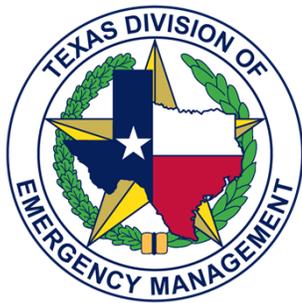
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The Four Challenges

- Be the **expert**
- Stay in your **lane**
- **Collaborate** at all costs
- **Make a decision!**



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