

Emergency Operations Plan 2024



Marshall County, Alabama

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Marshall County Emergency Operations Plan

Section 1

Basic Plan

I. INTRODUCTION.

A. PURPOSE.

1. The Marshall County Emergency Management Agency, in cooperation with the Marshall County Commission, Marshall County Sheriff's Office and other County Departments, the Municipalities (Albertville, Arab, Boaz, Guntersville, Douglas, Grant, Cherokee, and Union Grove) and other members of the community, endeavors to prevent/mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made disasters which threaten the lives, safety, or property of the citizens of Marshall County by:
 - Identifying major natural and man-made hazards which threaten to life, property and/or the environment that are known or thought to exist.
 - Providing an efficient, comprehensive organizational structure for emergency response personnel.
 - Assigning emergency management responsibilities and tasks.
 - Describing predetermined actions (responsibilities, tasks) to be taken by local government departments, municipalities and other cooperating organizations and institutions to eliminate or mitigate the effects of these threats and to respond effectively and recover from an emergency or disaster.
 - Managing emergency operations within the county by coordinating the use of resources available from county and municipal governments, private industry, civic and volunteer organizations, and when needed, state and federal agencies.
 - Providing for effective assignment and utilization of local government employees.
 - Documenting the current capabilities and existing resources of local government departments and other cooperating organizations and institutions that must be maintained, to enable accomplishment of those predetermined actions.
 - Providing for the continuity of the local government during and after an emergency or disaster.
 - Providing for the rapid and orderly start of recovery, restoration and rehabilitation of people and property affected by emergencies.
 - Enhancing cooperation (mutual aid agreements and memorandums of agreements) and coordination with cooperating community agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, and county, state, and federal agencies.
 - Providing an emergency planning team comprised of department representatives as identified and utilized through this plan for continuing review and revision of the plan exercise planning and evaluation, reviewing and offering recommendations on Mar-

shall County Emergency Management Initiatives.

2. This Basic Plan will provide guidance for:
 - Prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery policy and procedures.
 - Disaster and emergency responsibilities.
 - Training and public education activities.
3. This plan applies to all local officials, departments, and agencies. The primary audience for the plan includes Chief Elected Officials, the EMA staff, department and agency heads and their senior staff members, leaders of local volunteer organizations that support emergency operations and others who may participate in mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

B. SCOPE.

1. This plan describes the basic strategies, assumptions, and mechanisms through which the Marshall County EMA will mobilize resources and conduct activities to guide and support local emergency management efforts through response and recovery and facilitate effective inter-governmental operations. This plan adopts a functional approach that groups the types of assistance to be provided under Emergency Functions (EFs) to address needs at the county and state level. Each EF is headed by a lead agency, which has been selected based on its authorities, resources, and capabilities in the functional area. The Emergency Functions serve as the primary mechanism through which assistance is managed in an affected area.
2. This plan is "strategic and responsibility/task" oriented, and:
 - Establishes official policies, program strategies and planning assumptions for disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.
 - Defines responsibilities for all Marshall County Jurisdictions and municipal departments and non-profit agencies through an "Emergency Function (EF) approach" to planning and operations.
 - Provides an all-hazards organizational structure for emergency operations.
 - Establishes basic direction and control for all levels of a disaster creating a consistent unified approach to emergency management operations.
 - Assigns specific functional responsibilities to appropriate departments and agencies, as well as private sector groups and volunteer organizations and defines means of coordinating with state and federal partners to maximize resource utilization.
 - Is supplemented by function-specific standard operating guidelines (SOGs) and operational plans of the responsible organizations that are referenced throughout the document.
3. Definitions.
 - a. **Emergency:** The occurrence or imminent threat of a condition, incident, or event

which requires immediate response actions to save lives; prevent injuries; protect property, public health, the environment, and public safety; or to lessen or avert the threat of a disaster. At the Federal level, an emergency is defined by Title V of P.L. 93-288, Section 102(1), as any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, federal assistance is needed to supplement state and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety. Title V includes authority for the President to direct federal agencies to provide emergency assistance to save lives and protect property and public health and safety for emergencies other than natural disasters. Under Title V, the President may direct the provision of emergency assistance either at the request of a Governor (Section 501(a)) or upon determination by the President that an emergency exists for which the primary responsibility for response rests with the United States (501(b)).

- b. **Disaster:** The occurrence of widespread or severe damage, injury, loss of life or property, or such severe economic or social disruption that supplemental relief assistance is necessary for the County to recover and alleviate the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby. At the Federal level, as defined under P.L. 93-288, a disaster is any natural catastrophe, (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, earthquake, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, local governments, and disaster relief organizations.
- c. **Catastrophic Disaster:** Although there is no commonly accepted definition of a catastrophic disaster, the term implies an event or incident, which produces severe and widespread damage of such a magnitude as to result in the requirement for significant resources from outside the affected area to provide the necessary response. For the purpose of this plan, a catastrophic disaster is defined as an event that results in large numbers of deaths and injuries; causes extensive damage or destruction of facilities that provide and sustain human needs; produces an overwhelming demand on state and local response resources and mechanisms; causes a severe long-term effect on general economic activity; and severely affects state, local, and private sector capabilities to begin and sustain response activities.

C. METHODOLOGY.

- 1. This plan was developed by a planning process coordinated by the Marshall County EMA.
- 2. This plan is "approved and implemented" by the Marshall County Commission and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). The Marshall County Commission is responsible for the direction, control, and coordination of emergency management activities in Marshall County. The mayors of the cities and towns in Marshall County are responsible for the direction, control, and coordination of emergency management activities within their jurisdictions and have participated in the development of this plan and further recognize the Marshall County EMA as the Lead Coordinator for large scale emergencies and

disasters within Marshall County where their jurisdictions are located.

3. A distribution list containing department/agency names and the number of copies of the Marshall County Emergency Operations Plan (MCEOP) that were published is on file in the Marshall County EMA office.
4. Plan maintenance and record of changes.
5. The Marshall County EMA Director ensures that necessary changes and revisions to the plan are prepared, coordinated, published and distributed.

D. OBJECTIVES OF THE MARSHALL COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (MCEOP).

1. The primary objective for emergency management in Marshall County is to provide a coordinated effort and utilize an all-community approach from all supporting county and city departments/agencies/organizations in the mitigation of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from injury, damage and suffering resulting from either a localized or widespread disaster. The EMA Director is the focal point for emergency management activities within the county. However, emergency management responsibilities extend beyond this office, to all city/county government departments/agencies, and ultimately, to each individual citizen.
2. It is important to note that a basic responsibility for emergency planning and response also lies with individuals and heads of households along with in-resident caregivers. When the situation exceeds the capabilities of individuals, families and volunteer organizations, a city/county emergency may exist. It is then the responsibility of government to undertake comprehensive emergency management activities to protect life and property from the effects of disasters. Local government has the primary responsibility for emergency management activities. When the emergency exceeds local government capability to respond, the Marshall County EMA Director will request mutual assistance from counties and/or state government; the federal government will aid the state when requested, if possible. In addition, private sector and voluntary organizations may be requested to provide aid and assistance.
3. While the routine functions of most city and county agencies are not of an emergency nature, pursuant to this plan, all officers and employees of the cities and county will plan to meet emergencies threatening life or property. This entails a day-to-day obligation to assess and report the impact of an emergency or disaster event. It requires monitoring conditions and analyzing information that could signal the onset of one of these events. Disasters will require city and county departments to perform extraordinary functions. In these situations, every attempt will be made to preserve organizational integrity and assign tasks, which parallel the norm. However, it may be necessary to draw on people's basic capacities and use them in areas of greatest need. Day-to-day functions that do not contribute directly to the emergency operation may be suspended for the duration of any emergency. Efforts that would normally be required to perform those functions may be re-

directed to accomplish emergency tasks.

4. The objectives of Marshall Counties Emergency Management Program are to protect public health and safety and preserve public and private property and protect the environment. During emergencies and disasters, Marshall County will endeavor to:
 - Save lives: treat the injured; warn the public to avoid further casualties; evacuate people from the effects of the emergency; shelter and care for those evacuated; save animals.
 - Protect Property from destruction; Take action to prevent further lose; Provide security for property, especially in evacuated areas; Prevent contamination to the environment.
 - Restore the Community to a New Normal: Restore essential utilities; Restore community infrastructure; Help restore economic basis of the community.

II. PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS.

A. PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS.

1. The following planning assumptions were considered in the development of this plan:
 - A disaster may occur with little or no warning and may escalate rapidly.
 - When a community experiences a disaster, its surviving citizens fall into three broad categories: those directly affected through personal or family injury or property damage; those indirectly affected by an interruption of the supply of basic needs; and those that are not personally impacted.
 - Disaster effects may extend beyond municipal and county boundaries.
 - Many areas of the state will experience casualties, property loss, disruption of normal life support system, and loss of regional, economic, physical, and social infrastructures.
 - Emergency response personnel may become casualties and experience damage to their homes and personal property. They may become themselves “victims” of the disaster as well.
 - Disasters differ in character by magnitude, severity, duration, onset, distribution, area affected, frequency, and probability, increasing the difficulty of plan development.
 - The Emergency Management command and control structure in Alabama is based on a bottom-up approach to response and recovery resource allocation: local municipal EOC to the county EOC/MACC, to the state EOC, and to the federal government, with each level exhausting its resources prior to elevation to the next level.
 - Disaster relief from agencies outside the county may take 72 hours or more to arrive.
 - Effective disaster preparedness requires continual public awareness, and education programs and assumes citizens will take appropriate action.
 - Everyone, head of household or care giver living within the county boundaries is encouraged to develop a family disaster plan and maintain the essential supplies to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 72 hours.
 - Businesses are expected to develop internal disaster plans that will integrate and be

- compatible with county resources and this plan.
- Evacuation and shelter strategies will be based on citizens cooperation, the best available shelter operations can be reduced those being evacuated, those operating shelters and the reception center.
- Convergent groups of responders, public, and outside resources may hinder the local effort. This includes traffic congestion, unsolicited supplies and donations, and extra strain on degraded lifelines and facilities.
- There may be competition among citizens and communities for scarce resources.
- The Marshall County Commission will declare a Local State of Emergency when requested by Chief Elected Officials, in consultation with the Marshall County EMA.
- State and federal resources and disaster funds may be available in emergency situations affecting Marshall County. Although this plan defines procedures for coordinating such assistance, it is essential for Marshall County to be prepared to carry out disaster response and short-term actions on an independent basis.
- Marshall County will continue to be exposed to the hazards noted as well as others that may develop in the future. Local government officials recognize their responsibilities for the safety and well-being of the public and will assume their responsibilities in the implementation of this plan.

Note: This plan is not intended to limit or restrict initiative, judgment, or independent action required to provide appropriate and effective emergency and disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

B. LIMITATIONS.

1. It is the policy of the Marshall County Commission and/or the EMA that no guarantee is implied by this plan. Because local government assets and systems may be damaged, destroyed, or overwhelmed, the Commission and EMA can only endeavor to make reasonable efforts to respond based on the situation, and information and resources available at the time.
2. Adequate funding is needed to support this plan and its programs. The performance of the assigned tasks and responsibilities will be dependent on appropriations and funding to support this plan. Lack of funding may degrade the services envisioned under this plan.

Note: The inability of departments/agencies to carry out their responsibilities as indicated in both the Basic Plan and Emergency Functions due to lack of staff and funding lower the threshold to issue an “emergency declaration”.

C. POLICIES.

1. It is the policy of the Marshall County Commission and the EMA to endeavor to prevent/mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from all natural, technological and civil/political disorders emergencies and disasters.
2. It is the policy of the Marshall County Commission and the EMA that appropriate action

will be taken in accordance with this plan to mitigate any harm to the citizens or property in the county.

3. It is the policy of the Marshall County Commission and the EMA that citizens will be encouraged to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 72 hours should an emergency or disaster occur.
4. It is the policy of the Marshall County Commission and EMA to make this plan a "user-friendly" document.
5. It is the policy of the Marshall County Commission and EMA that no services will be denied based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability. No special treatment will be extended to any person or group in an emergency or disaster over and above what would normally be expected in the way of local government services. Council activities pursuant to the Federal/State Agreement for major disaster recovery will be carried out in accordance with Title 44, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), and Section 205.16. - Non-discrimination. Federal disaster assistance is conditional on full compliance with this rule.

III. MCEOP ORGANIZATION AND FAMILY OF DOCUMENTS.

The MCEOP consists of the following sections:

- A. **SECTION 1** – The Basic Plan provides the structure and the processes for a national approach to domestic incident management and integrates the efforts of federal, state, local, tribal, private sector, and non-governmental organizations. The Basic Plan includes planning assumptions, concept of operations, incident management actions, roles and responsibilities, implementation guidance, authorities and references, and preparedness and plan maintenance.
- B. **SECTION 2** – The Prevention Section of the MCEOP identifies and describes actions to interdict, disrupt, pre-empt or avert a potential emergency/disaster.
- D. **SECTION 3** – The Preparedness Section of the MCEOP describes critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from emergencies/disasters.
- D. **SECTION 4** – The Response Section of the MCEOP identifies and describes the Critical Emergency Functions that needs to be performed during emergencies and disasters. Each one of the annexes describes the mission, policies, and responsibilities of primary and support agencies involved in the implementation of key incident management functions. Emergency Functional annexes include:
 1. Managing Emergency Operations.
 2. Situation Analysis and Reporting.
 3. Damage Assessment.
 4. Alert, Warning and Notification.

5. Emergency Public Information.
6. Communication and Information Technology.
7. Logistics Management.
8. Personnel Management.
9. Search and Rescue.
10. Public Works and Emergency Engineering Services.
11. Public Health Services.
12. Animal Control and Veterinary Services.
13. Fire Services.
14. Hospital and Emergency Medical Services.
15. Law Enforcement Services.
16. Fatality Management.
17. Population Protection and Evacuation.
18. Transportation.
19. Human Needs.
20. Donations Management.
21. Financial Management.
22. Debris Clearance.
23. Business and Industry Coordination

E. SECTION 5 – The Recovery Section of the MCEOP gives an overview of actions and the implementation of programs needed to help individuals and communities return to normal. Detailed recovery procedures are addressed in the Marshall County Recovery Plan. Emergency Functional annexes include:

1. Managing Recovery Operations.
2. Impact Assessment
3. Public Information; Community Relations.
4. Continuation of Government (Restoration of Local Government Services).
5. Re-Development (Planning and Community Development).
6. Economic Restoration and Development (Restoration of Business Community).
7. Reentry, Security.
8. Volunteers and Donations.
9. Unmet Needs.
10. Debris Management.
11. Health (Long Term).
12. Safety and Risk Management.
13. Repair and Restoration of Public Infrastructure and Services (Determining the Priorities).
14. Emergency Permits and Inspections.
15. Rebuilding, Construction, Repairs, Restoration (Developing Regulations).
16. Housing (Temporary/Replacement).
17. Human Services.
18. Individual Assistance.
19. Environmental Concerns.
20. Historic Concerns.
21. Mitigation.

- 22. Recovery Administration and Finance.
- 23. Mutual Aid.

- F. SECTION 6** – The Mitigation Section of the MCEOP gives an overview of the critical foundation across the emergency management spectrum from prevention through response and recovery. Detailed mitigation strategies and programs are addressed in the Marshall County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan which is a separate plan.
- G. SECTION 7** – Hazard-specific Incident Annexes describe the mission, policies and concept of operations, and responsibilities in specific incidents/events/hazards scenarios that require a unified, specialized response under the MCEOP. Incident Annexes include:
- 1. Hazardous Materials Incident
 - 2. Terrorism
 - a. Chemical
 - b. Biological
 - c. Radiological
 - d. Nuclear
 - e. Explosive
 - 3. Dam Failure
 - 4. Severe Weather
 - 5. Major Transportation Accidents (Road, Air, or Rail)
 - 6. Flooding
 - 7. Heat Emergency
 - 8. Pandemic Influenza (Not Included in this EOP, Separate Sensitive Document)
 - 9. Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and Dispensing Site Plan (Separate Sensitive Document)
 - 10. Earthquake
 - 11. Critical Infrastructure
 - 12. Hurricane
 - 13. Wildland Fires
 - 14. Winter Storms
 - 15. Water Shortage (Still in Planning Stages)
 - 16. Mass Casualty Response Plan (Separate Sensitive Document)
 - 17. Livestock and Poultry Disease Response Plan (Being Written with USDA/Farms Services)
 - 18. Catastrophic Event (Being Written)
 - 19. Civil Unrest (Being Rewritten)
 - 20. Radiological Emergency Plan
 - 21. Ingestion Pathway Emergency Response Plan (Separate Sensitive Document)

IV. PHASES OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.

Marshall County will meet its responsibility for protecting life and property from the effects of hazardous events by acting within each of five phases of emergency management: prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

A. PREVENTION.

1. Prevention involves actions to prohibit, disrupt, pre-empt or avert a potential emergency/disaster. This includes homeland security and law enforcement efforts to prevent terrorist attacks. Prevention includes actions to:
 - Collect, analyze, and apply intelligence and other information.
 - Conduct investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat.
 - Implement countermeasures such as inspections, surveillance, security and infrastructure protection.
 - Conduct tactical operations to interdict, preempt, or disrupt illegal activity; and to apprehend and prosecute the perpetrators.
 - Conduct public health surveillance and testing processes, immunizations, and isolation or quarantine for biological and agricultural threats; and
 - Deter, defeat, detect, deny access or entry, and take decisive action to eliminate threats.

B. PREPAREDNESS.

1. Preparedness encompasses the full range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from emergencies/disasters. Preparedness, in the context of an actual or potential incident, involves actions to enhance readiness and minimize impacts. This includes hazard mitigation measures to save lives and protect property from the impacts of terrorism, natural disasters and other events.
2. Preparedness consists of almost any pre-disaster action that will improve the safety or effectiveness of disaster response. Preparedness consists of those activities that have the potential to save lives, lessen property damage, and increase individual and community control over the subsequent disaster response. Departments/agencies within the county will remain vigilant to crises within their areas of responsibility. All departments/agencies shall prepare for disasters by developing a detailed Standard Operating Guide (SOG) to accomplish the extraordinary tasks necessary to integrate the department/agency's total capabilities into a city/county disaster response. Disaster SOGs must complement this plan. Departments/agencies shall ensure that their employees are trained to implement emergency and disaster procedures and instructions. Departments/agencies shall validate their level of emergency readiness through internal drills and participation in exercises conducted by EMA. Other government jurisdictions within and outside city/county boundaries shall also be encouraged to participate in these exercises. Exercise results shall be documented and used in a continuous planning effort to improve the county's emergen-

cy readiness posture. This joint, continuous planning endeavor shall culminate in revisions to this plan in the constant attempt to achieve a higher state of readiness for an emergency or disaster response.

3. Additional examples of preparedness activities include:

- Pre-deployment of response resources.
- Pre-establishment of incident command posts, mobilization centers, staging areas and other facilities.
- Evacuation and protective sheltering.
- Implementation of structural and non-structural mitigation measures.
- Use of remote sensing technology, risk assessment, predictive and plume modeling tools.
- Private sector implementation of business and continuity of operations plans.

C. RESPONSE.

1. Response includes activities to address the immediate and short-term actions to preserve life, property, environment, and the social, economic, and political structure of the community. The active use of resources to address the immediate and short-term effects of an emergency or disaster constitutes the response phase and is the focus of department/agency emergency and disaster standard operating guidelines, mutual-aid agreements, and this plan.
2. Emergency and disaster incident responses are designed to minimize suffering, loss of life, and property damage, environmental impact and speed recovery. They include initial damage assessment, emergency and short-term medical care, and the return of vital life-support systems to minimum operating conditions. When any department/agency within the county receives information about a potential emergency or disaster, it will conduct an initial assessment to determine the need to alert others and set in motion appropriate actions to reduce risk and potential impacts.
3. Emergency response activities will be as described in department/agency SOGs and may involve activating the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for coordination of support. Departments/agencies/organizations will strive to provide support to warning and emergency public information, saving lives and property, supplying basic human needs, maintaining or restoring essential services, and protecting vital resources and the environment. Responses to all emergencies and disasters will be guided by this plan.
4. Response activities may include providing:
 - Emergency shelter, housing, food, water and ice.
 - Search and rescue.
 - Emergency medical and mortuary services.
 - Public health and safety.
 - Decontamination following a chemical, biological or radiological attack.

- Removal of threats to the environment.
- Emergency restoration of critical services (electric power, water, sewer, telephone);
- Transportation, logistics, and other emergency services.
- Private sector provision of needed goods and services through contracts or donations; and
- Secure crime scene, investigation and collection of evidence.

D. RECOVERY.

1. Recovery involves actions, and the implementation of programs, needed to help individuals and communities return to normal. Recovery programs are designed to assist victims and their families, restore institutions to sustain economic growth and confidence, rebuild destroyed property, and reconstitute government operations and services. There is no definite point at which response ends, and recovery begins. However, most recovery efforts will occur after the emergency organization is deactivated and departments/agencies have returned to pre-disaster operation and will be integrated with day-to-day functions. Recovery programs include mitigation components designed to avoid damage from future incidents.
2. Recovery actions may include:
 - Repair and replacement of disaster damaged public facilities (roads, bridges, municipal buildings, schools, hospitals, qualified non-profits).
 - Debris cleanup and removal.
 - Temporary housing and other assistance for disaster victims and their families.
 - Low-interest loans to help individuals and businesses with long-term rebuilding and mitigation measures.
 - Restoration of public services (electric power, water, sewer, telephone).
 - Crisis counseling and mental health.
 - Disaster unemployment; and
 - Planning and programs for long-term economic stabilization, community recovery and mitigation.

E. MITIGATION.

1. Mitigation activities provide a critical foundation across the emergency management spectrum from prevention through response and recovery. Mitigation is any action(s) to prevent or lessen the effects of a disaster. These efforts will save the most lives, prevent damage and will reduce costs. County and city departments/agencies/organizations will enforce all public safety mandates, including land use management and building codes; and recommend legislation required to improve the emergency readiness of the county to governing bodies.
2. Examples of key mitigation activities include the following:
 - Ongoing public education and outreach activities designed to reduce loss of life and

- destruction of property.
- Structural retrofitting to deter or lessen the impact of incidents and reduce loss of life, destruction of property and impact on the environment.
- Code enforcement through such activities as zoning regulation, land management, and building codes.
- Encouraging citizens to purchase flood insurance and the buy-out of properties subjected to frequent flooding, etc.
- Buyout of properties impacted by repetitive flooding.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS.

A. ORGANIZATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN MARSHALL COUNTY.

1. Local Emergency Planning Committee
 - a. The Marshall County Commission's resolution date March 10, 2003, (pursuant to federal and state law) created the Marshall County Local Emergency Planning Committee. The local governing bodies within the county passed resolutions/ordinances joining in this organization, creating the Marshall County Local Emergency Planning Committee."
 - b. The LEPC is comprised of the Marshall County Commission Chairman, Mayor of each jurisdiction, 911 Director, Sheriff's Office and Hospital EMS Representative and is governed by a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. In the absence of the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson, the EMA Director has the responsibility to carry out Committee policy in all matters.
2. Emergency Management Organization.
 - a. The Marshall County Emergency Management Organization is comprised of all departments, agencies and organizations that have Emergency Function (EF) responsibilities.
 - b. The Table of Emergency Functions and Responsibilities (see Basic Plan Attachment 2) reflects the organizational structure of the Marshall County Emergency Management Organization and indicates the various activities which can support emergency operations.
3. The Table of Emergency Functions.
 - a. This table establishes the emergency management organization within the county. All officers and employees of local government are part of the emergency management. All appointments and work assignments in an emergency shall be documented within the EOC at time of arrival. All departments/agencies will submit documentation as to

staffing allocation, equipment distribution, and other emergency related needs as requested by the EMA Director.

4. Emergency Operations Center-Disaster Activation Response Team (EOC-DART)

- a. The EOC-DART is composed of members from various organizations considered essential to facilitate the process of evaluation and incident planning, and possible activation and implementation of emergency functions and resources. The EOC-DART will be the initial responders to the EOC during emergency operations and will make the determination if members of the EOC Management Team should be activated. The EOC-DART can also be used to support Incident Commanders in field situations without EOC activation.

5. Incident Command Team (Field Command).

- a. Includes the Incident Commander and those departments, agencies, and groups with primary emergency response actions. The incident commander is the person in charge at an incident site.
- b. This plan formalizes the County's Incident Command System, and Incident Command organization and structure.

6. Volunteer and Other Services.

- This group includes organized volunteer groups such as the Marshall County Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD's), businesses and Faith Based Organizations that have agreed to provide certain support for emergency operations.

B. EMERGENCY DECLARATION AND POWERS.

1. Emergency Proclamation. A local state of emergency will be proclaimed by issuance of an emergency declaration, the legal method, which authorizes extraordinary measures to meet emergencies and/or solve disaster problems. A declaration allows for the emergency use of resources, the bypassing of time-consuming requirements such as hearings and the competitive bid process, and activates extraordinary measures as outlined in this plan. A declaration is usually a prerequisite for state assistance and made at the onset of a disaster to allow the local government to do as much as possible to help itself.
 - a. Any declaration issued has the force of law and supersedes any conflicting provision of law during the period of the declared emergency.
 - b. In preparing a declaration, a description of the event and the necessary emergency authorizations need to be documented. The Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) should be informed, and a news release made as soon as possible when an emergency proclamation is signed. This emergency declaration shall terminate upon the issuance of a declaration or resolution declaring that an emergency no longer exists. The emergency declaration may be extended for additional periods of time by

resolution of the Marshall County Commission.

- c. The chief executive of the local government may declare a local "state of emergency."
 - d. County-Wide Disaster.
 - The Marshall County Commission may declare an emergency to expedite access to county-wide resources to support local government emergency needs. A disaster occurs when required response exceeds county-wide capabilities.
 - The Marshall County Commission may, in their declaration of emergency, request a gubernatorial declaration and state and federal assistance as per AEMA guidelines.
 - The Marshall County EMA Director ensures that all local government departments/agencies are notified of the emergency declaration to include conditions, length of time in effect, etc. The declaration will be published and recorded in accordance with AEMA guidelines.
2. Emergency Powers. In addition to any other emergency powers conferred upon the Marshall County Commission, they may:
- a. Suspend the provisions of any regulatory ordinance prescribing procedures for the conducting of county business, or the orders or regulations of any county department if compliance with the provisions of the statute, order or regulation would prevent or substantially impede or delay action necessary to cope with the disaster emergency. The County Commission working with the EMA Director may make recommendations to municipal governments for any suspensions of provisions.
 - b. Use all the resources of the county government and of each political subdivision of the county deemed reasonably necessary to cope with the disaster emergency.
 - c. Transfer personnel or alter the functions of county departments and offices for the purpose of performing or facilitating the performance of disaster emergency services with recommendations to cities to perform the same
 - d. Subject to any applicable requirements for compensation under Code of Alabama 31-9, commandeer or utilize any private property, except for all news media other than as specifically provided for in this chapter, if considered necessary to cope with the disaster emergency.
 - e. Direct and compel the relocation of all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area in the county if relocation is considered necessary for the preservation of life or for other disaster mitigation purposes.

- f. Prescribe routes, modes of transportation and destinations in connection with necessary relocation.
- g. Control ingress and egress from a disaster area; control the movement of persons and occupancy of premises.
- h. Suspend or limit the sale, dispensing or transportation of alcoholic beverages, firearms and ammunition, explosives and combustibles.
- i. Make provisions for the availability and use of temporary emergency housing.
- j. Impose a curfew upon all or any portion of the county thereby requiring all people in such designated and restricted curfew areas to remove themselves from public property, streets, alleys, sidewalks, thoroughfares, vehicle parking areas or other public places. Physicians, nurses and paramedical personnel performing essential medical services, utility personnel maintaining essential public services, firefighters, members of the news media upon showing of authorized press cards, emergency volunteers and county, city and state authorized law enforcement officers and personnel may be exempted from such curfews. The curfew may be applicable to any such hours of the day or night as the Marshall County Commission or Mayor in a specific jurisdiction deems necessary in the interest of public safety and welfare.
- k. Allocate, ration, or redistribute food, water, fuel, clothing, and other items deemed necessary.
- l. The Marshall County Commission may obtain vital supplies, equipment and other properties found lacking and needed for the protection of the health, life and property of the people, and bind the city or county for the fair value thereof.
- m. The Mayor or Marshall County Commission shall order emergency management forces to the aid of other communities when required in accordance with the statutes of the state and may request the state or a political subdivision of the state to send aid to the county in case of disaster when conditions in the county are beyond the control of local emergency management forces. All requests by municipalities for emergency management forces must be made to the Marshall County EMA Director to ensure accountability and reimbursement eligibility when it applies.

C. REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE.

1. If the situation is beyond local capability, a request for state assistance, and/or federal assistance shall be presented to the AEMA. Part of this proclamation includes the Marshall County Commission proclaiming part or all of Marshall County "a disaster area." Although there is no statutory basis for this designation, it is suggested by state and federal policies and fulfills public expectations that local leadership is responding to the situation.
2. Documentation describing disaster impacts is vital to the requests for state and federal assistance. The use of reports will vary according to the type of emergency being handled.
3. As a minimum a request for assistance should include the following information:
 - Type of disaster.
 - Time disaster occurred or threatened to occur.
 - Actions already taken.
 - Areas and number of people involved.
 - Estimates of loss of life and extent of damage.
 - Type and amount of assistance required.

D. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC).

1. On behalf of the Marshall County Commission, the EMA Director has responsibility for the entire emergency management organization. The Director makes all the routine decisions and advises the officials on courses of action available for major decisions. During emergency operations the Director is responsible for the proper functioning of the EOC. The Director also acts as a liaison with state and federal emergency agencies, and neighboring counties.
2. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is the central point for emergency management operations. The purpose of this central point is to ensure a harmonious response when the emergency involves more than one political entity and several response agencies. Coordination and supervision of all services will be through the EOC Director and Section Chiefs to provide for the most efficient management of resources.
3. During emergency situations, certain agencies will be required to relocate their center of control to the EOC. During large-scale emergencies, the EOC will become the seat of government for the duration of the crisis. However, in some situations it may be appropriate for some agencies to operate from an alternate site other than the EOC or their primary location.
4. All departments involved in disaster operations will be responsible for coordinating communications and accountability with their respective staff members and/or mutual aid resources. Accountability shall include location of deployed resources, hours worked, applicable expenditures, and emergency staff information.

E. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT.

1. Succession of Authority (Alabama Code 29-3-15/16).
 - a. A community's ability to respond to an emergency must not be restrained by the absence of an elected official or key department head. Therefore, to ensure continuity of government, each local government in the county will develop a Continuity of Government Succession List. This list will designate who will be the decision-maker if an elected official or department head is not available. At least three people should be listed and prioritized for each key position.
 - b. The line of succession for the County Commission is from the Chairman to the Vice-Chairman and then in order of their seniority on the Commission.
 - c. The City Councils will determine the line of succession to the mayors.
 - d. The senior EMA officer will succeed the EMA Director followed by officers in order of seniority.
 - e. Lines of succession to each department head will be determined by the appropriate county or city governing body or by the department's Standard Operating Guidelines.
2. Preservation of Records.
 - a. All county departments will develop plans and procedures to guarantee the preservation of vital public records, to include their reconstitution if necessary, during and after emergencies.
 - b. In general, vital public records include those considered essential to the continued operation of the County government; considered absolutely essential to the County's ability to fulfill its responsibilities to the public; required to protect the rights of individuals and the County; and essential to restoration of life support services. Documentation of actions taken during an emergency or disaster is a legal requirement.
 - c. Specific vital public records include vital statistics, deeds, corporation papers, operational plans, planning records, resource data, authorities, personnel and payroll rosters, succession lists, supply and equipment list, laws, charters and financial records.
 - d. All appointments and work assignments in an emergency shall be documented. Department Heads will submit a complete emergency operational plan as to staffing allocation, equipment distribution, and other emergency related needs as requested by the Emergency Management Director.

F. CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLAN (COOP).

1. COOP development is an effort within individual departments and agencies to ensure the continued performance of minimum essential functions during a wide range of potential emergencies. A COOP provides comprehensive procedures, and provisions for alternate facilities, personnel, resources, interoperable communications, and vital records and data-bases.
2. COOP establishes policy and guidance to ensure the execution of the mission-essential functions for each department and agency if an emergency threatens or incapacitates operations and the relocation of selected personnel and functions of any essential facility is required. Specifically, this COOP is designed to:
 - Ensure that departments are prepared to respond to emergencies, recover from them, and mitigate against their impacts.
 - Ensure that departments are prepared to provide critical services in an environment that is threatened, diminished, or incapacitated.
 - Provide a means of information coordination to the Marshall County and/or Municipal government to ensure uninterrupted communications within the internal organization of the government and externally to all identified critical customers.
 - Provide timely direction, control, and coordination to Marshall County and Municipal leadership and other critical customers upon notification of a credible threat or before, during, and after an event.
 - Establish and enact time-phased implementation procedures to activate various components of the "Plan" to provide sufficient operational capabilities relative to the event or threat to Marshall County Jurisdictions.
 - Facilitate the return to normal operating conditions as soon as practical, based on circumstances and the threat environment.
 - Ensure that Departmental COOP Plans are viable and operational and are compliant with all guidance documents.
 - Ensure that Departmental COOP Plans are fully capable of addressing all types of emergencies or "all hazards" and that mission-essential functions can continue with minimal or no disruption during emergencies.
3. The objectives of COOP planning are to ensure that a viable capability exists to continue essential government functions across a wide range of potential emergencies, specifically when the primary facility is either threatened or inaccessible. The objectives of this Plan include:
 - Ensuring the continuous performance of essential functions/operations during an emergency.
 - Protecting essential facilities, equipment, records, and other assets.
 - Reducing or mitigating disruptions to operations.
 - Reducing loss of life, minimizing damage and losses.
 - Identify and designate principals and support staff to be relocated.
 - Facilitate decision-making for execution of the Plan and the subsequent conduct of

operations.

- Achieve a timely and orderly recovery from the emergency and resumption of full service to all customers.
- Be maintained at a high-level of readiness.
- Be capable of implementation, both with and without warning.
- Be operational no later than 12 hours after activation.
- Maintain sustained operations for up to 30 days.
- Take maximum advantage of existing local, state or federal government infrastructures.

VI. LEVELS OF EMERGENCY ACTION, AND DEFINITIONS OF DISASTER SEVERITY.

A. LEVELS OF EMERGENCIES.

1. To aid in preparedness and coordination, the MCEOP establishes Levels of emergencies outlined in the table below. These Levels categorize the severity of an incident and describe general actions associated with each level as the magnitude of the event increases. The Levels are intended to provide guidelines to help detail planning efforts and provide a consistent approach for reporting and coordination during an event.
2. The Levels have a range of 1 to 5 and are scalable, recognizing that an incident may start out at a low-level event and escalate, or a significant event may immediately start off at a high level. Likewise, as an event tapers off, the level is lowered, and resources begin to demobilize. During an event, different teams or agencies may be at different levels. For example, during a Level 3 natural disaster, certain law enforcement special teams may remain at Level 1 because of the nature of the incident.
3. The MCEOP Activation Levels will be incorporated into Standard Operating Guidelines to outline specific actions. During an incident, the Incident Commander or EOC Manager will establish and modify the level in coordination with the incident or EOC staff. When established for an incident, the levels provide incident managers with a decision-making aid for activating and deploying resources.

LEVELS OF EMERGENCY

Level	Description	General Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No imminent terrorist • No severe weather pending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal day-to-day operations • Steady-state reporting and monitoring • Minor incidents controlled by first response agencies
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heightened terrorist threat • Localized incident • Potential Countywide Incident 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Localized incidents controlled by first response agencies • Continued monitoring • Use of department/agencies authorities

Level	Description	General Actions
		& resources to assess and deter threats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weather advisories • Alerting teams • Warning order • EOC activated / AEMA Notified • Pre-deployment of teams
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incident of Countywide significance managed at EOC level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County level monitoring and county-wide involvement • Countywide assets deployed • EOC activated / AEMA Notified • Severe Weather Watches and or Warnings
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imminent terrorist threat • County Incident • Potential Catastrophic Incident 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County level assets deployed • EOC activated • AEMA notified and briefed • State EOC fully staffed • Consideration of requesting of essential and extensive state assets
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catastrophic Incident 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployment of appropriate essential and extensively state and federal assets

B. DEFINITION OF DISASTER SEVERITY.

1. These categories were developed based on the county's capabilities. One of the “Categories of Severity” is chosen if the hazard results in one or more of the qualifiers found within the level chosen.
 - a. Negligible: Minor injuries, no deaths; Shutdown of critical facilities for less than 3 days; Less than 10% property damage; No effect on economy; No effect on ecological system; No effect on response system.
 - b. Limited: Less than 8 injuries/deaths; Shutdown of critical facilities for 3-5 days; 10-25% property damage; Temporary effect on economy; Temporary/minimal effects on ecological systems; No effect on response system.
 - c. Critical: 8-50 injuries/deaths; Shutdown of critical facilities for 6-30 days; 25-50% property damage; Short-term effect on economy; Short term effects on ecological systems; Temporarily (24-48 hours) overwhelms response resources.
 - d. Catastrophic: More than 50 injuries/deaths; Complete shutdown of critical facilities

for 30 days or more; More than 50% property damage; Severe long-term effects on economy; Severe effects on ecological systems; Severely affects state/local/private sectors capabilities to begin or sustain recovery activities; Overwhelms local and state response resources.

VII. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

A. PREPAREDNESS RESPONSIBILITIES. (All Marshall County and Municipal Departments)

1. Many county and municipal departments may have emergency-related functions in addition to their normal daily functions. Each department director is responsible for the development and maintenance of their respective emergency management plan and procedures for each division and section, and performing such functions as may be required to effectively respond to and recover from any disaster affecting their respective areas of responsibility. Specifically, the following common responsibilities are assigned to each department listed in this plan:
 - Develop and maintain an emergency plan for their department.
 - Develop and maintain a "Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)" for their department.
 - Create and maintain a department "Calling Tree" for notification.
 - Establish department and individual responsibilities (as indicated in this plan); identify emergency tasks.
 - Work with other departments to enhance cooperation and coordination and eliminate redundancy. Departments having shared responsibilities should work to complement each other.
 - Establish education and training programs so that each division, section, and employee will know exactly where, when and how to respond.
 - Develop site specific plans for department facilities as necessary.
 - Provide for the security and protection of departmental records and equipment.
 - Ensure that employee job descriptions reflect their emergency duties.
 - Train staff to perform emergency duties/tasks as outlined in the MCEOP or individual department plans.
 - Identify, categorize and inventory all available department resources.
 - Develop procedures for mobilizing and employing additional resources.
 - Ensure communication capabilities with the EOC.
 - Fill positions in the emergency organization as requested by the EMA Director acting in accordance with this plan.
 - Prepare to provide internal logistical support to department operations during the initial emergency response phase.
 - Coordinate, where appropriate, to ensure that each building or facility is prepared and secured before a disaster strikes.

B. RESPONSE RESPONSIBILITIES. (All Marshall County and Municipal Departments.)

1. The following common responsibilities are assigned to each department listed in this plan.
 - Upon receipt of an alert or warning, initiate notification actions to employees on assigned response duties.
 - As appropriate:
 - Suspend or curtail normal business activities.
 - Recall essential off-duty employees.
 - Send non-critical employees' home.
 - Secure and evacuate departmental facilities.
 - As requested, augment the EOC's effort to warn the public through use of vehicles equipped with public address systems, sirens, employees going from door to door, etc.
 - Keep the EOC informed of field activities and maintain a communications link to the EOC.
 - Activate a control center to support and facilitate department response activities, maintain events log, and report information to the EOC.
 - Report damages and status of critical facilities to the EOC.
 - If appropriate or requested, send a representative to the EOC.
 - During response and recovery phases of an incident, Department Directors may be assigned by EOC Management to serve in an Emergency Operations Center function not otherwise assigned during normal everyday operation to work in the EOC have the authority to commit resources and set policies.
 - Coordinate with the EOC to establish protocols for interfacing with county, state, and/or federal responders.
 - Coordinate with the EOC Public Information Officer or Director before releasing information to the media.
 - Submit reports to the EOC detailing departmental emergency expenditures and obligations.
2. Additionally, Department Directors will:
 - Be responsible for the call back of all personnel they intend to use in both their routine and assigned functions and directing such personnel where to report and their respective assignment.
 - Provide a list of all non-essential personnel (not involved in any response or recovery activity) to the Personnel Department who will compile an "employee pool" list. (These employees may be assigned work or duties as required by the response efforts.)
 - Be responsible for the safety of records, files and equipment assigned to their respective department/ divisions.
 - Ensure that records are maintained upon the announcement of a "Watch" or following a major disaster. These records are normally comprised of time sheets, supplies and equipment, and include expenses over and above normal operating expenses that are directly related to an incident or when the "Watch" is announced.
 - Ensure that activity logs are initiated as a matter of record upon announcement of a "Watch" or following a major disaster.

- Coordinate, where appropriate, with Public Works, Buildings and Facilities, to ensure that each of their buildings is secure before a disaster strikes.
- Assign a safety coordinator for each division or section of their respective department.

VIII. PREPAREDNESS AND PLAN MAINTENANCE.

Marshall County EMA maintains the MCEOP in coordination with all entities within the county. The MCEOP is updated periodically as required to incorporate new directives, legislative changes, and procedural changes based on lessons learned from exercises and actual events.

IX. AUTHORITIES, GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS, MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS.

A. AUTHORITIES.

1. Federal.
 - Public Law (P.L.) 93-288, Disaster Relief Act of 1974, as amended by P.L. 100-707 ("The Stafford Act").
 - Emergency Management and Assistance, 44 U.S. Code 2.1 (Oct. 1, 1980).
 - P.L. 99-499, Title III, Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know, Oct. 17, 1986.
2. State.
 - Public Law (P.L.) 31-9, Act 47, Alabama Civil Defense Act of 1955.
 - P.L. 29-3, Act 875, Emergency Interim Succession Act, 1961.
 - P.L. 83-612, Alabama Department of Civil Defense changed to Alabama Emergency Management Agency, 1983.
 - Alabama Executive Order Number 4, March 6, 1987.
 - Alabama Executive Order Number 15, February 15, 1994
 - Alabama Executive Order Number 40, July 23, 1985.
3. Local.
 - Marshall County Commission Resolution of March 10, 2003 (Revised from the 1973 Resolution)

B. GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS.

1. FEMA CPG 101 Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans
2. National Response Framework

C. AGREEMENTS AND UNDERSTANDINGS.

1. Marshall County Local Emergency Planning Committee
2. County wide MOU with Municipalities
3. County Wide MOU with the Volunteer Fire Association and Rescue Squads

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Attachment 1
HAZARD AND SITUATION SUMMARY

A. HAZARDS.

1. Emergencies and disasters have occurred in Marshall County and will occur again. The Potential Hazards List provides information on potential hazards threatening Marshall County. Hazard Analysis, Vulnerability assessments and Risk assessments are also found in the Marshall County Multi-Jurisdictions Mitigation Plan.
2. Due to its location and geographic features, Marshall County is vulnerable to the damaging effects of certain hazards that include, but are not limited to:

HAZARDS LIST		
Natural Hazards	Technological Hazards	Human (Civil/Political Disorder)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold, Extreme • Cold, Freeze • Drought • Epidemic, Animal • Epidemic, Human • Fire Brush/Forest • Fire, Rural/Urban • Flood, Flash • Flood, Riverine/ Canals/ Detention Basins • Flood, Urban • Heat, Extreme • Hurricane-Inland Tropical Depressions • Land shift, Erosion • Landslide, Subsidence (Sink Holes) • Landslide/Mudslide • Search and Rescue Emergency- Aircraft, Marine, Medical • Storm, Blizzard/Snow • Storm, Ice/Hail • Storm, Severe Thunder/ Lightning/ Hail • Storm, Windstorm • Tornado • Water Shortage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Pollution • Biological • Building/Structure Collapse • Business Interruption • Chemical- non-stockpile • Dam/Levee Failure • Energy Emergency • Fire, Explosion • Fuel/Resource Shortage • Hazardous Material Accident, Fixed Facility • Hazardous Material Accident, Transportation • Mines, Abandoned Underground • Mines, Subsurface/Surface - Gravel Pits • Power/Utility Outage • Radiological, Transportation • Transportation Accident, Aircraft • Transportation Accident, Motor Vehicle • Transportation Accident, Railroad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil/Political Unrest • Economic Emergency • Financial Collapse • Hostage Situation • Riot/Demonstration/Violent Protest/Illegal Assembly • Strike • Terrorism: Bomb Blast, Ecological, Economic, Incendiary, Prolonged/Multiple Hostage Situation, Sabotage • Terrorism, WMD: Biological, Chemical, Nuclear • War: Declared/Undeclared Government Directive. • Workplace Violence

Note: A list of facilities that use, produce, and store extremely hazardous substances and hazardous materials is on file at the Marshall County Emergency Management Agency.

3. Disaster response efforts are often hampered by equipment and facility damage, communication failures, inclement weather, responder injury and death, and many other limiting factors.

In the event of an emergency or disaster that exceeds the available resources, the public should expect and be prepared for a minimum 72-hour delay for emergency response services.

B. COMMUNITY PROFILE.

1. Marshall County was created by the Alabama Territorial Legislature in 1819 and is older than the State of Alabama. The land was ceded in 1814 from the Creek Indian Nation in compliance with the Treaty of Fort Jackson. The area was settled by soldiers who fought in Alabama with Andrew Jackson in the Creek War of 1813-1814.
2. The county was named for John Marshall, Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835.
3. Marshall County, population 97,612 (Census 2020), is in rural northeast Alabama. Marshall County is not part of any surrounding metropolitan area. Marshall County is located approximately 65 miles from Birmingham, Alabama; 180 miles from Montgomery, Alabama; 35 miles from Huntsville, Alabama; 330 miles from Mobile, Alabama; 98 miles from Chattanooga, Tennessee; and 150 miles from Atlanta, Georgia.
4. Marshall County has an area of approximately 623 square miles with 57 square miles covered by Lake Guntersville Reservoir, created by the TVA Dam system including the Guntersville Dam located in the county on the Tennessee River. 173,800 acres of Marshall County's 363,700 acres are forestland.
5. Marshall County is comprised of the following eight incorporated communities: City of Albertville, City of Arab, City of Boaz, City of Guntersville, Town of Douglas, Town of Grant, Town of Cherokee, and the Town of Union Grove.
6. Marshall County's annual climate averages are: Average Winter Temperature 43.8 F and Average Winter Minimum Temperature 33 F. Average Summer Temperature 78.2 F and Average Summer Maximum Temperature 89.5 F. Total Annual Precipitation is 68.5 inches and Average Season Snowfall is 2 inches.
7. Marshall County is home to Snead State Community College located in the City of Boaz and the Marshall County Technical School located in Guntersville.
8. Poultry processing is the largest industry in Marshall County. Marshall Medical Centers is the largest employer behind the five Boards of Education.
9. There are no Mass Transit facilities in Marshall County.

C. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SUPPORT FACILITIES.

1. Essential Services, Critical Facilities and Infrastructure

- The chart on the following page provides a "situation summary" of Marshall County's essential services, infrastructure and critical facilities that are representative of what may be affected due to disasters. These are defined as follows:
 - **Essential Services:** Community services normally provided daily. Each of these services is dependent upon certain critical facilities and infrastructure. Marshall County will also strive to provide these services during disasters through activation of Emergency Functions (EFs) as appropriate.
 - **Critical Facilities:** Specific Marshall County structures or facilities that support the delivery of essential services.

Critical facilities can also be defined as locations having large concentrations of people either temporarily or permanently such as high occupancy structures, special population facilities, or special community events. These situations can cause an "overload" on the community's essential services (special events themselves could be considered a hazard) or cause an immediate focusing of essential services when disaster occurs (response to schools, day care centers, hospitals, etc.). We have included community support to these situations as "essential service."

A Critical Facilities Inventory database system is maintained by Marshall County EMA.

- **Infrastructure:** "Systems" upon which critical facilities, and hence, essential services are dependent.

Essential Services, Infrastructure & Critical Facilities	
Essential Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alert and Warning • Commodities Distribution • Communications • Community EOC • Continuity of Government Services • Emergency Medical Services • Emergency Public Information • Energy/Utilities • Financial Services • Fire • Food/Water Distribution • Health • Law Enforcement • Mass Care • Public Works/Engineering • Search and Rescue • Shelter • Support to Special Populations or High 	Critical Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Airports (Albertville-Guntersville) • Guntersville Dam • Banks/ATMs/Credit Unions • Bridges/State Highway Overpasses • Bridges Over Tennessee River • Business Establishments • Campgrounds/Parks/Recreation Areas • Guntersville State Park • Computer Data Bases/Service Centers • Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Room/Building • Fire Stations/Dispatch Centers • Food Storage Facilities • Fuel Storage • Government Offices • Apartment Complexes • Assisted Living Complexes • Hospital/Nursing Homes/ Clinics/ Phar-

Essential Services, Infrastructure & Critical Facilities	
Occupancy Structures, Facilities, Special Events	macies/Ambulance Stations
• Transportation	• Hotels/Motels/Resort Complexes
Infrastructure	• Kitchens
• Airports	• Light Industry
• Computer Systems	• Microwave Towers/Satellite Ground Terminals
• Electrical	• Police Station/Jail/Dispatch Center
• Natural Gas	• Power Plant/Sub Stations
• Port of Guntersville	• Railroad Yards
• Radio/TV/Print Media	• Restaurants
• Railroad	• Schools
• Roads/Highways	• Shopping Malls
• Telephone	• Stadiums
• Water/Sewer	• Telephone Switching/Relay Stations
• Waterways, Navigable	• Theaters
	• TV/Radio Stations
	• Warehouse/Equipment Storage Complexes
	• Wastewater/Sewage Treatment Facilities
	• Water Treatment Facilities/Pumping Stations

D. MARSHALL COUNTY HAZARDS SUMMARY.

1. Emergency Conditions.

- a. A major natural, technological or terrorism-related emergency will overwhelm the capabilities of Marshall County to provide prompt and effective emergency response and emergency short-term recovery measures. Transportation infrastructure may be damaged and local transportation services could be disrupted. There is the potential for widespread damage to commercial telecommunications facilities which would impair the ability of governmental response and emergency response agencies to communicate.
- b. Homes, public buildings, and other critical facilities and equipment may be destroyed or severely damaged. Debris may make streets and highways impassable. The movement of emergency supplies and resources could be seriously impeded. Public utilities may be damaged and either fully or partially inoperable. Some county and municipal emergency personnel could be victims of the emergency, preventing them from performing their assigned emergency duties. Numerous separate hazardous conditions and other emergencies because of the major event can be anticipated.
- c. Thousands of emergency victims may be forced from their homes and large numbers of injured and dead could be expected. Many victims will be in life-threatening situations requiring immediate rescue and medical care. There could be shortages of a wide variety of supplies necessary for emergency survival. Hospitals, nursing homes, pharmacies and other health/medical facilities may be severely damaged or destroyed. Medical and health care facilities that remain in operation will be overwhelmed by the number of victims requiring medical attention. Medical supplies and equipment will be in short supply.

- d. Damage to fixed facilities which generate, produce, use, store or dispose of hazardous materials could result in the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Food processing and distribution capabilities may be severely damaged or destroyed. There could be minimal to total disruption of energy sources and prolonged electric power failure.
2. Vulnerability Analysis.
 - a. Marshall County has a population of approximately 98,000 and could easily experience a loss of life and property of catastrophic proportion from a series of potential hazards.
 - b. The county has over 30 buildings valued at over Forty Million Dollars. All of the buildings are at risk for natural hazards damages.
 3. Marshall County is vulnerable to a host of hazards. The chart on the following page is a synopsis of the more typical ones.

Important Note: Past occurrences are not reliable indicators of future events.

Hazard Summary	
Hazard	Analysis
Flooding	<p>Flooding is defined as the accumulation of water within a water body and the overflow of excess water onto adjacent floodplain lands. The floodplain is the land adjoining the channel or a river, stream, ocean, lake, or other watercourse or water body that is susceptible to flooding. Riverine flooding occurs when the water overtops the streams banks and encroaches into the flood plain. Flooding in large rivers usually results from large-scale weather systems that generate prolonged rainfall over wide areas. In addition to a "riverine" flood, "flash flood" is a term widely used by flood experts and the general population. However, there is no single definition and method to distinguish flash flooding from riverine and other floods. Small rivers and streams are susceptible to flooding from more localized weather systems that cause intense rainfall over small areas and often are considered flash floods.</p> <p>Marshall County has experienced flood damage over the past 25 years. Most flooding is of a flash flood type, along streams and tributaries. The Bottom Lands along the Paint Rock River in District 2 are subject to flood anytime the Paint Rock River rises above flood stage.</p> <p>Marshall County contains the following drainage basins, all subject to flooding: Most of the County drains into the Tennessee River. The County's most southern portion drains to the southwest to the branches of the Locust Fork or the Black Warrior River. The County is divided into three physiographic divisions – sandstone plateaus, rough mountain slopes, and limestone valleys. From the southwest to the northeast across the center of the County is an anticlinal valley. It is approximately 3 miles wide. From the northeast through the valley to Guntersville is the Tennessee River. The river turns northwestward from Guntersville and flows through a valley cut by its flow. The anticlinal valley and the Tennessee River Valley cut the County into three segments.</p>

Hazard Summary	
Hazard	Analysis
Tornadoes	<p>A tornado is a violent windstorm characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud. It is spawned by a thunderstorm (or hurricane) and produced when cool air overrides a layer of warm air, forcing the warm air to rise rapidly. Tornado season is generally March through August, although tornadoes can occur at any time of year. They tend to occur in the afternoons and evenings. Over 80 percent of all tornadoes strike between noon and midnight.</p> <p>From 1884 until 1950 there were 9 Recorded Tornadoes affecting Marshall County. From 1950 until 2012 there have been 58 Tornadoes recorded affecting Marshall County to include 15 that occurred in one day during the Historic Outbreak of April 27, 2011.</p> <p>The damage from a tornado is a result of the high wind velocity and wind-blown debris. Tornado winds can approach speeds of 300 miles per hour, travel distances over 100 miles and reach heights over 60,000 feet above ground. The potential damage resulting from a tornado is directly correlated to the strength of the tornado and is quantified utilizing the Enhance Fujita Tornado Scale. The Enhanced Fujita Scale assigns numerical values based on wind speeds and categorizes tornadoes from 0-5. The letter "EF" often precedes the numerical value.</p> <p>Due to the potential for land falling hurricanes and the number of thunderstorms that Marshall County experiences per year, there is a significant risk of tornados. The risk of hurricanes and severe thunderstorms are addressed separately.</p> <p>Based on the information available from NOAA, Marshall County can expect a tornado once every year with expected damage of 3 per year. Although one can extract data and probability of occurrence from historical information, the risk of a tornado occurring and the location of damage are random.</p>
Severe Storms	<p>A severe thunderstorm is a storm containing damaging winds of 58 miles per hour or more, or hail that measures one inch in diameter or greater. All severe thunderstorms contain lightning. Another byproduct of severe thunderstorms is straight-line winds or downburst winds. These winds can be strong and concentrated. Falling rain and sinking air create strong winds. That can reach speeds of 125 mph.</p> <p>Except for tornadoes and flooding which are caused by severe thunderstorms, thunderstorms can cause considerable damage from both straight-line winds and lightning.</p> <p>Both lightning and high winds can cause loss of life and considerable property damage.</p> <p>Although one can extract data and probability of occurrence from historical information, the risk of a severe storm occurring and the location of damage are random.</p>
Winter Storms/Freezes	<p>Winter storms and blizzards originate as mid-latitude depressions or cyclonic weather systems, sometimes following the meandering path of the jet stream. A blizzard combines heavy snowfall, high winds, extreme cold, and ice storms.</p>

Hazard Summary	
Hazard	Analysis
	<p>The origins of the weather patterns that cause severe winter storms are primarily from four sources in the continental United States. Winter storms in the southeast region are usually a result of Canadian and Arctic cold fronts from the north and Midwestern states combining with tropical cyclonic weather systems in the Gulf of Mexico.</p> <p>Risks associated with winter storms are a direct correlation to the strength of the storm and the region's ability to handle a storm. The risks include loss of life due to cold and disruption of transportation routes, loss of electricity for extended periods, and impact on agriculture.</p> <p>Based on historical information, the county can expect an average of one winter storm event per year. Although one can extract data and probability of occurrence from historical information, the risk of a winter storm occurring and the location of damage are random.</p>
Wildfires	<p>There are four categories of wildfires that are experienced throughout the United States, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wild land fires, • interface or intermix fires, • firestorms, prescribed fires, and • prescribed fires and prescribed natural fires. <p>The two primary categories experienced in Marshall County are wild land fires and interface or intermix. Wild land fires are fueled exclusively by natural vegetation. Interface or intermix fires are fueled by both vegetation and urban development.</p> <p>Three factors have a direct impact on wildfire formation including topography, fuel, and weather. Topography can have a powerful influence on wildfire behavior; slope, canyons, gulches, and hollers can greatly increase the rate of spread.</p> <p>Wildfires can cause considerable damage and loss of life, especially in areas where there is an interface between wild land and urban development.</p> <p>The topography of Marshall County does influence the spread of wildfires, and the county has multiple fuel sources and is prone to drought and thunderstorms; therefore, wildfires are a risk for Marshall County. This is especially the case as commuters move into more rural areas of the county.</p> <p>Based on historical information, the county can expect an average of 1 significant wildfire per year. Although one can extract data and probability of occurrence from historical information, the risk of a wildfire occurring and the location of damage appears to be random.</p>
Hurricanes	<p>A "tropical cyclone" is a generic term for a cyclonic, low-pressure system over tropical or sub-tropical waters. Tropical cyclones with maximum sustained winds of less than</p>

Hazard Summary	
Hazard	Analysis
	<p>39 mph are called tropical depressions. A tropical storm is a cyclone with maximum sustained winds greater than 39 mph but less than 74 mph and a tropical storm with winds that have reached a constant speed of 74 miles per hour or more becomes a hurricane.</p> <p>Since 1994, hurricanes/tropical storms have affected the state of Alabama. Although not all had an impact on Marshall County, it is difficult to estimate how many severe thunderstorms and tornadoes may have been caused by a tropical storm or hurricane.</p> <p>Since Marshall County is inland, the primary risk is the impact of high winds, the formation of tornados and flooding.</p> <p>Hurricanes and tropical storms have a county-wide impact.</p> <p>Based on historical information, Marshall County can expect some impact from at least one hurricane/tropical storm per year.</p>
Droughts/ Heat Wave	<p>Temperatures that hover 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for the region and last for several weeks are defined as extreme heat. Humid or muggy conditions occur when a "dome" of high atmospheric pressure traps hazy, damp air near the ground. The combination of high temperatures and humid conditions increases the level of discomfort and the potential for danger to humans. Droughts occur when a long period passes without any substantial rainfall. A heat wave combined with a drought is a very dangerous situation.</p> <p>Marshall County falls in an area that may experience humid, short droughts and extreme summer heat. The impact affects electric and water service providers. An indirect impact is the formation of sinkholes within areas of Marshall County that have karsts geology.</p> <p>Droughts and heat waves have a county-wide impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The human risks associated with extreme heat include heatstroke, heat exhaustion, heat syncope, heat cramps. • Risks associated with drought include effects to the water supply, impact on agriculture, increase in wildfires, negative impact on hydroelectric power, and other activities dependent upon water such as recreation and navigation. <p>Based on historical information, Marshall County can expect four to five excessive heat events per year and one drought every two to three years.</p>

Landslides	<p>A "landslide" is the downward and outward movement of slope-forming materials acting under the force of gravity. The term covers a broad category of events, including mudflows, mudslides, debris flows, and rock falls, rockslides, debris avalanches, debris slides and earth flows. Landslides may consist of natural rock, soil, artificial fill, or combinations of these materials. Landslides are classified by type of movement, including slides, flows, lateral spreads, and falls and topples.</p> <p>Most landslides in the county result in the collapse of a constructed slope during a rain event.</p> <p>The topography and geology of Marshall County is susceptible to the effects of landslides. The areas prone to landslides include hilly and mountainous terrain especially in areas experiencing new development. Slope failures primarily occur due to improper excavation and failure to protect recently excavated slopes.</p>
Land Subsidence	<p>Land subsidence, the loss of surface elevation due to the removal of subsurface support, ranges from broad, regional lowering of the land surface to localized collapse. The primary cause of land subsidence is a direct result of human activity often in areas of karsts geology. The human activities that may trigger subsidence include mining and the withdrawal of groundwater and/or petroleum. The most dramatic form of subsidence is the collapse of surface material into underground voids.</p> <p>Marshall County is in a part of the state where geology is highly susceptible to subsidence. Those that do occur are primarily due to the limestone formations or from underground mines.</p> <p>The probability of future occurrences cannot be predicted due to a lack of historical data. These are random events, which can be influenced by drought conditions.</p>
Earthquakes	<p>An earthquake is a sudden, rapid shaking of the earth caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the earth's surface. Numerous earthquakes have been felt in the county that originated elsewhere.</p> <p>Marshall County is in an area with a probability of exceeding between 5 and 6% in 50 years, rated as slightly to moderate risk. Although the risk of a significant earthquake occurring in Marshall County is small, the impact of a large regional earthquake could be significant. The entire county is equally at risk.</p> <p>Based on historical information, the county can expect an earthquake event an average of every 18 years. Although one can extract data and probability of occurrence from historical information, the risk of an earthquake occurring and the location of damage are random. The last major earthquake affecting Marshall County was April 29, 2003, and was a 4.9 magnitude which occurred in DeKalb County, Alabama.</p>
Dam/Levee Failures	<p>Dam failures are potentially the worst flooding events. Dam failure is usually the result of neglect, poor design, or structural damage caused by a major event such as an earthquake or extreme flooding. When a dam fails, water is suddenly let loose at tremendous volumes and flow rates, causing downstream destruction. The risks associated with dam-levee failure are the same as those risks associated with flooding and it is confined to a well-defined area. The probability of future occurrences cannot be predicted due to a lack of data. These are random events.</p>

	<p>Marshall County is Home to Guntersville Dam built by TVA beginning in 1935 with an opening date of January 17, 1939.</p> <p>The U.S. Corps of Engineers has mapped all potential inundation areas, and these maps are maintained at Marshall County EMA.</p>
Hazardous Materials: Transportation and Fixed Sites	<p>Hazardous materials accidents can occur anywhere, there is a road, rail line, pipeline, or fixed facility storing hazardous materials. Virtually the entire county is at risk to an unpredictable accident of some type. Most accidents are small spills and leaks, but some result in injuries, property damage, environmental contamination, and other consequences. These materials can be poisonous, corrosive, flammable, radioactive, or pose other hazards.</p> <p>Emergencies involving hazardous materials can be expected to range from a minor accident with no off-site effects to a major accident that may result in an off-site release of hazardous or toxic materials.</p> <p>Large volumes of hazardous materials are transported to the country and through the county by railroad, highway, air, water, and pipeline daily. Within Marshall County, there are a number of both public and private fixed facilities which produce or use hazardous materials. Coordinating procedures for hazardous material response are found within Marshall County's MCEOP for Hazardous Materials (a plan for use in responding to and recovering from the release of hazardous or toxic materials). This plan addresses the range of potential emergency situations and the appropriate measures to be implemented to minimize exposure through inhalation, ingestion, or direct exposure.</p> <p>Mishandling and improper disposal or storage of medical wastes and low-level radioactive products from medical use are also a hazard to Marshall County.</p> <p>There is an average of six incidents involving hazardous materials each year in Marshall County.</p> <p>Significant events have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None that were not responded to and resolved on a local basis.

Attachment 2

**MARSHALL COUNTY EMERGENCY FUNCTIONS CROSSWALK TO STATE AND
FEDERAL EMERGENCY FUNCTIONS**

Marshall County Emergency Functions (EFs)	State of Alabama Support	Federal Support as per National Response Plan, May 2006
EF 1: Managing Emergency Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Plan: Direction and Control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annex A: National Operations Center (NOC) Standard Operating Procedures Annex B: Interagency Advisory Council (IAC) Standard Operating Procedures Annex C: Joint Field Office (JFO) Standard Operating Procedures
EF 2: Situation Analysis & Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #5: Emergency Management Agency (Planning Section) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #5 – Information and Planning
EF 3: Damage Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #3: Public Works & Engineering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #3 – Infrastructure (Damage Assessment)
EF 4: Alert, Warning, Notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #2: Communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #2 – Information Technology and Telecommunications
EF 5: Emergency Public Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #15: External Affairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #15 – Emergency Public Information and External Communications Annex I: Public Affairs Annex J: Community Relations
EF 6: Communication & Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #2: Communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #2 – Information Technology and Telecommunications
EF 7: Logistics Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #7: Logistics Management and Resource Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #7 – Resource Support and Logistics Management Annex F: Private Sector Coordination Annex H: Logistics Management
EF 8: Personnel Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #15: External Affairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #7 – Resource Support and Logistics Management. Annex E: Worker Safety and Health
EF 9: Search & Rescue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #9: Search and Rescue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #9 – Urban Search and Rescue
EF 10: Public Works, Emergency Engineering Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #3: Public Works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #3 – Infrastructure ESF #12 – Energy
EF 11: Public Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #8: Health and Medical Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical Services
EF 12: Animal Control & Veterinary Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #11: Agriculture and Natural Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical Services
EF 13: Fire Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #4: Fire Fighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #4 – Firefighting
EF 14: Hospital & Emergency Medical Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #8: Public Health and Medical Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical Services

Marshall County Emergency Functions (EFs)	State of Alabama Support	Federal Support as per National Response Plan, May 2006
EF 15: Law Enforcement Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #13: Public Safety and Security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #13 – Law Enforcement
EF 16: Fatality Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #8: Public Health and Medical Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical Services
EF 17: Population Protection & Evacuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #2: Communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #2 – Information Technology and Telecommunications Annex A: National Operations Center (NOC) Standard Operating Procedures
EF 18: Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #1: Transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #1 – Transportation
EF 19: Human Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #6: Mass Care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #6 – Mass Care, Housing and Human Services ESF #11 – Food and Agriculture
EF 20: Donations Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #14: Long-Term Community Recovery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annex L: Donations Management
EF 21: Financial Management	Basic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annex G: Financial Management
EF 22: Debris Clearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #3: Public Works and Engineering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #3 – Infrastructure
EF 23: Business & Industry Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESF #7: Logistics Management and Resource Support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annex F: Private Sector Coordination

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