San Francisco Bay Area

Regional Emergency Coordination Plan

RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan

Prepared by

Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Cities of Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose
Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Mateo
Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma

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Table of Contents

Foreword iii
Acknowledgments v
Record of Changes vii
Section 1 – Introduction 1-1
Purpose 1-1
Objectives 1-1
Scope and Applicability 1-2
Authorities, Requirements, and Regulations 1-4
Plan Development and Maintenance 1-5
Section 2 – Planning Assumptions and Considerations 2-1
The Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System 2-1
The Coroner Mutual Aid System 2-3
Section 3 – Law Enforcement Roles and Responsibilities 3-1
Operational Area Level 3-1
Regional Level 3-3
State Level 3-5
Federal Level 3-6
Section 4 – Coroner/Medical Examiner Roles and Responsibilities 4-1
Operational Area Level 4-1
Regional Level 4-3
State Level 4-4
Federal Level 4-4
Section 5 – Concept of Operations 5-1
Activation 5-1
Coordination of Resources 5-2
Regional Coordination and Communication 5-7
Terrorism Threat Information Sharing 5-8
Regional Decision-Making 5-9

Appendix A – List of Acronyms

Appendix B – Procedure for REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Conference Call

Appendix C – Coroner/Medical Examiner Supplies and Equipment

Foreword

The San Francisco Bay Area is highly vulnerable to both natural hazards and human-caused disasters, such as earthquakes, fires, industrial accidents, and terrorist incidents. Because the Bay Area is home to nearly seven million residents, major components of the U.S. economy, and vital air, sea, and ground transportation links, the effects of a significant disaster in the Bay Area would extend throughout the State of California and across the nation. Given this vulnerability, the State of California and local governments throughout the Bay Area have made significant investments in the planning and resources necessary to respond to natural and human-caused emergencies and disasters. Such events, however, will likely exceed the emergency response capabilities of individual jurisdictions in the Bay Area, and a multijurisdictional regional response will be necessary. Moreover, the nationwide effort to improve preparedness at all levels of government, as embodied in the National Preparedness Goal, emphasizes the importance of regional response. Consequently, the State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and its local government partners developed the Bay Area Regional Emergency Coordination Plan to provide a framework for collaboration and coordination during regional events.

The Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP) has been prepared in accordance with national and state emergency management systems and plans — in particular, the National Incident Management System, the Standardized Emergency Management System, the Master Mutual Aid Agreement, the California State Emergency Plan, and relevant mutual aid plans. The Regional Emergency Coordination Plan does not supersede or exclude any of these concepts or plans; rather, it places them in the context of a response to an event in the Bay Area, during which time the Regional Emergency Operations Center is activated.

The Regional Emergency Coordination Plan builds on California's existing Standardized Emergency Management System, through better definition of regional components of that system, including coordination across disciplines and levels of government, resource sharing, and regional decision-making. It also incorporates elements that previously have not been addressed in detail at the regional level under the Standardized Emergency Management System. A suite of documents, the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan comprises a Base Plan and the following nine subsidiary plans that address detailed elements for specific disciplines and operational activities:

- RECP Care and Shelter Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Communications Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

- RECP Hazardous Materials Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Logistics Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Medical and Health Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Recovery Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Transportation Subsidiary Plan.

Development of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan was a collaborative effort among the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Coastal Region; the cities of Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose; and the Operational Area lead agencies for the ten Bay Area counties, as described in Section 1. Over 200 other local, regional, state, Federal, and non-governmental organizations also participated in the process to develop the plan and its subsidiary components.

Preparation of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan was supported by a grant from the Department of Homeland Security Urban Area Security Initiative. This program provides metropolitan areas with funding for regional planning, equipment, training, and exercises to prepare for critical incident response.

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES), Coastal Region will maintain the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan and is responsible for all future revisions and modifications. Additional plans and tools that are developed at the regional level, including products using future U.S. Department of Homeland Security grants, will be incorporated into the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan, as appropriate.

A note about a special design element in the suite of documents that comprise the Bay Area Regional Emergency Coordination Plan: the Base Plan and the subsidiary plans each has a corresponding icon, which in the electronic version of each document serves as a hyperlink. Clicking on an icon along the right-and left-hand columns on each page will bring the reader directly to that plan.

Acknowledgments

The RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan is a product of the collaborative efforts of the following entities:

- Alameda County Sheriff/Coroner Office
- Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office
- Governor's Office of Emergency Services Law Enforcement Branch
- Marin County Coroner Office
- Marin County Sheriff's Office
- Napa County Sheriff/Civil/Coroner Office
- Oakland Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services
- San Francisco Department of Emergency Management
- San Francisco Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
- San Francisco Police Department
- San Jose Office of Emergency Services
- San Jose Police Department
- San Mateo County Coroner Office
- San Mateo County Sheriff's Office
- Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department
- Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office
- Sonoma County Office of Emergency Services
- Sonoma County Sheriff's Office.

URS Corporation prepared the RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan with consultant support from Mr. Terry Gitlin and stakeholder management support from CirclePoint.

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Record of Changes

Date	Agency	Comments
March 2008	OES Coastal Region	Final

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Section 1 | RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan

Introduction

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Section 1 – Introduction

PURPOSE

The Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP) provides an all-hazards framework for collaboration among responsible entities and coordination during emergencies in the San Francisco Bay Area. The RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan provides a framework for coordination between the OES Law Enforcement Branch in the Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC), the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinators, the sixteen Operational Areas within OES Coastal Region,[1] and the State Operations Center (SOC) Law Enforcement Branch. This plan also provides an overview of the established Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System and its relationship to the REOC during emergency response to a regional event.

The RECP does not replace existing emergency response systems. Rather, it builds on the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), the California State Emergency Plan, the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan, and the State Coroners Mutual Aid Plan to provide methods for cooperation among Operational Areas and OES Coastal Region. The RECP complies with the requirements of the National Incident Management System, and is consistent with the National Preparedness Goal.

OBJECTIVES

The RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan defines the following:

- A clear system for coordination among law enforcement, coroner/medical examiner, and other disciplines at the regional level
- Roles and responsibilities of agencies and personnel involved in law enforcement and coroner/medical examiner regional response actions
- Coordination, information sharing, and resource management required to meet the outcomes associated with the following:
  - Public safety and security response
  - Citizen evacuation
  - Explosive devise response operations
  - Mass fatality operations
- Coordination of support from state and Federal agencies and/or teams in response to an event within the region that is beyond the capabilities of local government.

[1] OES Coastal Region is an administrative region under OES that incorporates, and is responsible for, sixteen counties in and around the San Francisco Bay Area.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

General Applicability

The RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan was developed in accordance with the concepts and methods of the State Emergency Plan, Law Enforcement and Coroner Mutual Aid plans, and the Incident Command System.

The Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan does not supersede or exclude any existing plans; rather, it places relevant plans in the context of a response to an event within the region, during which time the REOC is activated. More specifically, it does not address, or supersede, local procedures for:

- Tactical operations and incident command
- Local response activities
- Established mutual aid relationships and procedures at the local level.

Furthermore, this plan is not tactical; rather, the plan focuses on regional support and coordination for law enforcement and coroner/medical examiner operations.

Geographic Extent

The RECP was developed for OES Coastal Region, which encompasses the following sixteen counties as illustrated on Figure 1. Ten of these counties (marked with *) supported the development of the RECP through collaboration with OES Coastal Region and the three Bay Area Urban Area Security Initiative cities (Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose).

- Alameda*
- Contra Costa*
- Del Norte
- Humboldt
- Lake
- Marin*
- Mendocino
- Monterey
- Napa*
- San Benito
- San Francisco*
- San Mateo*
- Santa Clara*
- Santa Cruz*
- Solano*
- Sonoma*

The RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan applies to the Law Enforcement and the Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Region II, in which mutual aid activities are coordinated among law enforcement and coroner/medical examiner agencies in the aforementioned sixteen counties.

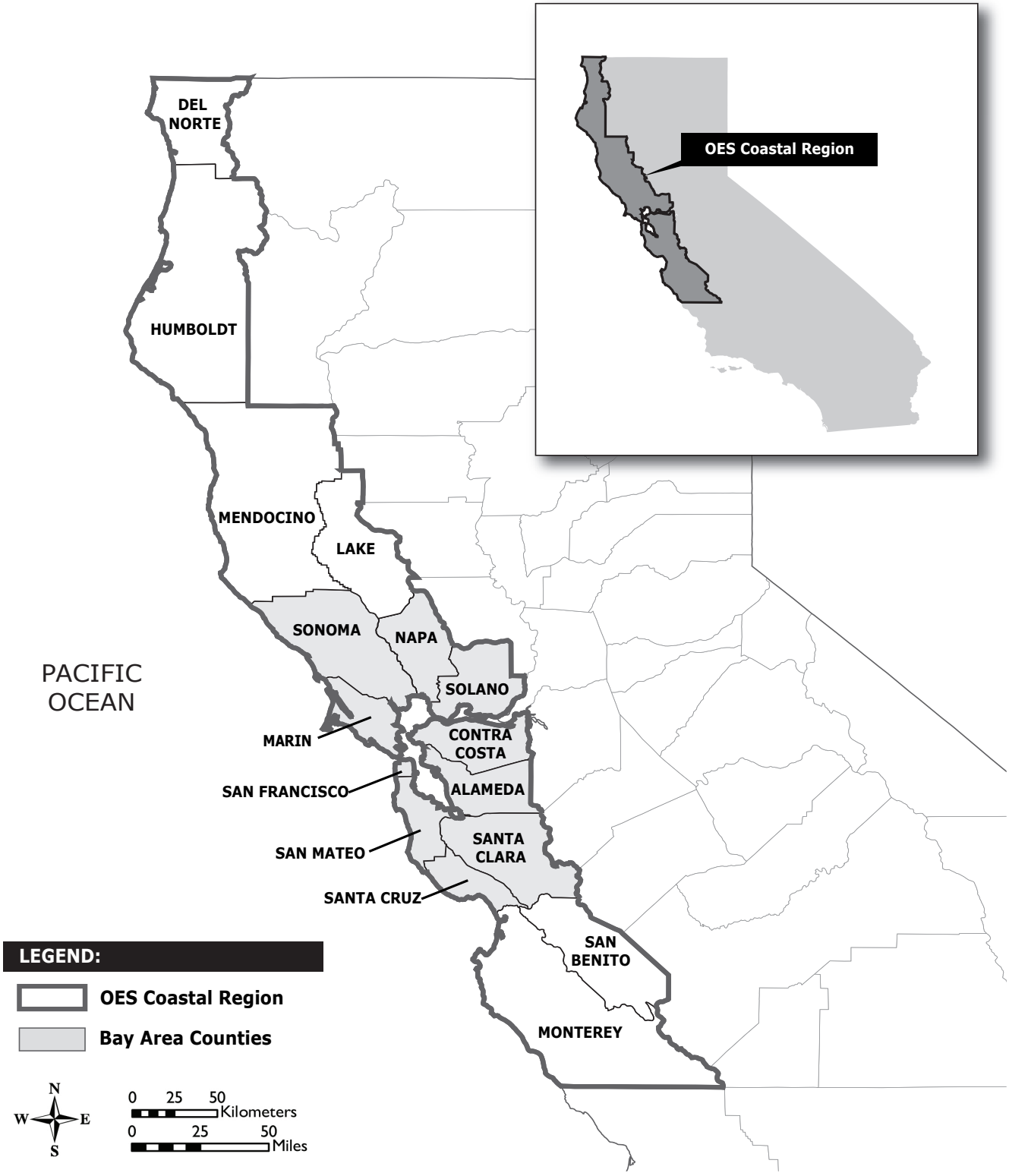

Figure 1
OES Coastal Region and Bay Area Counties

AUTHORITIES, REQUIREMENTS, AND REGULATIONS

- State of California Emergency Plan. State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. September 2005.
- Standardized Emergency Management System Guidelines. State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. January 2001.
- California Master Mutual Aid Agreement. November 1950.
- California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan (Bluebook). State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. December 2006.
- 1999 Law Enforcement Guide for Emergency Operations (Redbook). State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. 2003.
- Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Search and Rescue Annex (Greenbook). State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. 2004. Additional search and rescue annexes include:
  - Canine Annex (Revised January 2005)
  - Mounted Teams (February 2005)
  - Technical Rope (February 2004)
  - Underground (June 2005)
  - Search and Rescue/Urban Search and Rescue (February 2004)
  - Ground Searcher (August 2003)
  - Swift Water/Flood (January 2001)
  - Underwater (June 2005).
- California Coroners Mutual Aid Plan (Graybook). State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. March 2006.
- California Coroners Operations Guide (Part 2). State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. February 2003.
- Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Quick Reference Guide. State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. 2006.
- California Mass Fatality Management Guide. State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. 2007.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

OES Coastal Region is responsible for the maintenance, revision, and distribution of the RECP and its subsidiary plans. In coordination with the Mutual Aid Regional Advisory Committee, OES Coastal Region will assess the need for revisions annually. Refer to the RECP Base Plan for further details regarding plan development and maintenance.

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Section 2 | RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan

Planning Assumptions and Considerations

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Section 2 – Planning Assumptions and Considerations

The RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan is based on the following development and implementation assumptions.

- Similar to the state law enforcement and coroners mutual aid plans, the RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan concepts are applied on a day-to-day basis whenever law enforcement and coroner/medical examiner resources are required at the regional level.
- OES Law Enforcement Branch will assign a representative to staff the REOC Law Enforcement Branch. The representative will coordinate closely with the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator.
- In accordance with the State Master Mutual Aid Agreement, no agency or jurisdiction is required to unnecessarily deplete their own personnel, equipment, and service capabilities in order to furnish mutual aid resources.
- During a regional emergency or disaster, or a catastrophic event within the region, the response capabilities of individual Operational Areas likely will be exceeded and resources from both within and outside of the region will be required.

THE LAW ENFORCEMENT MUTUAL AID SYSTEM

OES Law Enforcement Branch manages the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System. The primary purpose of the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System is to coordinate state resources in support of local law enforcement during natural or human-made disasters, unusual occurrences such as civil disorders, demonstrations, or riots, and wilderness searches and rescue operations. The Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System is managed through seven law enforcement mutual aid regions throughout California. The sixteen Operational Areas within the scope of the RECP are located in Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Region II (see Figure 2). The OES Law Enforcement Branch Chief serves as the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator.

Law enforcement mutual aid is provided for various circumstances on a daily basis or for unusual events, significant emergencies, or disaster situations. During the course of normal daily law enforcement activities, local incidents may require immediate assistance, such as backup at a traffic stop, perimeter control for a fleeing suspect, or crowd control at a barricaded location, pending the arrival of additional local resources. During a state of emergency or a state of war, law enforcement mutual aid is mandatory.

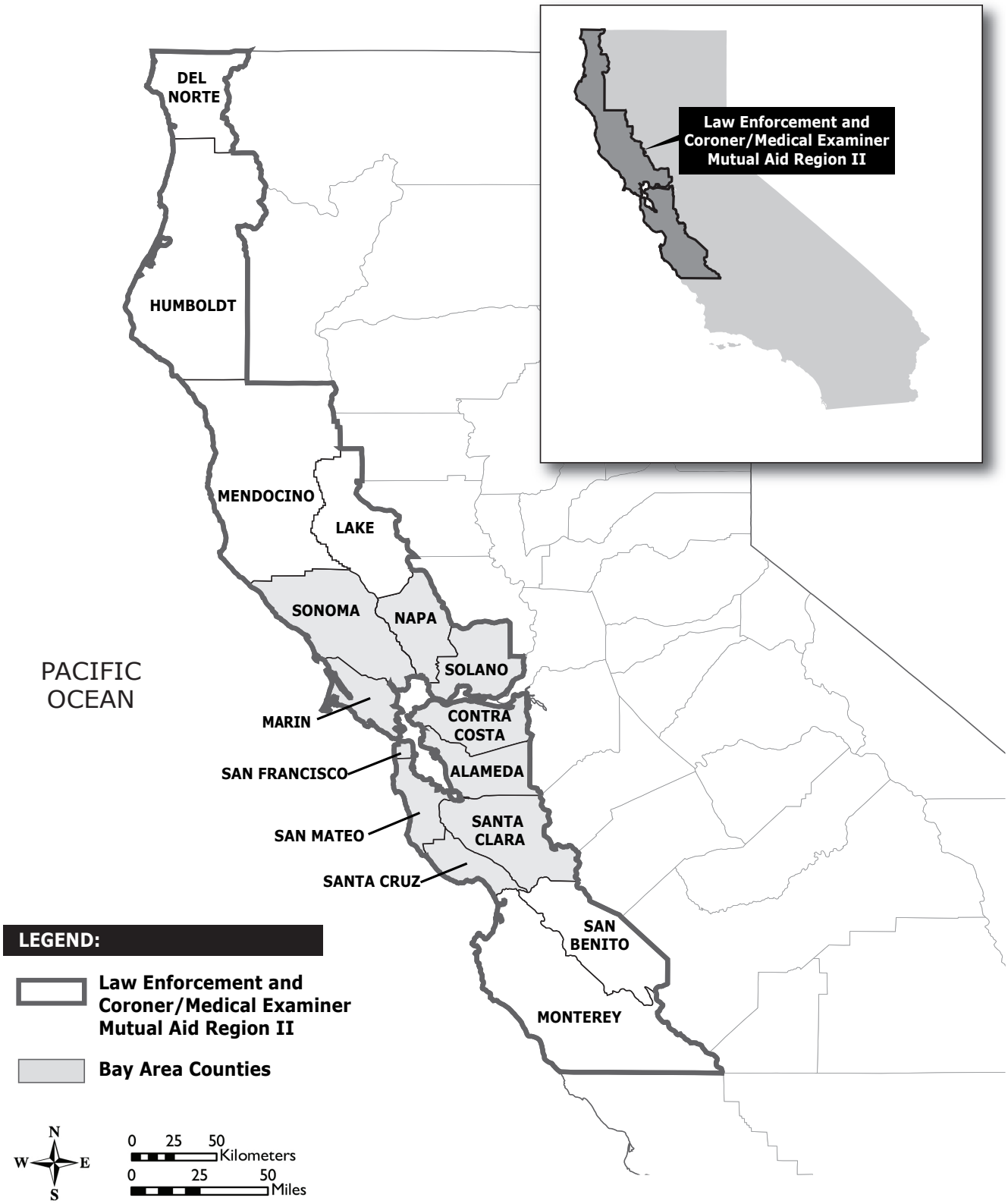

Figure 2
Law Enforcement
Mutual Aid Region II

The RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan addresses the REOC Law Enforcement Branch, when activated; and its coordination with the Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid systems.

THE CORONER MUTUAL AID SYSTEM

OES Law Enforcement Branch manages the Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid System. The primary purpose of the Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid System is to complement and support law enforcement activities during events that cause multiple fatalities. The system is intended to provide expanded coroner/medical examiner capabilities for local, state, and Federal agencies, and act as a conduit for Federal assistance to all local jurisdictions. OES Law Enforcement Branch coordinates all inter-regional and state agency activity relating to mutual aid under the Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid System channels.

The Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid System is managed through seven coroner mutual aid regions (identical to the law enforcement regions) throughout California. The sixteen Operational Areas within the scope of the RECP are located in the Coroner Mutual Aid Region II (see Figure 2). The OES Law Enforcement Branch Chief serves as the State Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator.

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Section 3 | RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan

Law Enforcement Roles and Responsibilities

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Section 3 – Law Enforcement Roles and Responsibilities

This section of the RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of Operational Area, regional, state, and Federal agencies involved in law enforcement response activities during a regional emergency or disaster. Table 1 summarizes the roles and responsibilities of the key law enforcement positions and also identifies the individuals who generally fill these positions.

OPERATIONAL AREA LEVEL

In accordance with SEMS, the Operational Area law enforcement mutual aid structure includes all law enforcement agencies within a county. This includes county sheriffs and city police departments. However, it also includes non-municipal law enforcement agencies, such as police departments at campuses of state universities; and regional entities, such as the Bay Area Rapid Transit police force.

Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator

The Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator is responsible for:

- Coordinating the provision of law enforcement mutual aid within the Operational Area
- Coordinating the acquisition of resources through the Regional Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator, when resources are needed from state and/or Federal agencies, or from outside the Operational Area
- Coordinating the provision of non–law-enforcement resources with the Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator.

Operational Area EOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator

The Operational Area Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator is responsible for:

- Establishing and maintaining communications with law enforcement branches at local EOCs and the REOC
- Coordinating and tracking the use and availability of local jurisdiction and field law enforcement resources from the Operational Area EOC
- Receiving requests for non–law-enforcement resources from the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator and transmitting those requests to the appropriate Operational Area EOC personnel

Table 1: Key Law Enforcement Positions

Position	Filled By	Responsibilities	Location
Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator	County Sheriff or Designee or County Police Department	• Coordinates law enforcement mutual aid in the Operational Area • Coordinates the acquisition of out-of-Operational Area resources through the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator • Communicates status information with the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator • Communicates status and other information with the Operational Area EOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator, if a separate position	• If the Operational Area EOC is activated, may operate from the Operational Area EOC, or • Operates from the local communications center and sends a representative to the Operational Area EOC
Operational Area EOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator	• In general, a representative of the County law enforcement agency • Depending on the nature, scope, and severity of an incident, may also serve as the EOC Operations Section Chief (this may be the same individual as the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator, or a different individual)	• Coordinates with other Operational Area EOC functions and tracks law enforcement resources and information from the Operational Area EOC • Receives requests for non–law-enforcement resources and information from the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator • Transmits requests to the appropriate Operational Area EOC Section	Operational Area EOC Operations Section
Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator	An Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator who is elected by other Operational Area coordinators within the mutual aid region	• Coordinates the collective law enforcement mutual aid response of agencies within the region • Serves as both Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator and as the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator	• In general, operates from the local Operational Area EOC or departmental communications center • If a state of war is proclaimed, must go to or send a representative to the REOC.
REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director	In general, filled by a representative of the OES Law Enforcement Branch	• Responsible for coordinating and tracking law enforcement resources at the REOC • Has decision-making authority	Operations Section of the REOC
State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator	The State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator is the Chief of the Law Enforcement Branch of OES	• Responsible for mutual aid response coordination and administrative interaction between state and local agencies during emergency and non-emergency situations, in which the mutual aid system is, or could be, involved • Responsible for requesting Federal assistance	Law Enforcement Branch at the SOC

- Receiving and transmitting requests for law-enforcement resources from non–law-enforcement disciplines to the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator
- Collecting information from and communicating with the law enforcement branches at local EOCs.

REGIONAL LEVEL

Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator

The Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator is responsible for:

- Serving as the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator for the individual's Operational Area, in addition to serving as the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator
- Coordinating the provision of law enforcement mutual aid resources from law enforcement agencies in Operational Areas within Region II, as well as available law enforcement resources provided by other regions
- Providing information about resources requested and provided to the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator
- Elevating requests to the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director when the demand for a law enforcement mutual aid resource exceeds the supply within the region
- Directing non–law-enforcement mutual aid requests to the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director.

REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director

The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director is responsible for:

- Establishing and maintaining communications with Operational Area EOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinators, the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator, and the SOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator
- Providing updates to the REOC Operations Section Chief on law enforcement activities within Region II
- Tracking law enforcement mutual aid resource requests and providing updates to the REOC Operations Section Chief
- Coordinating the provision of non–law-enforcement resources in response to requests received through the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System
- Determining staffing needs, including the need for additional units, and conveying these needs to the REOC Operations Section Chief; requesting additional law enforcement personnel to staff the REOC through the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator

- Leading the discussion of law enforcement activities during the REOC Regional Coordination Group calls and briefing calls with the affected Operational Areas.

Terrorism Early Warning Groups

Terrorism Early Warning Groups (TEWGs) are multidisciplinary intelligence working groups that filter and share intelligence information with local, state, and Federal law enforcement and emergency managers on a need-to-know basis. Currently, there is an East Bay TEWG, which is a joint venture between Alameda County, Contra Costa County, and the City of Oakland; a south Bay TEWG, responsible for the counties of Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Monterey Counties; and a West Bay TEWG, responsible for San Francisco and San Mateo counties. A network of Terrorism Liaison Officers from non–law-enforcement agencies support the TEWGs.

TEWGSs are responsible for:

- Collecting and disseminating terrorism threat information gleaned from public and open source entities
- Sharing information with the Northern California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center and with local, state, and public law enforcement and emergency management agencies
- Developing strategies designed to prepare for, mitigate against, respond to, and recover from threats posed by terrorism.

Northern California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center

The Northern California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center is a partnership established among Federal, state, and local law enforcement and intelligence agencies to facilitate communication regarding terrorism threats. This partnership includes the:

- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Joint Terrorism Task Force and Field Intelligence Group
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Transportation Security Administration
- U.S. Coast Guard
- State Terrorism Threat Assessment Center
- Governor's Office of Homeland Security
- California Department of Justice
- Bay Area TEWGs
- Local law enforcement agencies.

The Northern California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center's responsibilities include:

- Producing and disseminating intelligence products
- Sharing information with TEWGs and the State Terrorism Threat Assessment Center
- Conducting training for public safety agencies
- Establishing and maintaining liaison with state and local public safety personnel operating in the Bay Area and northwest coast of California
- Encouraging the use of the California Joint Regional Information Exchange System web portal
- Implementing the Roam Secure Alert Network (RSAN) to provide a method to share threat information, emergency updates, and notification of incidents.[2]

STATE LEVEL

The OES Law Enforcement Branch is the lead state agency for law enforcement and coroner/medical examiner mutual aid. As previously mentioned, the OES Law Enforcement Branch Chief serves as the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator. When the SOC is activated, the OES Law Enforcement Branch Chief or a designee serves as the SOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator. The State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator and the SOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator are responsible for:

- Establishing and maintaining communications with the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director and with the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator
- Coordinating with the SOC Operations Section and other discipline-specific mutual aid coordinators to allocate state resources
- Acting as the state facilitator of inter-regional law enforcement mutual aid response resources
- Coordinating the state's search and rescue and coroner/medical examiner mutual aid programs, and other activities in support of local law enforcement mutual aid response
- Coordinating the provision of mutual aid resources in response to requests from the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director
- Coordinating statewide law enforcement, security, and evacuation activities of the following agencies:
    - California Highway Patrol

[2] The RSAN system is available to all local, state, and Federal law enforcement officials, as well as authorized personnel in each response discipline. Refer to the RECP Communications Subsidiary Plan for more information on communications systems within the Bay Area.

- California National Guard
- California Department of Justice
- California Department of Corrections
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- California Department of Fish and Game
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- California Department of Insurance
- California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control

- Requesting out-of-state resources through the Operations Section from other states, through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), from Federal agencies.

FEDERAL LEVEL

A Federal agency may support state and local response either under its own authority or as part of a coordinated Federal response under the National Response Framework.

Federal Agencies in the Region

Federal agencies within the region may respond in one of the following ways:

- For response operations at Federal facilities or on Federal lands, for which Federal agencies in the region are responsible. For example, the National Park Service is responsible for law enforcement and security within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.
- Through agreements, such as memoranda of understanding, between Federal agencies and local governments, under which Federal agencies provide resources and/or assistance during a local or regional emergency.
- Under their own authorities, in support local emergency operations to save lives and protect property.

Examples of in-region Federal agencies include:

- U.S. Department of Justice
  - FBI
  - Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
  - U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of California
  - U.S. Marshals Service
  - Federal Protective Service
  - Drug Enforcement Administration

- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
  - U.S. Coast Guard
  - Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement
  - Bureau of Customs and Border Protection
  - U.S. Secret Service
- U.S. Postal Inspection Service
- Internal Revenue Service
- National Park Service.

Federal Law Enforcement Support Under the National Response Framework

When the resources of a state are exceeded by an event, the President of the United States may declare an emergency or disaster, in accordance with the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.[3] Under a presidential declaration of emergency or disaster, the Federal government provides financial resources and direct Federal assistance in response to requests from the state. In accordance with SEMS, all requests for Federal assistance must be made through the state level at the SOC. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) coordinates Federal response to state requests for assistance. In extraordinary circumstances, the Federal government may mobilize resources prior to a state request for assistance. When mobilized in support of a local emergency response operation, Federal resources may be placed under the tactical direction of the local incident commander.

The coordinated Federal response under such circumstances is implemented under the National Response Framework. Under the National Response Framework, the Federal government organizes its resources in Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), each of which is led by a Federal agency. ESF #13 – Public Safety and Security, integrates Federal public safety and security capabilities and resources to support the full range of incident management activities associated with potential or actual incidents requiring a coordinated response by Federal law enforcement. The coordinating agency for ESF #13 is the U.S. Department of Justice, which is also the primary agency in terms of authorities, resources, and capabilities. Supporting Federal agencies include all Executive Branch departments and agencies possessing a public safety and security capability.

Senior Law Enforcement Official

During incidents that involve terrorism or civil unrest, the Federal Government may appoint a Senior Law Enforcement Official to oversee Federal law enforcement activities. The Senior Law Enforcement

[3] 42 United States Code § 5121-5206.

Official forms part of the Unified Coordination Group, along with the Federal Coordinating Officer and the State Coordinating Officer, which is responsible for coordinating joint support operations of the state and Federal governments. The Senior Law Enforcement Official is chosen from the department or agency with primary jurisdiction. During a terrorist incident, this official usually is the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Special Agent in Charge.

The Senior Law Enforcement Official is responsible for:

- Directing Federal intelligence and investigative law enforcement operations
- Directing the provision of Federal assistance and resources in coordination with the Federal Coordinating Officer
- Supporting the law enforcement component of the unified command on scene.

Although the Senior Law Enforcement Official is responsible for directing Federal law enforcement and investigative actions, local law enforcement maintains control of incident command and emergency response.

Section 4 | RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan

Coroner/Medical Examiner Roles and Responsibilities

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Section 4 – Coroner/Medical Examiner Roles and Responsibilities

This section of the RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of Operational Area, regional, state, and Federal agencies involved in coroner/medical examiner response activities during a regional emergency or disaster. Table 2 summarizes the roles and responsibilities of the key coroner/medical examiner positions and also identifies the individuals who generally fill these positions.

OPERATIONAL AREA LEVEL

Operational Area Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator

The Operational Area Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator is responsible for:

- Coordinating the provision of coroner/medical examiner resources within the Operational Area
- Coordinating the acquisition of the resources through the Regional Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator, if resources are needed from outside the Operational Area
- Coordinating the provision of non–coroner/medical examiner resources with the Operational Area EOC.

Operational Area EOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader

The Operational Area EOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader is responsible for:

- Coordinating and tracking the use and availability of coroner/medical examiner resources within the Operational Area
- Transmitting requests for coroner/medical examiner resources to the Operational Area Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator
- Transmitting requests for non–coroner/medical examiner resources to the appropriate Operational Area EOC position
- Providing briefings on Operational Area coroner/medical examiner activities to the Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator
- Maintaining contact with the REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader, if activated; if not activated, maintaining communications through the Law Enforcement Branch coordinators at each respective SEMS level.

Table 2: Key Coroner/Medical Examiner Positions

Position	Filled By	Responsibilities	Location
Operational Area Coroner/ Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator	County Coroner/Medical Examiner	• Conducts coroner/medical examiner operations in the Operational Area • Coordinates mutual aid requests within the Operational Area and provides resources for other Operational Areas as requested	• If the Operational Area EOC is activated, may operate from the Operational Area EOC; or • Operates from the local communications center and sends a representative to the Operational Area EOC
Operational Area EOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Branch Coordinator (or Unit Leader)	County Coroner/Medical Examiner or representative of the Sheriff/Coroner/Medical Examiner Office	Coordinates with other Operational Area EOC functions and tracks coroner/medical examiner resources from the Operational Area EOC	Operational Area EOC Operations Section, under the Law Enforcement Branch
Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator	An Operational Area Mutual Aid Coordinator who is elected by other Operational Area coordinators within the mutual aid region	Coordinates the collective mutual aid response of agencies within the region	Operates from the local Operational Area EOC or departmental communications center
REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader	A representative of the OES Law Enforcement Branch	• Reports to the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator • Coordinates and tracks coroner/ medical examiner resources and information at the REOC	If activated, Operations Section of the REOC, under the Law Enforcement Branch
State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator	The OES Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator, who is the Chief of the Law Enforcement Branch of OES	• Coordinates mutual aid response and administrative interaction between state and local law enforcement agencies during emergency and non-emergency situations, in which the mutual aid system is, or could be, involved • Requests Federal assistance	SOC

REGIONAL LEVEL

Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator

The Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator is responsible for:

- Serving as the Operational Area Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator for the individual's Operational Area, in addition to serving the Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator
- Establishing and maintaining contact with Operational Area mutual aid coordinators (usually the County Coroner/Medical Examiner)
- Coordinating the provision of coroner/medical examiner mutual aid resources within Region II and with the Operational Area EOC, as well as available coroner/medical examiner resources in other regions
- Providing information about resources requested and provided to the REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader, if activated, or to the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director
- Elevating resource requests to the REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader or REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director when the demand for coroner/medical examiner mutual aid resources exceeds the supply in the region
- Directing non-coroner/medical examiner mutual aid requests to the REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader or REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director.

REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader

The REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader is responsible for:

- Establishing and maintaining communications with coroner/medical examiner units and branches in the Operational Areas, and with the Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator
- Providing updates to the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director about coroner/medical examiner activities and issues within Region II
- Tracking coroner/medical examiner mutual aid resource requests and provide updates to the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director
- Coordinating the provision of non–law-enforcement resources in response to requests received through the Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid System
- Elevating resource requests to the SOC, when appropriate, in coordination with the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director.

STATE LEVEL

The OES Law Enforcement Branch is the lead state agency for coroner/medical examiner mutual aid. As previously mentioned, the OES Law Enforcement Branch Chief serves as the State Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator. When the SOC is activated, the OES Law Enforcement Branch Chief or a designee serves as the SOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator. The State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator and the SOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator are responsible for:

- Coordinating the state's coroner/medical examiner mutual aid programs and other activities in support of local and operational areas for coroner/medical examiner mutual aid response
- Establishing and maintaining communications with the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director and the SOC Operations Section Chief
- Coordinating with the SOC Operations Section and discipline-specific mutual aid coordinators to allocate state resources
- Coordinating the provision of mutual aid resources in response to requests from the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director
- Requesting out-of-state resources through the Operations Section from other states through EMAC, or from Federal agencies.

FEDERAL LEVEL

As described in Section 3, the coordinated Federal response to a regional emergency or disaster is implemented through the National Response Framework. Federal resources may be required in a regional emergency or disaster when local and state capabilities for handling fatalities are exhausted. In accordance with the National Response Framework, the Federal Government organizes its resources according to ESFs, each of which is led by a Federal agency. Emergency Support Function #8 – Public Health and Medical Services, provides support for fatality management operations. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is the coordinating agency for ESF #8, and is also the primary agency in terms of authorities, resources, and capabilities.

Under ESF #8, the Federal Government may provide assistance for mass fatality operations through the deployment of Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Teams (DMORTs). DMORTs are comprised of funeral directors, medical examiners, coroners, pathologists, forensic anthropologists, medical records technicians and transcribers, fingerprint specialists, forensic odontologists, dental assistants, x-ray technicians, mental health specialists, computer professionals,

administrative support staff, and security and investigative personnel. During a response, DMORTs work under the guidance and activation of local authorities, and can provide support for:

- Temporary morgue facilities
- Victim identification
- Forensic dental pathology
- Forensic anthropology methods
- Processing, preparation, and disposition of remains.

FEMA also maintains two Disaster Portable Morgue Units (DPMUs) that are staged at FEMA Logistics Centers, one of which is located at Moffett Field in Santa Clara County. The DPMU is a depository of equipment and supplies for deployment to a disaster site. The units contain a complete morgue, with designated workstations for each processing element and prepackaged equipment and supplies.

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Section 5 | RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan

Concept of Operations

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Section 5 – Concept of Operations

SEMS is used throughout all levels of response operations to coordinate information, resources, and emergency response actions. Law enforcement and coroner/medical examiner emergency response begins at the local level, and depending on the scope of the event, may involve support and coordination from the Operational Areas, the region, and the state. At the local level, chiefs of police may determine the magnitude of the emergency within their jurisdictions, and suitable level of law enforcement response and resources required. At the Operational Area, the county sheriff may be designated as the Operational Area Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator, who is responsible for coordinating mutual aid down to the city level and requesting resources from the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator.

For coroner/medical examiner operations, the County Coroner/Medical Examiner serves as the Operational Area Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator, and is responsible for requesting resources from the Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator.

The REOC supports the coordination for regional activities during an emergency or disaster. The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director, and if activated, the REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader, facilitates the flow of information between Operational Area law enforcement branches, the regional law and coroner/medical examiner mutual aid coordinators, other response disciplines represented at the REOC, and the SOC Law Enforcement Branch.

The OES Law Enforcement Branch works directly with county sheriffs and local police departments throughout the state, state law enforcement agencies, and Federal law enforcement agencies, to ensure that law enforcement is ready at any time to respond at the local, operational, regional, and state levels. Refer to Section 3 for a list of state and Federal law enforcement agencies that may support emergency response efforts.

ACTIVATION

Similar to the State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan, the RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan is applied on a day-to-day basis whenever law enforcement or coroner/medical examiner mutual aid resources are required.

The Law Enforcement and the Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid systems support, and are coordinated with, the operation of the REOC in situations where the REOC is activated. The REOC is activated when one or more Operational Area EOC in the Coastal Region is activated, or when ordered by the Regional Administrator or a higher authority.

Law Enforcement Branch

EOCs at the local, Operational Area, regional, and state levels provide interagency coordination to support emergency response efforts, as well as provide resources to support the response and to facilitate the flow of information among agencies.

Law enforcement operations are coordinated at each SEMS level by the Law Enforcement Branch of the Operations Section. The Branch Director is pre-designated by OES, and is on call to report to the REOC when called upon by the SOC Duty Officer, OES Director, or OES Law Enforcement Branch Chief.

The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director may activate different units or groups, depending on the type and scale of the event. Units that may be activated include:

- Coroner/medical examiner
- Search and rescue
- Evacuation
- TEWG coordination
- Waterborne operations

The Unit Leader from each unit reports to the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director.

The State Law Enforcement Branch, unaffected Operational Areas within the region, and non-affected regions may provide law enforcement personnel to staff the Law Enforcement Branch and subsidiary units. Personnel may be provided through the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System; or, for non–law enforcement personnel, through the Emergency Managers Mutual Aid System.

COORDINATION OF RESOURCES

Jurisdictions responding to an emergency event may need additional resources to carry out emergency operations. Law enforcement agencies and coroner/medical examiners provide law enforcement and coroner/medical examiner resources to other jurisdictions through the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System and the Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid System. Non–law enforcement or coroner/medical examiner resources are provided through:

- One of the other discipline-specific mutual aid systems
- Emergency services mutual aid
- State agencies, through the REOC or the SOC
- Other states or EMAC, through the SOC
- Federal resources, under a Presidential declaration of emergency or disaster, as requested through the SOC.

Resources

Law enforcement mutual aid resources include sworn officers, technical personnel (sworn and non-sworn), and equipment such as hand-held radios, vehicles, and personal protective equipment. During emergency response, law enforcement agencies may provide such services as search and rescue, crowd control, perimeter control, site security, traffic control, and evacuation.

Coroner/medical examiner mutual aid resources consist of technical personnel, body bags, vehicles, and morgue facilities. Refer to Appendix C for a list of supplies and equipment that may be required for a mass fatality response.

Systems

The State of California established the California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Radio System with special frequencies for emergency law enforcement mutual aid purposes.

Both law enforcement and coroner/medical examiner mutual aid use the Regional Information Management System (RIMS) to document and track resource requests.

Refer to the RECP Communications Subsidiary Plan for more information regarding regional communications systems.

Process

The process by which law enforcement resources are requested and provided operates according to SEMS. As illustrated on Figure 3, the process is as follows:

- Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinators at each SEMS level coordinate the provision of mutual aid from agency to agency
- Upon receiving a request, the Mutual Aid Coordinator reaches out to non-affected law enforcement agencies within that SEMS level to locate the resources needed; and brokers the provision of resources to the requesting agency
- If resources are not available at the respective SEMS level, the Mutual Aid Coordinator forwards the request to the Mutual Aid Coordinator at the next highest SEMS level
- The Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator brokers the provision of resources from Operational Areas within Region II
- If resources are not available from these Operational Areas, the Region II Mutual Aid Coordinator contacts the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator
- The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director may request that a state law enforcement agency or the California National Guard provide the resource, and assign a mission tasking number

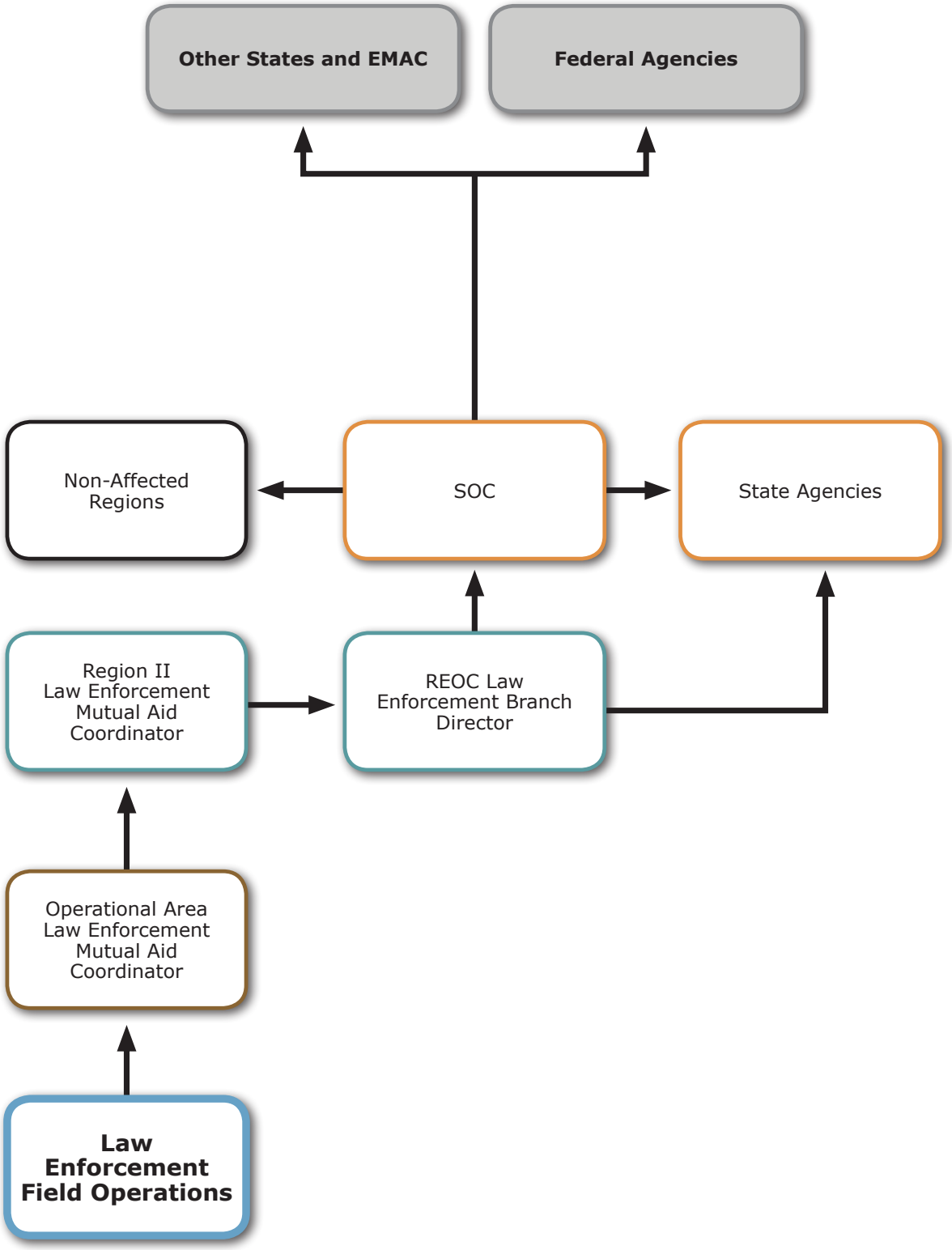

Figure 3
Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Resources Request Flow

- If the resource is not available, the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director elevates the request to the SOC
- The State Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator may:
  - Contact law enforcement resources in a non-affected region to provide the resource
  - Request resources from another state or through EMAC
  - Request resources from the Federal government, if the President has declared an emergency or disaster

Whenever tasking a state agency to provide resources, the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director or SOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator assigns the request with a mission tasking number in RIMS.

The process for requesting coroner/medical examiner mutual aid resources is similar to the law enforcement resource request process, described previously. Figure 4 depicts the resource request flow for coroner/medical examiner resources.

If a representative from a state law enforcement or coroner/medical examiner agency is present at the Incident Command post or EOC, incident commanders or emergency managers may request resources directly from the representative, thereby bypassing the ordering system. Law enforcement and coroner/medical examiner resources requested from state agencies and special districts not present at Incident Command or the EOC should be ordered through the mutual aid system.

Non–Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Resources

Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid coordinators may transfer resource requests from their respective mutual aid systems to another mechanism, if those requests are for resources that are not readily available within their respective mutual aid systems. In these cases, the Mutual Aid Coordinator at the SEMS level in question contacts the Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator at the EOC to coordinate the provision of this resource through another mechanism. This also may occur when a resource request must be split so that it can be filled by more than one agency, or grouped for efficiency purposes.

Resources that do not fall within either the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System or the Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid System are handled through:

- Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System
- Medical/Health Mutual Aid System
- Other branches at each SEMS level.

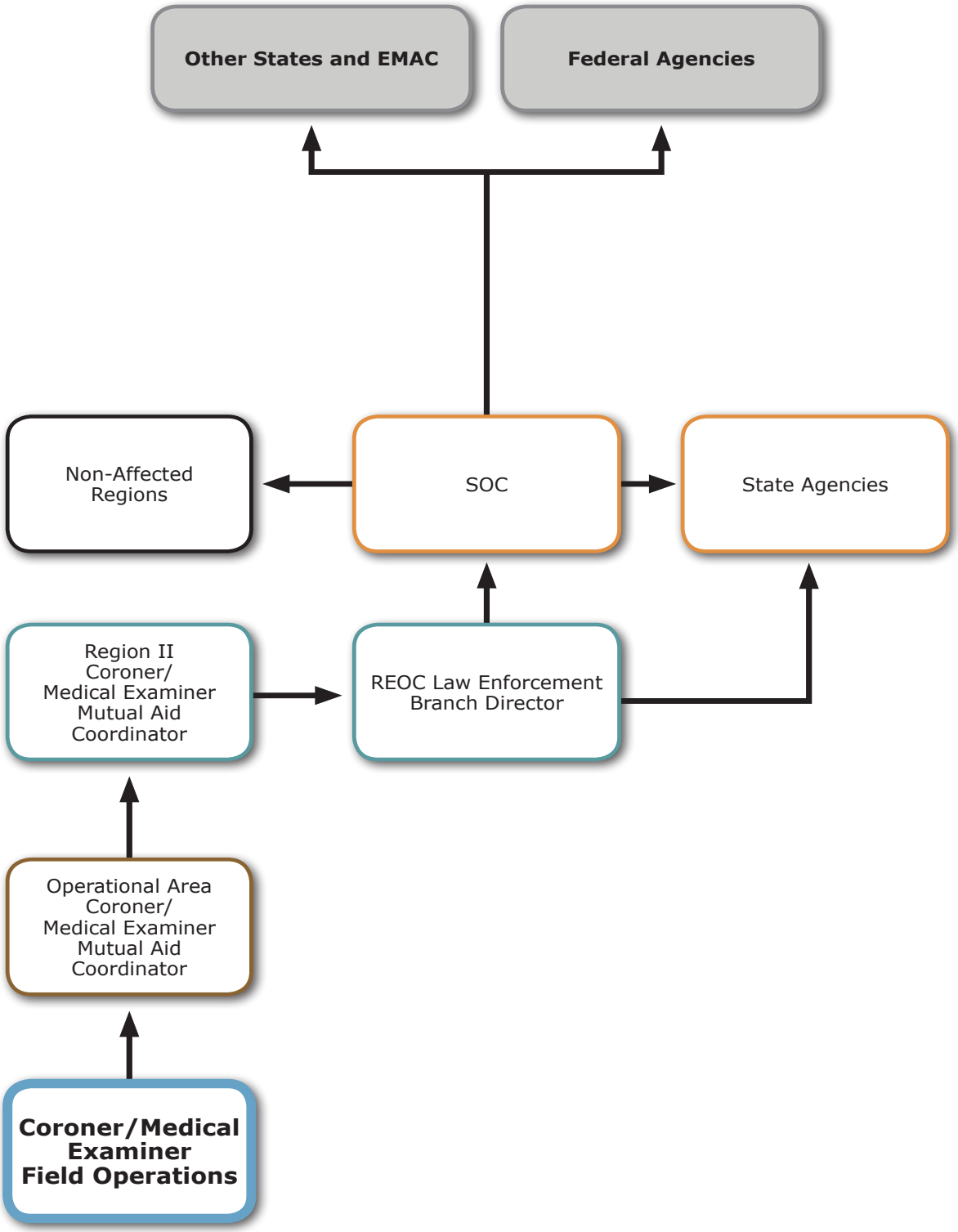

Figure 4
Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Resources Request Flow

Resource Request Tracking

All resource requests are entered, updated, and tracked in RIMS. This system allows mutual aid coordinators and branch coordinators to track the status of a resource request and facilitate record keeping and reimbursement after the disaster. The ability to track the status of resource requests is important because resource requests that are not filled quickly can be identified. In these cases, the Mutual Aid Coordinator and/or branch coordinators may re-direct the request to another agency.

The OES Law Enforcement Branch assigns mission tasking numbers to track law enforcement mutual aid resources tasked to specific incidents when a response originates from outside the jurisdiction of the requesting Operational Area. Mission tasking numbers are also assigned to law enforcement and allied agency responders who provide out-of-county law enforcement support on a mutual aid basis.

Reimbursement

Mission tasking numbers do not ensure reimbursement of response costs; rather, they are a tracking tool to record a mutual aid incident and its disposition into a database for future reference and retrieval. The existence of a law enforcement mission number also implies that the OES Law Enforcement Duty Officer queried the requestor to ensure that mutual aid criteria have been met prior to tasking an out-of-county mutual aid response. In some cases, Federal or state reimbursement may be available during a Presidentially declared emergency or disaster.

REGIONAL COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION

The REOC Law Enforcement Branch facilitates communication between and among mutual aid systems, Operational Areas in the region, and the SOC.

REOC and Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Systems

The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director facilitates communication and coordination among the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System and the REOC. The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director supports the coordination of resource requests made through the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System; potential resource needs that may have to be brought in from out of the region; and other issues raised by the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator. The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director conveys this information to the REOC Operations Section Chief.

During regional multi-disciplinary events, the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director conveys regional resource allocations to the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator, who then prioritizes resources accordingly.

Information exchange between the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director and the Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator occurs in the same manner as described above. If a Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit is established at the REOC, the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director may task the REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader with coroner/medical examiner mutual aid support responsibilities.

REOC and Operational Areas

The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director establishes and maintains communication with the Law Enforcement Branch at each activated Operational Area EOC. The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director reports to the REOC Operations Section Chief on law enforcement activities in each Operational Area, and conveys resource needs and emerging issues. The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director includes this information in a Branch Report (available in RIMS) that is updated and provided to the REOC Operations Section Chief.

In turn, the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director conveys information about regional resource allocations, regional situational awareness, and other information as requested to the Operational Area EOC law enforcement branches.

Coordination with Operational Areas also occurs during Regional Coordination Group calls and briefing calls that involve affected Operational Areas.

REOC and SOC

The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director works directly with the SOC Law Enforcement Branch Coordinator. The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director elevates requests, communicates issues and information received from the Operational Areas and from mutual aid coordinators that cannot be filled at the regional level. Information also flows to the SOC Law Enforcement Branch through Regional Situation Reports and Action Plans.

TERRORISM THREAT INFORMATION SHARING

Information about a threat of terrorism is shared through various channels. Due to the sensitivity of this information, it often must be filtered before it is provided to non–law enforcement officials. Terrorism threat information is vital to preparedness activities, and it may also inform the response phase of emergency operations by providing key information on imminent threats, and/or the nature of threats that have already materialized.

Information about threats of terrorism is shared through a series of fusion centers established at the Operational Area and regional, state, and Federal levels. Information flows up and down through these organizations so that all levels of government are prepared to

prevent and respond to potential threats. (Refer to Section 3 for more information on TEWGs and the Northern California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center.) TEWGs are the local form of a threat information fusion center. Terrorism Liaison Officers are established within the non–law-enforcement agencies in the Operational Areas. TEWGs gather and analyze information from local law enforcement and from Terrorism Liaison Officers that work in non–law-enforcement agencies in cities and counties in the Bay Area. TEWGs share relevant information with Operational Area emergency managers to help them respond to potential threats effectively. TEWGs facilitate the flow of information between Operational Areas and the Northern California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center.

- In addition to exchanging information with TEWGs, the Northern California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center maintains direct links with the State Terrorism Threat Assessment Center, Homeland Security Operations Center, the FBI, and Joint Terrorism Task Forces, and is responsible for directly sharing threat intelligence information with local, state, and Federal law enforcement, as well as emergency managers who have a need to know.
- The State Terrorism Threat Assessment Center is a partnership of many of state and Federal agencies with established links to the National Counter Terrorism Center and the National Watch List through the Homeland Security Operations Center. The State Terrorism Threat Assessment Center is linked to the Northern California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center and its counterpart in southern California.
- The Homeland Security Operations Center serves as the nation's nerve center for information sharing and domestic incident management. It disseminates threat information to Federal, state, and local governments via Homeland Security Threat Advisories, or Homeland Security Information Bulletins.

REGIONAL DECISION-MAKING

Resource Allocation

The Mutual Aid Coordinator at each SEMS level is responsible for filling resource requests and prioritizing resources based on the urgency of the request and priorities established in the action planning process. The Mutual Aid Coordinator works with the EOC Law Enforcement Branch Director to ensure that prioritization decisions are coordinated with decisions made by other disciplines. When requests exceed the resources available at a given SEMS level, the Mutual Aid Coordinator forwards the request to the next SEMS level.

In regional multi-disciplinary events, which includes events that affect multiple Operational Areas and involve multiple disciplines, regional

resource allocation decisions are made at the REOC. The REOC Operations Section, along with the REOC Director, is responsible for considering the situation and making strategic decisions regarding the allocation of scarce resources. For events in which multiple regions are affected, the SOC considers the priorities established by REOCs in each of the affected areas, and makes allocation decisions across regions accordingly.

Resource allocation decisions at the REOC range from establishing broad priorities for resource allocation, to specific decisions about allocating certain resources in response to specific requests. The REOC Director may convene a Regional Coordination Group, consisting of the branch coordinators and representatives from the affected Operational Areas, to guide strategic decision-making. The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director conveys these decisions to the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator and works with him or her to ensure that resources are allocated accordingly.

Regional Response Activities

The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director or REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader may convene a conference call to coordinate regional response requirements, problems, and solutions regarding coroner/medical examiner mutual aid. In addition to the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director and REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader, the conference call may include the Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator and County Coroners/Medical Examiners from affected Operational Areas. Additional agency representatives and subject matter experts may be included in the call, as needed. The conference call also may involve mutual aid coordinators and/or branch coordinators from other disciplines, as needed, to implement decisions related to the response activities. Appendix B lists the procedures for conference calls.

The objectives of a regional conference call are to:

- Develop consistent regional messages
- Determine how regional resources can be optimized to benefit the region
- Broker the provision of mutual aid resources from Operational Areas within the region
- Determine regional strategies in response to an event with mass fatalities.

The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director and/or REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader ensure that recommendations made by this group are consistent with overall regional response strategy as articulated in the REOC Action Plan.

Regional Disaster Mortuary Team

A mass casualty event in the Bay Area will exceed the capacity of any one jurisdiction to respond effectively. No single Operational Area has sufficient coroner/medical examiner facilities, equipment, and personnel necessary to deal with a mass fatality event. State and Federal resources may provide assistance, but even with those resources, the Bay Area will have to make difficult choices to maximize the use of available resources.

In a regional disaster with mass casualties, the Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator and/or the REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director may convene the coroners/medical examiners in affected counties to respond to emergency events that require a regional response. Emergency managers and mutual aid coordinators from other disciplines also may be included to provide support. Some issues this group may consider include:

- Development of regional coroner/medical examiner strategies to maximize use of limited resources
- Centralization of mortuary operations at one or more key locations in the Bay Area for processing and storage of remains at these central locations to more effectively use regional, state, and Federal resources
- Use of coroner/medical examiner staff from affected and non-affected coroner/medical examiner offices throughout the region to work as part of regional mortuary teams to support regional coroner/medical examiner operations
- Use of coroner/medical examiner management overhead teams to manage mortuary operations
- Integration of DMORTs and state resources into regional response strategy.

Coroner/medical examiner mutual aid will provide resources, including personnel, to respond to regional events.

Regional Action Planning

The REOC Planning and Intelligence Section will develop a REOC Action Plan for each operational period that the REOC is activated. The REOC Action Plan articulates REOC priorities, which form the basis of coordination of response activities across the activated REOC disciplines (refer to the RECP Base Plan for more information). The REOC Law Enforcement Branch Director or the REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Unit Leader may provide input on information received from the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator.

CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS

During an event in which the REOC is damaged, inaccessible, or otherwise not functional, all functions assigned to the region are carried out from the SOC. If the Region II Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Coordinator and/or the Region II Coroner/Medical Examiner Mutual Aid Coordinator and staff are unable to perform their duties due to damage to or inaccessibility of their facility, or other reasons, a Mutual Aid Coordinator from an unaffected region will take on this role for OES Region II. The SOC Law Enforcement Branch Chief determines which region will be assigned this responsibility based on the circumstances of the event.

Appendix A | RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan

List of Acronyms

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Appendix A – List of Acronyms

DMORT	Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team
DPMU	Disaster Portable Morgue Unit
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
OES	Governor's Office of Emergency Services
RECP	Regional Emergency Coordination Plan
REOC	Regional Emergency Operations Center
RIMS	Regional Information Management System
RSAN	Roam Secure Alert Network
SEMS	Standardized Emergency Management System
SOC	State Operations Center
TEWG	Terrorism Early Warning Group

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Appendix B | RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan

Procedure for REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Conference Call

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Appendix B – Procedure for REOC Coroner/Medical Examiner Conference Call

The following standard procedure is used for Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) coroner/medical examiner conference calls.

1. The conference call convener determines participants and announces the conference call by email, website, telephone, or radio.
2. The conference call convener distributes the time, access phone number, access password, and call agenda by email, website, telephone, or radio.
3. The conference call convener assigns a staff person to document the call. The call may be recorded if participants are informed that the call is being recorded. The REOC Planning Section Chief may be asked to provide staffing to document the conference call.
4. A roll call of participants is conducted at the start of the call.
5. The following discussion format is followed during the call:
   a. Announce the conference call topic/problem to be solved
   b. Roll call status on this topic (only) from all participants
   c. Assess situation/problem
   d. Assess resources available
   e. Consider options
   f. Determine an action plan and action steps
   g. Inform Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordinator and REOC Medical Health Branch Coordinator on resource allocation
   h. Assign preparation of Incident Action Plan input
   i. Assign preparation of Mission Tasking Forms, where appropriate
   j. Announce time, topic of next conference call.

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Appendix C | RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan

Coroner/Medical Examiner Supplies and Equipment

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Appendix C – Coroner/Medical Examiner Supplies and Equipment

Mass Fatality Incident Scene

- Biohazard bags
- Boundary tape
- Camera equipment
- Charts, clipboards, office supplies
- Evidence collection containers
- Flashlights
- Identification badges
- Maps
- Medical equipment
- Transportation for bodies
- Water resistant identification/ toe tags
- Plastic zip-lock bags
- Portable light and generators
- Refrigerated trailers
- Signs
- Spray paint
- Stakes and flags
- Stretchers, gurneys, and litters
- Tents, tarpaulins, or other screening materials
- Transportation for personnel

Incident Morgue/Examination Center

- Bulk storage for personal effects (for example, 55-gallon drums)
- Communications (radio fax, public address systems, telephones)
- Computers
- Film
- Log books
- Office equipment and supplies
- Personal protective equipment (for example, gloves, scrubs, aprons, shoe covers, masks, coveralls, headwear, and respirators)
- Portable x-ray units
- Refrigerated truck

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