



**ESF #9 – SEARCH AND RESCUE  
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**ESF #9 – SEARCH AND RESCUE**

<b>Primary Agency:</b>	Local Fire and EMS services Local Law Enforcement
<b>Support Agencies:</b>	Additional Fire Departments Additional Law Enforcement Miami County Emergency Management Agency (MCEMA) Region 3 Rescue Strike Team Ohio Civil Air Patrol Group VII Miami Valley Mounted Search and Rescue Buckeye Search and Rescue Dogs Ohio State Patrol (OSP)
<b>Related Federal ESFs:</b>	ESF #9: Search and Rescue
<b>Ohio Revised Code:</b>	Section 5502

**I. INTRODUCTION**

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Emergency Support Function (ESF) is to coordinate trained personnel in order to locate and recover lost survivors through air, ground, or water rescue during the event of a search and rescue (SAR) operation, from the initial dispatch through the recovery phase.

**II. PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS**

A. SITUATION

1. Miami County could be faced with the need to initiate a SAR operation that may require structural, air, ground, and water operations to save the lives of survivors.
2. SAR operations may include the recovery of survivors that have lost their life.
3. SAR operations may involve hindrances such as confined spaces, recreation areas, fire, high-rise structures, forested areas, water ways, and hazardous contamination.
4. Severe weather conditions such as temperature extremes, high winds, heavy precipitation, and flooding may occur during SAR operations.

B. ASSUMPTIONS

1. Fire and/or law enforcement are typically the first responders on the scene and should select an Incident Commander (IC) to take control of the operation.
2. The first 72 hours are the most crucial for the survivors' lives.
3. In most cases local resources should be enough to complete the SAR operation.

4. An estimated 80% of SAR survivors are able to be found easily through the public, leaving the other 20% to require outside resources.
5. As a result of severe weather, or other natural disasters, structural collapse may add difficulties to the operation.
6. In the case of any situation where a life is threatened, medical care should be on the scene or easily accessible.
7. Outside use of search dogs may be required to ensure maximum effectiveness.
8. In some cases, certain SAR sites may be inaccessible by foot or motor vehicle and will need the assistance of water or aircraft.
9. All volunteers must acquire direction through the SAR Coordinator or a designee.

### **III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

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#### **A. GENERAL**

1. The IC should designate a SAR Coordinator from the local law enforcement or fire department within the jurisdiction to direct SAR operations.
2. SAR operations should be conducted in accordance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
3. SAR operations with overlapping jurisdictions should unify and follow the direction of the designated SAR Coordinator.
4. Personnel and equipment use should follow accountability procedures.
5. In a case where search dogs are needed, they can be requested through the Miami County Communication Center (MCCC).
6. In a case where aerial search is needed, organizations such as the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and Ohio State Patrol (OSP) may be requested.
7. SAR operations involving a lost aircraft are under the control of the IC within jurisdiction. If the operation is involving a military aircraft then military agencies may take full control.

#### **B. Recovery**

1. The recovery phase is declared at the discretion of the unified command.
2. The goal should be to locate the survivors and make proper notifications.
3. Demobilization occurs at the discretion of the IC.
4. When the SAR operation is complete all equipment received should be returned to proper agencies. All reports should be returned to the SAR Coordinator.

5. A debriefing should be conducted by the IC or designee after the operation is completed, and minutes should be taken.

#### **IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES**

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##### **A. ORGANIZATION**

1. When a SAR operation is declared, the designated SAR Coordinator obtains and evaluates all information and coordinates response efforts to ensure the safety of lost survivors.
2. MCEMA should be notified if additional personnel and equipment is needed and/or if the EOC should be activated.
3. Communication between all agencies and personnel involved should remain in place until the SAR operation is completed.
4. Each agency involved should follow incident procedures for documenting activities by maintaining complete and accurate records.

##### **B. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Primary Agencies**

1. Local Fire & EMS/ Local Law Enforcement
  - a. Establish IC to provide overall control during the SAR operation.
  - b. Designate SAR Coordinator
  - c. Provide resources during SAR operations.
  - d. Conduct a debriefing and file after action report.
2. SAR Coordinator
  - a. Provide direction for the SAR operation.
  - b. Obtain and evaluate information to create an operation plan.
  - c. Coordinate SAR activities with all involved personnel.
  - d. Request through MCCC if additional resources or personnel are needed.
  - e. Provide proper resources to response personnel.

#### **Support Agencies**

1. Additional Fire Departments
  - a. Offer resources during the SAR operation.
2. Additional Law Enforcement

- a. Offer resources and extra patrol during SAR operations.
3. Miami County Emergency Management Agency (MCEMA)
  - a. Obtain requested resources for SAR operation.
  - b. Activate the EOC if requested.
  - c. Serve as liaison between all forms of government involved.
4. Region 3 Strike Team
  - a. Offer resources during SAR operations.
5. Ohio Civil Air Patrol Group VII
  - a. Offer resources during SAR operations.
6. Miami Valley Mounted Search and Rescue
  - a. Offer resources during SAR operations by providing additional personnel with access to equestrian assistance.
7. South Western Ohio Search and Rescue
  - a. Offer resources during SAR operations by providing additional personnel with access to search dogs.
8. Ohio State Patrol (OSP)
  - a. Offer resources during SAR operations; examples: air search and extra patrol.

## **V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL**

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- A. The SAR Coordinator should be responsible for the direction and control of SAR operations.
- B. Volunteers and agencies providing SAR support should be expected to follow the direction of the SAR Coordinator.
- C. Regional, state and federal support can be coordinated through the MCEMA.

## **VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS**

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- A. ADMINISTRATION
  1. The IC should provide necessary resources to the response personnel as requested.
  2. As outlined in NIMS, a chain of command should be established to integrate SAR operations with other agencies and jurisdictions.
  3. Any volunteers should work directly under the SAR Coordinator's direction.
- B. LOGISTICS
  1. Any necessary resources or personnel can be requested through the MCCC. If the MCCC cannot fulfill the request, the MCEMA should be contacted.

2. The SAR Coordinator and involved agencies should maximize the use of available communication resources.
3. Each involved agency should keep accurate records of the operation, which should be submitted to the SAR Coordinator at the end of the operation.

## **VII. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT**

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The SAR Coordinator should be chosen from law enforcement and/or fire & EMS within the jurisdiction having authority.

## **VIII. ESF DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE AND TRAINING**

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- A. All organizations with SAR responsibilities, in coordination with the MCEMA Director, is responsible for the periodic review, updating, exercising, revision, acceptance, and approval of this Search and Rescue Emergency Support Function (ESF).
- B. All organizations that support this ESF should develop and maintain their own organization's updated Operating Guidelines (OGs) for conducting SAR operations, as appropriate.
- C. All agencies that support this ESF are responsible for their own training and knowledge of SAR operations.

## **IX. LIST OF APPENDICES**

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- Appendix 1 – Miami County Law Enforcement Agency Listing
- Appendix 2 - Miami County Fire and EMS Departments Listing
- Appendix 3 – Miami County Search and Rescue Organization Listing

## **X. AUTHENTICATION**

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4/30/19  
Date

  
Miami County Fire and Emergency Services  
Chief's Assoc., Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Miami County Sheriff

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*4/26/2019*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Miami County Fire and Emergency Services  
Chief's Assoc., Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Miami County Sheriff

*[Signature]*

**MIAMI COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**  
**APPENDIX 1 TO ESF #9**  
**MIAMI COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY LISTING**

Agency	Address	Phone Number
Miami County Sheriff's Office	201 West Main Street Troy, OH 45373	(937) 440-6085
Covington Police Department	1 South High Street Covington, Ohio 45318	(937) 473-2102
Piqua Police Department	100 North Wayne Street Piqua, Ohio 45356	(937) 778-2027
Tipp City Police Department	260 South Garber Drive Tipp City, Ohio 45371	(937) 667-3112
Troy Police Department	124 East Main Street Troy, Ohio 45373	(937) 339-7525
West Milton Police Department	701 South Miami Street West Milton, Ohio 45356	(937) 698-4191
Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)	401 West U.S. 36 Piqua, Ohio 45356	(937) 773-1131 (937) 335-6008



**MIAMI COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

**APPENDIX 2 TO ESF #9**

**OHIO FIRE SERVICE EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM, FIRE, EMS, AND  
NON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION PROVIDERS FOR MIAMI COUNTY**

<b>Fire &amp; EMS</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Bethel Twp. Fire Department	8735 South Second Street Tipp City, Ohio 45371	Phone: (937) 845-4274 Fax: (937) 845-7316
Bradford Fire & Rescue	200 South Miami Avenue Bradford, Ohio 45308	Phone: (937) 448-2686 Fax: (937) 448-3685
Christiansburg Fire Department	10 West First Street Christiansburg, Ohio 45289	Phone: (937) 857-9027 Fax: (937) 857-9144
Covington Fire and Rescue	801 East Broadway Street Covington, Ohio 45318	Phone: (937) 473-2101 Fax: (937) 473-2401
Elizabeth Twp. Fire Department	2287 South Children's Home Road Troy, Ohio 45373	Phone: (937) 845-8401 Fax: (937) 845-2010
Huber Heights Fire Department	7008 Brandt Pike Huber Heights, Ohio 45424	Phone: (937) 233-1564 Fax: (937) 233-4520
Piqua Fire Department	229 West Water Street Piqua, Ohio 45356	Phone: (937) 778-2012 Fax: (937) 778-2019
Pleasant Hill-Newton Twp. Joint Fire District	8 West High Street Pleasant Hill, Ohio 45359	Phone: (937) 676-2248 Fax: (937) 676-3755
Troy Fire Department	1528 N. Market St. Troy, Ohio 45373	Phone: (937) 335-1905 Fax: (937) 335-3735
City of Union Fire Department	109 West Martindale Road Union, Ohio 45322	Phone: (937) 836-8642 Fax: N/A
<b>EMS Only</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Johnson Saint Paris Joint Fire District	403 West Main Street Saint Paris, OH 43072	Phone: (937) 663-4784 Fax: N/A
Tipp City EMS	260 South Garber Drive Tipp City, Ohio 45371	Phone: (937) 667-1680 Fax: (937) 506-3192
Union Twp. Life Squad	4960 South Davis Road West Milton, Ohio 45383	Phone: (937) 698-8857 Fax: N/A

<b>Fire Only</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Casstown Community Volunteer Fire Department	4210 East St. Rt. 55 Casstown, Ohio 45312	Phone: (937) 339-1514 Fax: N/A
Fletcher Volunteer Fire Department	6605 North St. Rt. 589 Fletcher, Ohio 45326	Phone: (937) 368-2218 Fax: (937) 368-2230
Laura Fire Company Inc.	10 North Main Street Laura, Ohio 45337	Phone: (937) 947-1214 Fax: N/A
Lockington Fire Department	10363 Museum Trail Piqua, Ohio 45356	Phone: (937) 773-5341 Fax: N/A
Ludlow Falls Fire Department	10 Greenville Avenue Ludlow Falls, Ohio 45339	Phone: (937) 698-3318 Fax: (937) 698-3508
Tipp City Fire Department	520 West Main Street Tipp City, Ohio 45371	Phone: (937) 667-8477 x3401 Fax: (937) 667-5816
West Milton Fire Department	701 South Miami Street West Milton, Ohio 45383	Phone: (937) 698-9633 Fax: (937) 698-3900
<b>Community Services</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
American Red Cross (Northern Miami Valley Ohio Chapter)	1314 Barnhart Road Troy, Ohio 45373	(937) 332-1414
Salvation Army	129 South Wayne Street Piqua, Ohio 45356	(937) 773-7563

**MIAMI COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**  
**APPENDIX 3 TO ESF #9**  
**MIAMI COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE ORGANIZATION LISTING**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Buckeye Search and Rescue Dogs	(937) 339-7450
Ohio Region 3 Rescue Strike Team	(937) 626-0734
Miami Valley Mounted Search and Rescue	(937) 573-8522