Coordinating The EMS Response to A Disaster: The NYC Perspective

January 23, 2013
Mordy Goldfeder
New York State

Article 30 NYS Public Health Law

• Certification of Providers
• Training & Education
• Equipment & Communication
• Coordinating Disaster Response
• Advisory Council System
NYS FACTS & FIGURES

**Ambulance Services**
- Ambulance Services  
  - 1,081
- Advanced Life Support (ALS)  
  1st Response Services  
  - 102
- Basic Life Support (BLS)  
  1st Response Services  
  - 668

**EMS Vehicles**
- Certified ambulance vehicles  
  - 4,586
- Non-transporting EMS response vehicles “fly cars”  
  - 2,805

As of May, 2012

New York City Office of Emergency Management
The NYC Regional EMS Council (REMSCO)

- Municipal ambulance service
  - 1 agency, 400 ambulances
- Private ambulance service
  - 15 agencies, 585 ambulances
- Voluntary hospital service
  - 15 hospitals, 188 ambulances
- Volunteer ambulance service
  - 36 corps, 135 ambulances

67 Agencies
1,308 Ambulances
FDNY EMS

EMS 911 System

- Communications Center
- Telemetry Center
- Training Academy
- Ambulances (BLS, ALS, HAZ-TAC, Rescue)
- Specialty Vehicles (MERV, LSU, MRTU, METU, WMD)
- Multiple levels of supervision (Lieutenants, Captains, Chiefs, Physicians)

New York City Office of Emergency Management
EMS Surge

1. Planned Event

United Nations General Assembly
EMS Surge

1. Planned Event

2. Increased call volume
EMS Surge

1. Planned Event

2. Increased call volume

3. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI)
1st EMS Surge Option

• Increase Staffing Levels
• Hold Previous Shift
• Recall of Personnel
• Cancel Days Off
• 12 Hour Shifts
• Academy Personnel
2\textsuperscript{nd} EMS Surge Option

- Local Mutual Aid
  - Neighborhood
  - County
  - City
  - Event

(Private & Volunteers)
3rd EMS Surge Option

• Regional Mutual Aid
  • Westchester County
  • Nassau County
  • New Jersey State
Final EMS Surge Option

National Ambulance Contract

- 300 Ambulances
- 25 Air Ambulances
- Para-transit for 3,500 people
Deployment Strategies

• Augmenting The 911 System
  • County Based
  • Radio Cache
  • GPS Units
  • Supplies / Fuel
Deployment Strategies

• Staging Areas
  • Site of Incident
  • Base Camp
IND Response

What would it look like?
Past EMS Responses

• Hurricane Sandy 2012
  • Increased Staffing Levels, 12 hour Shifts
  • Local Mutual Aid (Regional partners were also affected)
  • National Ambulance Contract Utilized
Past EMS Responses

• Hurricane Irene 2011
  • Increased Staffing Levels, 12 hour Shifts
  • Local Mutual Aid (Regional partners were also affected)
  • National Ambulance Contract Utilized
Past EMS Responses

• September 11, 2001
  • All Surge Options Utilized
  • Ambulances self deployed from across the country
  • NAC was not created yet
Past EMS Responses

• Christmas Blizzard of 2010
  • Local Mutual Aid
  • Tow Truck Task Force was created
Past EMS Responses

• New Years Eve Celebration
  • Increased Staffing, Hold some of the previous shift
  • Local Mutual Aid Requested

• Most Major Events (Parades, Marathons)
  • Local Mutual Aid Requested