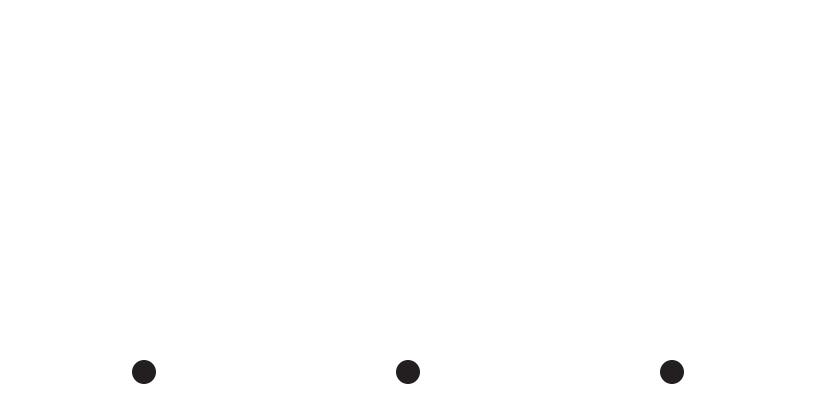
# USA EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLAN

REVIEWED/REVISED DECEMBER 2024



# Purpose/Scope

The Emergency Response and Recovery Plan is designed for the University of South Alabama by the University Safety and Environmental Compliance Committee to provide a guide for potential emergency responses, recovery actions and mitigation programs. The primary objective is to protect students, employees, visitors and the University's properties from a spectrum of possible emergencies and disasters. The Plan does not cover every potential disaster/emergency, but rather those that are of major concern on a typical university campus in a coastal location. Responses may vary from the plan as conditions and circumstances warrant. USA Hospitals have individual emergency/disaster plans specific to their facilities.

#### **Purpose**

The prevention of personal injury and loss of property are the primary purposes for establishing this plan. This plan will help minimize panic and confusion in the event of an emergency. It establishes a small team of people who can assess damage, make informed decisions about how to handle the immediate situation and arrange for experts to deal with long-term consequences of the event.

For the purpose of using the guidelines in this Emergency Response & Recovery Plan, the University of South Alabama defines a major emergency as an event that is not likely to be handled best through routine measures or responses.



The University President or his designee must first declare a state of emergency to exist and then all students, staff and faculty should immediately implement responses accordingly. Two types of emergencies may cause the President to declare an emergency. These are: (1) large scale disorder and (2) large scale natural or man-made disasters. Since an emergency may arise quickly without warning, these procedures are established to be flexible in order to accommodate contingencies of various magnitudes.

Disasters may affect residents in the geographical location. Therefore, city, county and federal emergency services may not be available. A delay in emergency services may be 72 or more hours.

#### Scope

This document establishes policies, procedures and organizational structures for response to a major emergency or crisis. Nothing in this plan will be construed in a manner that limits the use of good judgment and common sense in matters not foreseen or covered by the elements of this document.

This document addresses the University of South Alabama campuses. To supplement this document, off campus locations and facilities have prepared similar emergency plans. Individual departments of the University, such as University Police, Central Utilities, Maintenance, Housing, Mitchell Center, Safety and Environmental Compliance maintain department specific emergency response and recovery plans as necessary to ensure the safety and well-being

The following definitions of an emergency are provided as a guide to assist University Police and responding departments

in determining the appropriate level of notification re-1.577 tid (on m0) TJ-3217 (NMC /P &MC#J0.011 5e4.006 Tw.6 (s )( )Tj0 g0

The Executive Director for Marketing and Communication or designee will brief the President and Executive Vice President, as needed, regarding the incident within a reasonable time period as necessary.

#### Level 2 (NIMS 3)

Any incident, potential or actual, which affects an entire building or group of buildings, which may disrupt the overall operation of the University. Outside emergency services will most likely be required in addition to assistance from campus support services. Major policy considerations and decisions will usually be required from the University's Administration during times of crisis. In some cases, an Emergency Response Team may be activated.

Example: Building destroyed or heavily damaged by a tornado

Report any **Level 2** incidents to University Police (**251-460-6312**). University Police dispatch will attempt to contact the following university officials and department representatives, as appropriate, utilizing the Campus Emergency Call list:

- 1. University Police Chief
- 2. Executive Vice President & Provost
- 3. Vice President for Student Affairs
- 4. Finance & Administration Chief(s)
- 5. Assistant Director, Maintenance

- 7. Superintendent Central Utilities
- 8. Vice President for Marketing and Communications
- 9. Director, Risk Management
- 10. Director, Safety and Environmental Compliance
- 11. Dean or Department Chair of area affnr8

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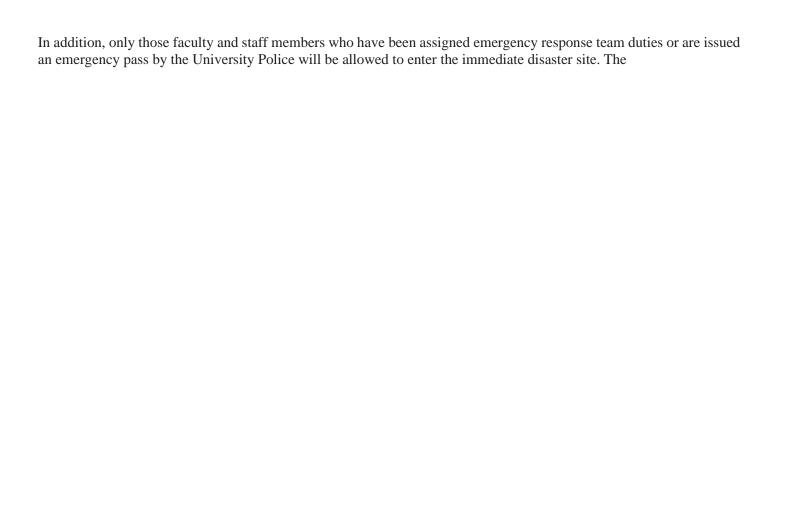
#### Level 3 (NIMS 2,1)

Any incident or occurrence that has taken place and has seriously impaired or halted the operations of the University. With all Level 2 incidents an Emergency Operations Center will most likely be activated and the appropriate support and operational plans executed if conditions warrant. Level 3 situations may be events where mass casualties and/or severe property damage may be sustained. A coordinated effort of all campus wide resources is required to effectively control the situation. Outside emergency services will be essential.

Contact University Police (**251-460-6312**) immediately. University Police will attempt to contact the following University Officials.

- 1. Chief University Police
- 2. President or

5. Vice President for Medical Affairs



# Action: Direction and Coordination of Emergency

#### **Emergency Response And Recovery Team Leader**

All emergency operations and policy decisions shall be coordinated by the President of the University (251-460-6111) or designee. In the absence of the President those listed in order of availability under "Definitions of Emergencies" may act as an Interim Response Leader. The direct operational control of a campus major emergency or disaster is the sole responsibility of the President or his designee. The operational support of University Emergency Response Teams is the responsibility of the Vice President for Finance and Administration or designee who will coordinate on-campus emergency support functions serving as Emergency Operations Coordinator. Off-Campus emergencies will be coordinated by the Administrator, Dean or Department Chair in charge of the facility or off campus area affected. The Vice President of Marketing and Communications or designee will serve as Public Information Officers - PIO's. See section F, which depicts responsibilities and reporting relationships only during emergency operations.

## Action: Establishing an Emergency Operations Center

A. Field Operations Center

If the

- g. Emergency Response and Recovery Plan
- h. University Emergency Call List and Phone Numbers
- i. Field operations vehicle

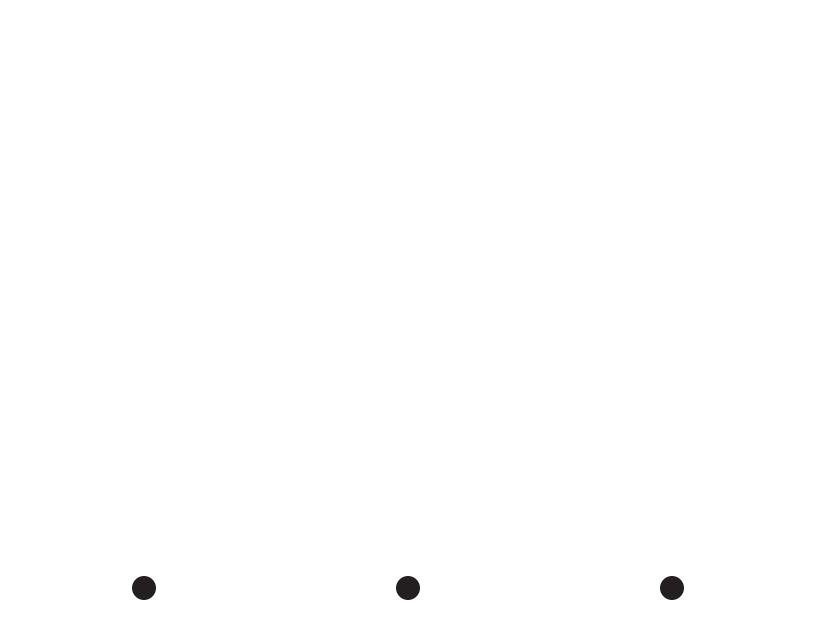
#### **B.** University Administrative Team

If the incident involves a large part of the campus, the President's Council serving as the University's Administrative Team, when convened, will meet in the President's Board Room (Administration Building). If this site is unavailable, the President or designee may elect to utilize the Health Sciences Building Room 3006. At least one University Police Officer in uniform may be assigned to staff the meeting area until the incident/emergency situation ends. An area for outside and local agency assistance representatives to meet may be established by the Emergency Operations Coordinator in consultation with the Marketing and Communications designated PIO within the Operations Center or adjacent to the Field Operations Center for unified on-site emergency response logistics.

A conference room with facilities for media representatives may be provided and staffed by University personnel as defined by the Vice President

# Remember to Dial 9 to Make an Outside Call Before Calling Non-University Agencies:

1. Local law enforcement agencies:	
Mobile Police Department	9-911
Mobile County Sheriff's Office	9-911
2. Local Fire Department	9-911
Local Fire Department     6. UScy &     Alabama State Troopers	251-660-2300
4. EMS Services	9-911
5. Mobile County Health Department	251-690-8158
6. State Department of Environmental Management	
7. Local Hospitals:	
USA University Hospital	251-471-7000
USA Children &	



#### 6. Assistant Director, Maintenance

- a. Provides equipment and personnel to perform shutdown procedures, barricade control, installation of barricades, emergency repairs and equipment protection.
- b. Provides vehicles, equipment and operators for movement of personnel and supplies, assigns vehicles as requested by the Emergency Response Team for use.
- c. Manages recovery phase structural demolition(s) and debris removal efforts.
- d. Pre-arranges alternate debris disposal sites and obtains necessary permits.

#### 7. University Police Department: Chief of Police

- a. Maintains the University police force in a state of constant readiness and supports the President in declared emergencies. Reports directly to the Response Leader until the emergency has been declared over.
- b. Notifies appropriate University administrators of major and minor emergencies.
- c. Monitors campus emergency warning and evacuation systems.
- d. Takes immediate and appropriate action to protect life, property and to safeguard records.
- e. Obtains assistance from the Mobile Police Department, Mobile Fire and Rescue Departments and/or Mobile County Sherffie's Det 101-16(a)-16(b)-16(c)-

# **Departmental Plans/Responsibilities**

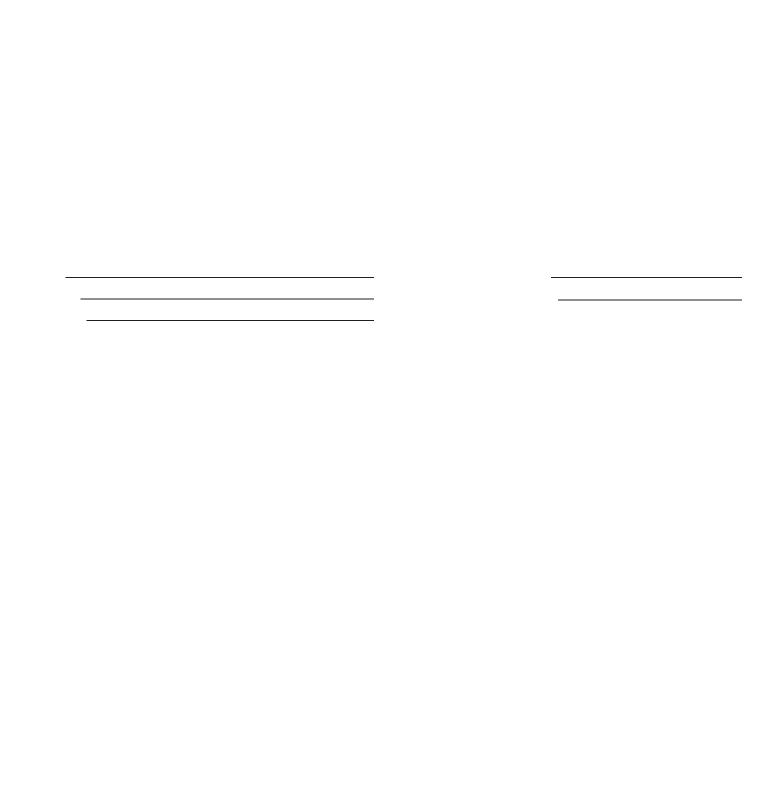
- c. Building Safety Coordinators, if designated, may serve as monitors for building evacuations and may sweep the evacuated building to confirm a complete evacuation. Monitors must not re-enter areas where smoke and fumes are evident, nor to take unusual risks. They should direct trained emergency personnel to such areas to confirm evacuation.
- d. Inform their students and/or staff of the emergency and initiate emergency procedures as outlined in this guide.
- re. Ass.9at)@ut@Tds.feniha coe.3ks)2(1

# **Notification System**

 $The\ University\ alert\ system(s)\ are\ the\ primary\ means\ of\ emergency\ notification\ on\ any\ of\ the\ University\ campuses.\ The$ 

The Health Sciences Building, Room 0003, may serve as an alternate Emergency Operations Center or communication center in the event that an alternate location is required.

*Important:* During an emergency, campus phones must be restricted to official University business only. In the absence of phone services, University Police may establish runners for emergency communication Td[ b)d[ b)d[ b)d[ b)d[ (1.7 (y).3 (u)10 (u)1



#### **Campus Evacuation**

Evacuation of all or part of the campus grounds will be announced by the University Police (251-460-6312) through the USA mass notification or by University Officials based on the magnitude of the event. All persons (students, staff and af 1.304 OIZ (ae)5.2 (PO)(FT)(T-A)(T)(A) 20086 DFTIA(t)-3.6 (Int())(132t)(1)(1542t)(1)(1042t)(1)(10

Sheltering in place requires two distinct actions to be taken without delay to maximize the passive protection a building can provide:

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# Statement A

# **Violent or Criminal Behavior**

In an emergency, dial **251-460-46lb12n** 

# Campus Violence or Criminal Threat:

The USA Police Department is trained to deal with dangerous or threatening situations. If there is an immediate threat, an announcement will be made over the campus siren/PA system, email or text messaging and the campus will be put on police lockdown. Once the treat has passed, you will be notified. In addition to the above, information will also be available as soon as possible from the official sources of Weather Emergency Information listed above.

### SafetyProtocol: Armed Subjects

Run - Hide - Fight Training

- 1. If you witness any armed individual on campus at any time or if an individual is acting in a
- hostile or belligerent manner, immediately contact University Police at 251-460-6312.
- 2. If the armed subject is outside the building:
  - a. Turn off the lights, close and lock all windows and doors.
  - b. If you can do so safely, get all students on the floor and out of the line of fire.
  - c. Move to a core area of the building if safe to do so and remain there until an "All Clear" instruction is given by an authorized know voice or via university notification system.
  - d. If the staffor(TAD) 03 (mmTw 16 or ... 16 or ... 17 or ... 16 or ... 17 or ... 18 or ... 17 or ... 18 o

# What ToDo If Taken Hostage

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# **University Shelters**

# A. Primary Shelters:

The following buildings will be considered primary shelters or gathering places for students, faculty and staff in the event of potential flooding or the pending arrival of a hurricane to the Mobile area. Campus shelters if authorized and opened are for University personnel, students and their immediate families or persons in their care, but are not designated as general community shelters.

All operations within the residence halls will be monitored by the Director of Housing or designee and will refer all problems that occur to the Operations Center.

University officials, as necessary, may be sent to deal with problems in the halls or elsewhere on campus only when sustained winds are less than 55 mph or it is considered to be safe based on the work to be performed. Staff may utilize a University vehicle assigned to the Emergency Operations Center if available. Staff members will not be permitted to respond to incidents during the extreme periods of the storm.

Any University guests on campus during the storm will be monitored by a University staff member.

Updates to the shelter occupants will be made by a desigh15.6 (\$72.72\)0.6nu)8(f)-4 (t)6.3. (s)\)022 0 Td69 1.456 0 Td[w)-211 Tw

# Reopening the University A. At the earliest possible time following the hurricane, the Finance and Administration Chief(s), Director of Housing,

# Temperature Extreme

Employees working in temperature extremes such as heat or cold related should be provided with frequent work rest periodsand fluids. It is recommende that clothing be layered as pertemperatur extreme and head weavorn to hold in

- n. Mobile Gas Companyill make thedetermination as to when it is safe to reoccupy a building or complexif the event involves their services.
- o. MarketingandCommunication'sepresentativewill handleall mediainquiries.
- p. Do not returnto an evacuate duilding unless instructed to do so by University Officials or University Police.

## **Communications**

The University Telephone Network consists of the following sites with a private branch exchanger PBX connected the public network by Harbor Communications and to Campus through our private network.

- a. Main CampusandUSA Mitchell CancerInstitute.
- b. In the event of a complete Harb@ommunications failure imited backup circuits are available through AT&T.
- c. In the event total telephone communications are lost, refer to disaster policy for Communication Center. Each of the USA Hospitalshascontingency plans for Communication emergesthat addressesponse for their facilities. Key University Officials have been given authorization and codes access he Federal Government's (GETS) Emergency Telephone System including (WPS) Wireless Priority Service in the event of a disaster or event that disrupts normal communication systems.

# Management of Campus - Wide Epidemics

## A. Communicable Diseases

Student Health Services (SHS), in consultation with the University's Department of Infectious Disease, monitors communicable disease cases that any affect the well-being of students faculty and staffon themain campus In the event of a communicable disease outbreak (such as, measles, mumps, and meningitis), Student Health Services consults we and receives guidance from the University Health System, Mobile County Health Department of Public Health, and as needed, the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). The consulting agency is determined by the disease presented, the number of cases, and the guidelines and recommendations established by an additional stration. Disease events are co-managed by the SHS and the consulting agency tensure the afety of individuals and the campus community an agent of the University of Southabama, Student Health informs the university administration, faculty, staff and students, as needed to provide education to limit the impact of a communicable disease event. Student Health works with the Vice President for Health Sciences, University President, Vice President for Marketingand Communications with the Vice Provost for Student Affairs to create methods communications such as the use of e-mail, faculty announcement was a recommended by the various groups.

Communicabledisease are defined athosedisease that can be transmitted rom one person another such as pandemic flu, tuberculosis, meningitis, chickenpox, SARS, hepatitis and others. Individuals contracting communicable disease



Cancellation of Classes and/or Cl

