

## Chapter 8

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT\*

#### Sec. 8-1. Definition.

As used in this chapter the term "emergency management" means the preparation for and the carrying out of all emergency functions, other than functions for which military forces or other federal agencies are primarily responsible, to prevent, minimize and repair injury and damage resulting from disasters caused by enemy attack, sabotage or other hostile action, or by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural cause. These functions include, without limitation, firefighting services; police services; medical and health services; rescue, engineering, air raid warning services; communications; radiological, chemical and other special weapons of defense; evacuation of persons from stricken areas; emergency welfare services (civilian war aid); emergency transportation; plant protection; temporary restoration of public utility services; and other functions related to civilian protection, together with all other activities necessary or incidental to the preparation for and carrying out of the foregoing functions.

(Code 1953, § 8A-1)

State law reference—Definitions, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-3.

#### Sec. 8-2. Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to:

- (1) Reduce vulnerability of people and communities of this city to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from natural or manmade catastrophes, riots, or hostile military or paramilitary action.
- (2) Prepare for prompt and efficient rescue, care and treatment of persons victimized or threatened by disasters.
- (3) Provide for a setting conducive to the rapid and orderly start of restoration and rehabilitation of persons and property affected by disasters.
- (4) Clarify and strengthen the roles of the council, city agencies, departments and local governments in prevention and preparation for response and recovery operations from disasters.
- (5) Authorize and provide for coordination and emergency management of activities relating to disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery by agencies and offices of this city and similar state-local, interstate, federal-state and foreign activities in which the city and its political subdivisions may participate.

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\*Cross references—Administration, Ch. 2; fire prevention and protection, Ch. 9; health, Ch. 10; motor vehicles and traffic, Ch. 13; emergency vehicles, § 13-4 et seq.

State law references—Emergency management, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-1 et seq.; local emergency management organizations, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-9 et seq.

- (6) Authorize and provide for cooperation in disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.
- (7) Provide an emergency management system embodying all aspects of pre-disaster preparedness and post-disaster response.
- (8) Assist in the prevention of disasters by planning and regulation of public and private facilities and land use.
- (9) Provide for the effective mobilization of all resources of the city, both public and private.

(Code 1953, § 8A-2)

State law reference—Purpose of emergency management law, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-2.

### Sec. 8-3. Emergency management director.

There is hereby created the office of emergency management director. Such officer shall be nominated by the mayor and approved by the council. Such director shall:

- (1) Represent the city on all matters pertaining to emergency management.
- (2) Direct and coordinate the services of government departments and all volunteer forces during emergencies or disasters in the city.
- (3) In all emergencies or disasters advise and recommend to the city council on problems and possible solutions.
- (4) During periods of emergency obtain personnel, equipment and vital supplies needed for the protection of life and property.
- (5) Develop and maintain emergency operation response plans.
- (6) Consider and recommend to the council for approval, all mutual aid, continuity of government, and resource management plans.
- (7) Coordinate on behalf of the council 911 emergency, emergency medical services, hazardous materials responses, emergency fuel allocation and other duties to be determined by the council at such time as the need may arise.
- (8) Provide and coordinate training for employees and volunteers in procedures of emergency management.
- (9) Be prepared to assume the role as city-authorized agent for presidential declared emergencies and/or major declarations.
- (10) Assume the role of coordinating officer for the city, and advise the council on matters relating to emergency financing and submissions of project applications.

(Code 1953, § 8A-3)

Cross reference—Administration, Ch. 2.

**Sec. 8-4. Local emergency management agency.**

Officers and employees of the city, with volunteer forces enrolled to aid them during an emergency, and all groups, organizations and persons who make the agreements on operations of law, shall be charged with duties necessary for the protection of life and property in the city during an emergency.

(Code 1953, § 8A-4)

**Cross reference**—Administration, Ch. 2.

**State law reference**—Loyalty oath, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-20.

**Sec. 8-5. Volunteers.**

All persons, other than officers and employees of the city, volunteering in service pursuant to compliance with this chapter, shall serve with or without compensation. While engaged in such service, they shall have the same immunities as persons and employees of the city performing similar duties.

(Code 1953, § 8A-5)

**State law reference**—Immunity from liability for torts, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-16.

**Sec. 8-6. Local disaster emergencies.**

A local disaster or emergency may be declared by the council if it finds that it has occurred or that the occurrence or threat thereof is imminent. The state of the disaster emergency shall continue until the council finds that the threat of danger has passed or the disaster has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer exist and terminates the state of disaster emergency. All regulations and orders issued shall indicate the nature of the disaster and the area or areas affected. A declaration of disaster emergency shall be disseminated promptly by the best means to bring its contents to the attention of the general public, all local departments and agencies, the state governor and the state emergency management agency.

(Code 1953, § 8A-6)

**State law reference**—Powers of political subdivisions with respect to emergency management, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-10.

**Sec. 8-7. Communications.**

The emergency management agency shall ascertain what means exist for rapid and efficient communications in times of disaster emergencies. The agency shall consider the possibility of supplementing these communication resources or of integrating them into a comprehensive city-state-federal telecommunication or other communication system or network. In studying the character and feasibility of multipurpose use for general city and local government purposes, the agency shall make recommendations to the council as appropriate.

(Code 1953, § 8A-7)

**Sec. 8-8. Intergovernmental arrangements.**

The council, in enacting this chapter, enters into a mutual aid disaster compact with all cities which enact such a compact.

(Code 1953, § 8A-8)

**State law references**—Mutual interstate aid agreements and compacts, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-7; local mutual aid agreements, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-9; employees rendering outside aid, Code of Ala. 1975, § 31-9-11.

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STATE OF ALABAMA

LAUDERDALE COUNTY

LAUDERDALE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
RESOLUTION OF 1984

WHEREAS, there exists the possibility of an attack on the United States of unprecedented size and destructiveness; and

WHEREAS, there is a constant danger of natural, man-made and technological disasters with potential for substantial destruction; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to maintain a high state of emergency preparedness coordinated with the State and Federal governments to minimize the loss of life and property during times of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 9 of Title 31 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, known as the "State of Alabama Emergency Management Act," authorizes the local governments to organize Emergency Management organizations for the purpose of promptly reacting in the event of a disaster to save life and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, by the County Commission of Lauderdale County, Alabama, in order to insure that the proper state of emergency management exists to minimize the loss of life and property during times of emergency in this jurisdiction, an Emergency Management Agency and a position of Emergency Management Director/Coordinator (appointed by this Commission), is hereby established, and the Statement of Purpose of this emergency organization is as follows:

SECTION I: Emergency Management

As used in this resolution, the term "Emergency Management" shall include measures for mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery to minimize the effects of a possible attack on the United States of unprecedented size and destructiveness, as well as Civil Disturbances, Dam Failures, Distribution, Disruptions, Droughts, Earthquakes, Earthslides, Structural Fires, Flash Floods, Floods, Hazardous Materials, Fixed Nuclear Power Facilities, Thunderstorms, Terrorism, Tornadoes, Transportation Accidents, Utility Outages, Wildfires, Winter Storms, Bomb Threats, Heat Waves, Bridge Outages, Alternate Routes, Epidemics or any other activity or incident that endangers the population, local government facilities and Industrial plants.

SECTION II: Purposes

The purposes of this resolution are:

1. To reduce vulnerability of persons and communities of this county to damage, injury and loss of life and property resulting from natural or man-made catastrophes, riots, or hostile military or paramilitary action;
2. To prepare for prompt and efficient rescue, care and treatment of persons victimized or threatened by disasters;
3. To provide for a setting conducive to the rapid and orderly restoration and rehabilitation of persons and properly affected by disasters;
4. To clarify and strengthen the roles of the County Commission, county agencies, departments and local governments in prevention and preparation for response and recovery operations from disasters;
5. To authorize and provide for coordination and emergency management of activities relating to disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recover by agencies and offices of this county and similar state-local, interstate, federal-state and foreign activities in which the county and its political subdivisions may participate;
6. To authorize and provide for cooperation in disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery;

7. To provide an emergency management system embodying all aspects of pre-disaster preparedness and post-disaster response;
8. To assist in the prevention of disasters by planning and regulation of public and private facilities and land use;
9. To provide for the effective mobilization of all resources of the County, both public and private.

SECTION III: Emergency Management Director/Coordinator

There is hereby created the office of Lauderdale County Emergency Management Director/Coordinator. Such officer shall be nominated by the Chairman of the County Commission and approved by the Lauderdale County Commission and hereby:

- A. Shall represent the County on all matters pertaining to emergency management.
- B. Shall direct and coordinate the services of government departments and all volunteer forces during emergencies or disasters in Lauderdale County.
- C. Shall in all emergencies or disasters advise the Commission of problems and recommend possible solutions.
- D. Shall, during periods of emergency, obtain personnel, equipment and vital supplies needed for the protection of life and property.
- E. Shall develop and maintain Emergency Operation Response Plans.
- F. Shall consider and recommend to the Commission for approval, all mutual aid, continuity of government and resource management plans.
- G. Shall coordinate on behalf of the Commission, 911 Emergency, Emergency Medical Services, Hazmat Responses, Emergency Fuel Allocation and other duties to be determined by the Commission at such time as the need may arise.
- H. Shall provide and coordinate training for employees and volunteers in procedures of emergency management.
- I. Shall be prepared to assume the role as Lauderdale County's authorized agent for presidentially declared emergencies and/or major declarations.
- J. Shall assume the role of Coordinating Officer for Lauderdale County, and shall advise the County Commission on matters relating to emergency financing and submissions of project applications.

SECTION IV: Local Emergency Management Agency

Officers and Employees of the County of Lauderdale, with volunteer forces enrolled to aid them during emergencies, and all groups, organizations and persons who make the agreements on operations of law, be charged with duties necessary for the protection of life and property in Lauderdale County during emergencies.

SECTION V: Volunteers

All persons, other than officers and employees of the County, volunteering in service pursuant to compliance with this resolution, shall serve with, or without, compensation.

SECTION VI: Effective Date

This resolution is hereby declared to be law and is necessary for the preservation of public business, health and safety and shall take effect immediately.

SECTION VII: Intergovernmental Arrangements

The Board of County Commissioners enacts this resolution and enters into a Mutual Aid Disaster Compact with all counties which have enacted or shall hereafter enact such a compact.

SECTION VIII: Local Disaster Emergencies

A local Disaster or Emergency may be declared by the County Commission if it finds that such has occurred or that the occurrence or threat thereof is imminent. The state of the disaster or emergency shall continue until the Commission finds that the threat or danger has passed or the disaster has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer exist and terminates the state of disaster or emergency. All regulations and orders issued shall indicate the nature of the disaster and the area or areas affected. A declaration of disaster or emergency shall be disseminated promptly by the best means to bring its contents to the attention of the general public, all local departments and agencies, the Governor of the State of Alabama and the Alabama Emergency Management Agency.

SECTION IX: Communications

The Lauderdale County Emergency Management Agency shall ascertain what means exist for rapid and efficient communications in times of disaster or emergency. The agency shall consider the possibility of supplementing these communications resources or of integrating them into a comprehensive County-State-Federal telecommunication or other communication system or network. In studying the character and feasibility of multi-purpose use for General County and Local government purposes, the agency shall make recommendations to the County Commission as appropriate.

SECTION X:

Where provisions of this resolution are in conflict with existing local laws, the provisions of this resolution will govern, and such provisions of existing laws, with which provisions of this resolution are in conflict, are hereby rescinded. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the date of its adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Resolution supersedes the Resolution of September 24th, 1962 establishing a County Civil Defense Organization.

The Civil Defense facilities, property and personnel are hereby transferred to the Lauderdale County Emergency Management Agency.

The Adoption of the above resolution proposed, seconded and adopted by the County Commission of Lauderdale County, Alabama, on this 26th day of March, 1984.

APPROVED: *William Johnson* Chairman

*Kenny J. Day* Commissioner

*Beaton Killeen* Commissioner

*Ronnie Owens* Commissioner

*Bobby M. Cornish* Commissioner

ATTESTED:

*Carrine S. Campbell*

STATE OF ALABAMA    |  
LAUDERDALE COUNTY   |

A G R E E M E N T

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into at Florence, Alabama this the 10TH day of APRIL, 1984 by and between Lauderdale County, a political subdivision of the State of Alabama, for the purpose of convenience, hereinafter referred to as the County and the City of Florence, Alabama, a municipal corporation, for the purpose of convenience, hereinafter referred to as the City, WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, both the City and the County recognize a legal duty upon each of them respectively to provide suitable and adequate facilities and personnel for the activation, continuation and maintenance of an Emergency Management Agency. Such Agency to be jointly managed, operated and funded by said County and City.

THERE is hereby established the Florence/Lauderdale Emergency Management Agency. The duties and responsibilities of this agency are spelled out in a Florence City ordinance and a Lauderdale County resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Lauderdale County, Alabama has caused this instrument to be executed by William B. Duncan, Chairman of the Lauderdale County Commission and shall affix the county seal, and the City of Florence, Alabama has caused this instrument to be executed by William E. Batson, its Mayor and the corporate seal of said City shall be affixed hereon by James E. Wilson, City Clerk, who shall attest the same.

ATTEST:

Carrene S. Campbell  
County Administrator

LAUDERDALE COUNTY COMMISSION

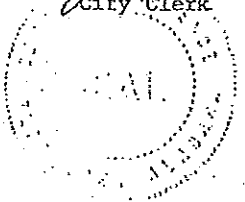
BY William B. Duncan  
Its Chairman

ATTEST:

James E. Wilson  
City Clerk

CITY OF FLORENCE

BY William E. Batson  
Its Mayor



BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA, as follows:

That the Agreement between the City and Lauderdale  
County for the maintenance of the Florence/Lauderdale  
Emergency Management Agency be approved and that the Mayor  
and City Clerk be authorized to execute and attest same  
respectively in behalf of the City.

ADOPTED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1984.

William E. Batson  
W. E. Batson  
Steven L. Ho  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CITY OF FLORENCE, ALABAMA



ATTEST:  
James E. Wilson  
CITY CLERK