SANTA CLARA COUNTY
LOCAL FIRE SERVICE AND RESCUE MUTUAL AID PLAN

The Santa Clara County Local Fire Service and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan is an extension of, and supportive document to, the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan. This Plan supports the concepts of the Incident Command System (ICS), the Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS), and multi-hazard response planning. The Santa Clara County Local Fire Service and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan is published as follows:

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A. **Purpose of The Plan**

1. To provide for rapid systematic mobilization, organization, and operation of necessary fire and rescue resources in mitigating the effects of extraordinary events. Local officials will maintain fire and rescue resources consistent with anticipated needs.

2. To provide an annually updated fire and rescue inventory of all personnel, apparatus, and equipment.

3. To promote annual training and/or exercises between plan participants.

B. **Planning Basis**

1. No community has resources sufficient to cope with any and all emergencies for which potential exists.

2. Fire and rescue officials must pre-plan emergency operations to ensure efficient utilization of available resources.

3. Basic to California's emergency planning is a statewide system of mutual aid in which each jurisdiction relies first upon its own resources.

4. The California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement between the State of California, each of its counties, and those incorporated cities and fire protection districts signatory thereto:
   
   a. Creates formal structure for provision of mutual aid;
   
   b. Provides that no party shall be required to unreasonably deplete its own resources in furnishing mutual aid;
   
   c. Provides that the responsible local official in whose jurisdiction an incident requiring mutual aid has occurred shall remain in charge at such incident, including the direction of such personnel and equipment provided through mutual aid plans pursuant to the agreement;
   
   d. Provides the intra and inter-area and intraregional mutual aid operational plans shall be developed by the parties thereof and are operative as between the parties thereof in accordance with the provisions of such operational plans;
e. Provides that reimbursement for mutual aid may be provided pursuant to a governor's disaster proclamation or, when conditions warrant, invoking the USFS/CDF/OES Cooperative Agreement. There is no other existing provision for mutual aid reimbursement.

5. In addition to fire and rescue resources, emergency operations plans should include both public and private agencies with support capability and/or emergency operation responsibilities.

6. Emergency operations plans should be distributed to, and discussed with, management, command, operational, and support level personnel within each planning jurisdiction.

7. Emergency operations plans are to be reviewed, revised, and updated every five years or as dictated to encompass changes gained through disaster operations and training, and changes in resource availability.

8. The fire chiefs of the parties to this plan shall have the authority to amend appendices and execute any documents required to implement such amendments.

C. Policies

The following policies form the basis of the Santa Clara County Local Mutual Aid Plan. This Plan presupposes that all member departments provide the ability to handle normal incidents for their city or district. Each jurisdiction shall make a major commitment of its own resources before calling mutual aid.

1. Resources respond to the jurisdiction requiring mutual aid as requested in one or more of the following resource configurations:
   
a. **Single Resource** - Any single fire suppression resource.

   b. **Alarm Assignment** - Two (2) engines, one (1) truck, one (1) chief officer.

   c. **Strike Team** - Five (5) engines, one (1) chief officer.

   d. **Task Force** - Any group of resources temporarily assembled for a specific mission as specified by the requesting agency. One (1) chief officer.
2. This plan is not to deplete any department of apparatus beyond that to which it has agreed and committed. Companies that are already provided to the requesting agency by auto-aid or day-to-day mutual aid agreements are considered part of the maximum commitment under this plan.

Local resources available are listed in Appendix 9.

*Pre-designated strike teams are available for response outside the County for major incidents (See Appendix 2: LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRIKE TEAMS).

3. Each jurisdiction shall be responsible to call back off-duty personnel and staff reserve apparatus as soon as possible for any incident involving mutual aid.

4. Mutual aid companies may be utilized by the requesting jurisdiction at the scene to control the incident, or staged as an emergency resource near the incident, but should be released once mop-up operations begin.

5. Mutual aid resources are sent directly to the requesting agency with minimum delay. Immediate need requests within Santa Clara County require Code 3 response.

6. The Thomas Map/Santa Clara County Popular Street Atlas is the official reference map book for mutual aid plans and their operation.

7. Apparatus responding under this plan shall come under the authority and direction of the Incident Commander of the jurisdiction receiving the aid.

8. The Incident Command System shall be utilized for command and control of emergency incidents.

9. It shall be the responsibility of the jurisdiction receiving mutual aid to provide food, fuel, and oil when necessary.

10. Each responding jurisdiction shall bear its own costs of operations, Worker's Compensation, and insurance on its personnel and equipment.

11. The Santa Clara County Fire Coordinator is responsible for implementation of the Local Mutual Aid Plan and overall coordination of inter-county and State OES Mutual Aid. All mutual aid to or from outside the County is directed through County Communications to the County Fire Coordinator.

12. The County Fire Coordinator is elected by the Santa Clara County Fire Chiefs and appointed by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. The Coordinator is responsible for overall coordination and maintenance of the plan and all inter-county and State OES mutual aid.
13. The training of regular emergency personnel in specialized skills and techniques is essential if each level of the fire and rescue service is to successfully discharge assigned emergency responsibilities to handle all-risk emergencies. Fire and rescue officials should identify key personnel with emergency assignments and ensure the adequacy of their training.

D. **Authorities**

1. California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code) 1970 Statutes

2. California Master Mutual Aid Agreement

3. Labor Code, State of California (Section 3211.92, Disaster Service Worker)

4. Government Code, State of California (Section 8690.60)
E. IN WITNESS WHEREOF this agreement has been executed and approved and is effective and operative as to each of the parties as herein provided.

[Signatures of various individuals representing different fire departments, with dates]

Date: March 5, 1997