

State of Michigan

# Michigan Municipal Executives



MICHIGAN STATE POLICE  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY DIVISION

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and Gregg Bird

# Introductions

S. Tutt Gorman  
City Manager  
City of Portland, Michigan



# Introductions

Lt. Orville Theaker  
District 6 Coordinator  
Emergency Management and  
Homeland Security Division  
Michigan State Police



# Agenda

- Emergency Management Fundamentals
- Roles and Responsibilities
- The Assistance Process
- Legal Aspects





# Objectives

- Define emergency management field and systems
- Examine community leadership roles and responsibilities
- Discuss process of receiving assistance during a disaster
- Review Michigan laws and policies related to disaster preparedness and response
- Review lessons learned from previous local disasters



# Emergency Management Fundamentals



# Key Terms

## Disaster Defined

When community needs exceed resources, it will not be “business as usual”



# Key Concepts

Disasters can impact a community by:

- **Destroying** lives and causing injury
- **Displacing** populations
- **Disrupting** services
- **Damaging** homes, businesses, and infrastructure

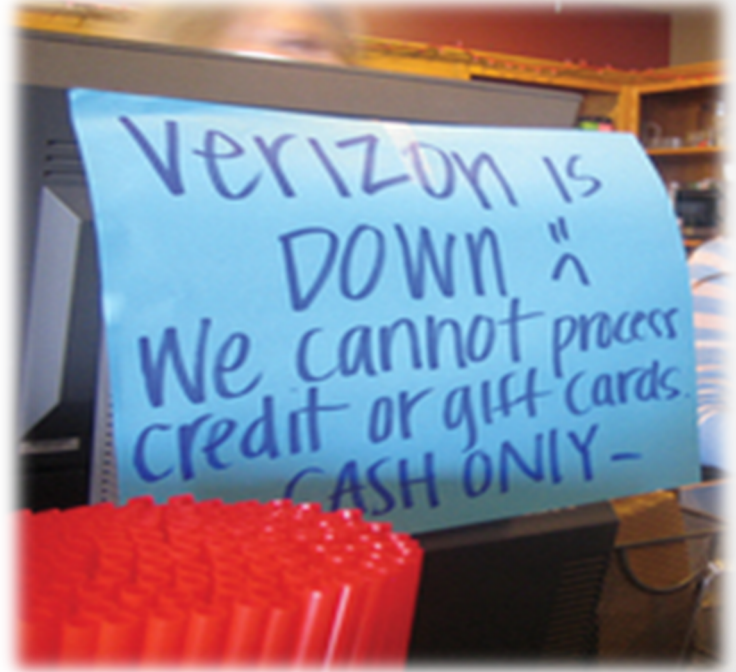
Ultimately, destroying the sense of  
“normalcy and community”



# Key Concepts

## Disasters:

- Start and end at the local level
- Cannot be treated as “business as usual”
- Are information driven
- Force community leaders to think creatively and quickly



# Key Concepts

## Expectations of Michigan Citizens:

- Essential services should work ... all the time
- Citizens' "needs" will be dealt with quickly
- Government will run ... no matter what
- To be told about the crisis event **and** how it will affect them
- Someone will take charge, immediately, by acting fast to remediate, correct, and recover from the incident
- Society will make citizens "whole" again



# Key Concepts

**Will people panic when you reveal bad news?**





# Media Management

- **Traditional Media**
- **Communicating Directly**
- **Social Media\***





# Key Concepts

- Armed with information, people organize themselves and help others
- Protect health, safety, and the environment by keeping the public informed
- Maintain public confidence in the agency
- Manage expectations
- Build relationships before a crisis



# Key Concepts

**What are some common  
Michigan disasters?**



# Portland - 2015 Tornado



# Portland – 2019 Flood/Ice Jam





# Portland – 2019 Flood/Ice Jam



# Portland – 2019 Flood/Ice Jam



# Key Terms

- Emergency Manager ≠ Emergency Financial Manager
- Emergency management is focused on keeping the public safe before, during, and after disasters. Emergency management at the state level is organized by the Michigan State Police.
  - Emergency management is a local responsibility under Public Act 390 of 1976.
- Emergency “Financial” Managers are focused on returning a community to financial stability during a financial emergency. This individual reports to the Governor.
  - This position is authorized by Public Act 436 of 2012.



# Key Terms

- Whole Community –  
Leverage the resources and recognize the needs of every part of our country
- All-Hazards –  
Consistent and effective response to any emergency, regardless of cause





# How We Manage

## Emergency Operations Center

A single facility with representatives who:

- Coordinate the response
- Procure and manage resources for responders
- Make decisions
- Manage and disseminate information
- Manage recovery efforts
- Liaison with other agencies and levels of government



# Public Official

## Emergency Management

- Meet your local emergency management coordinator and get their contact information
- When preparing for an emergency or disaster, remember to include the needs of your entire community
- Prepare for potential incidents through training and exercise
- Coordinate and build partnerships with other agencies who can help your community later



# Roles and Responsibilities

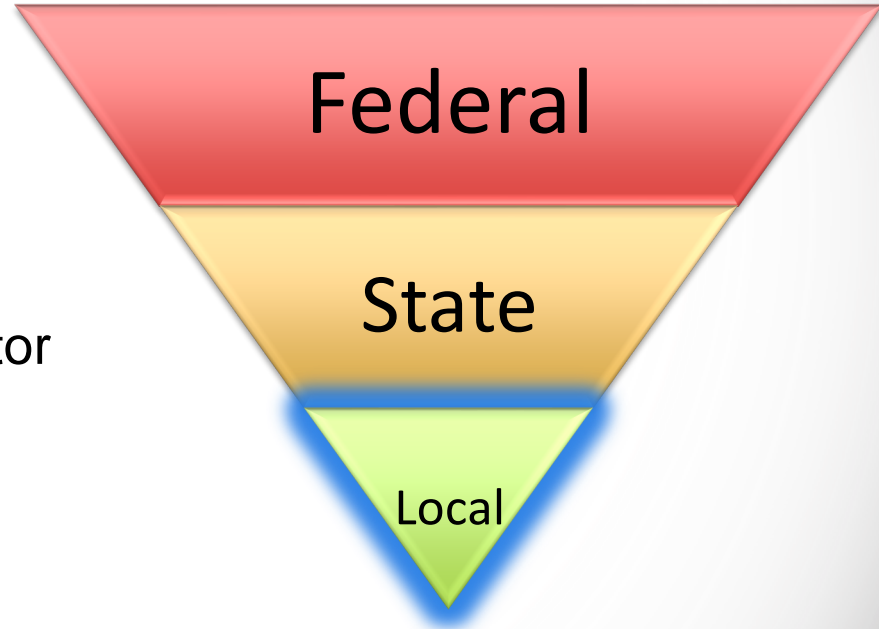


# Roles and Responsibilities

## Chief Executive Official

Final local responsibility for disaster services lies with the Chief Executive Official:

- County Chairperson
- County Executive or Administrator
- Mayor
- City Manager
- Township Supervisor
- Designee by Charter

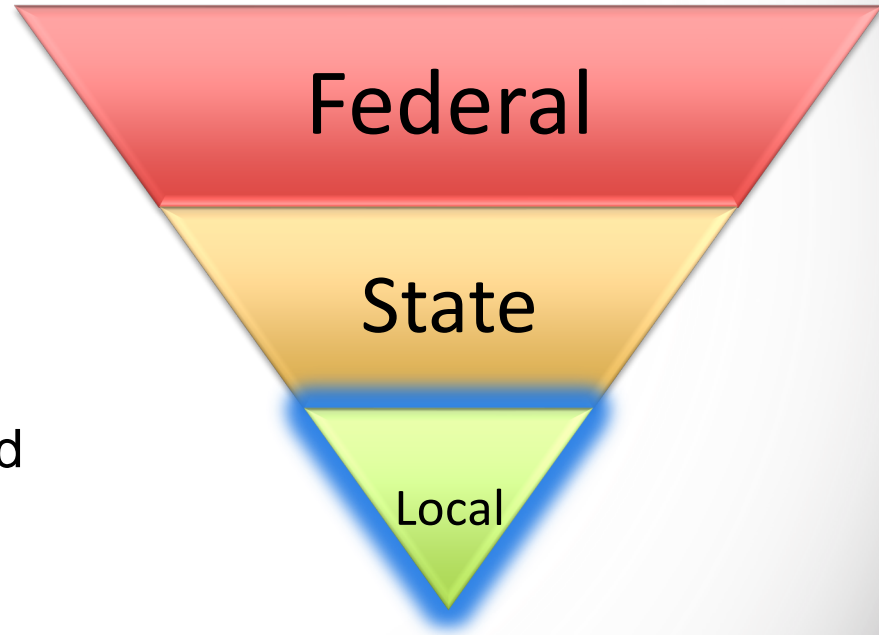


# Roles and Responsibilities

## Chief Executive Official

### Day-to-Day Responsibilities:

- Direct development of community emergency plans, policies, and procedures
- Understand disaster protocols and systems
- Participate in training, exercises, and meetings
- Identify potential issues

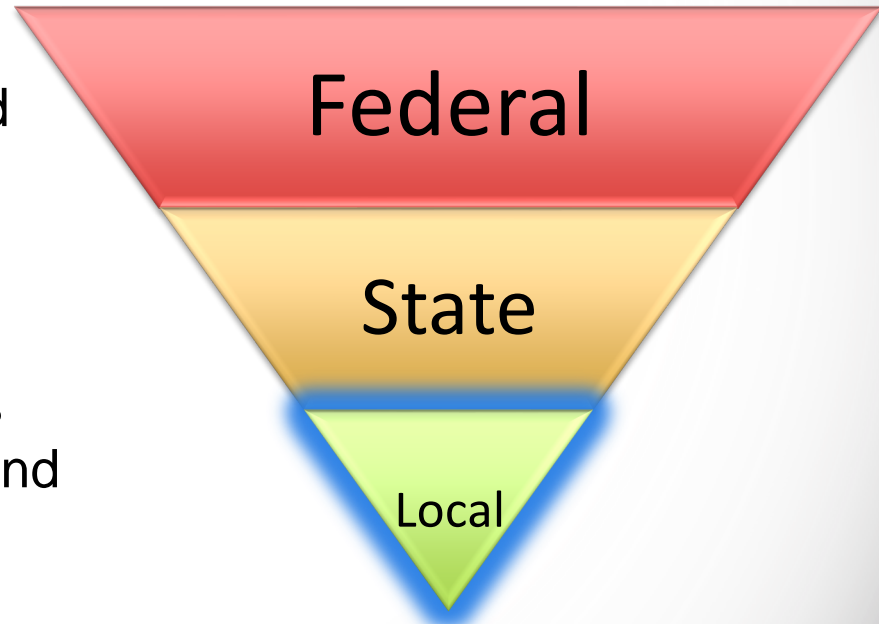


# Roles and Responsibilities

## Chief Executive Official

### Disaster Responsibilities:

- Ensure the public health, safety, and welfare of your community
- Maintain public confidence and manage expectations
- Participate in emergency operations center efforts by making decisions and authorizing funds and contracts

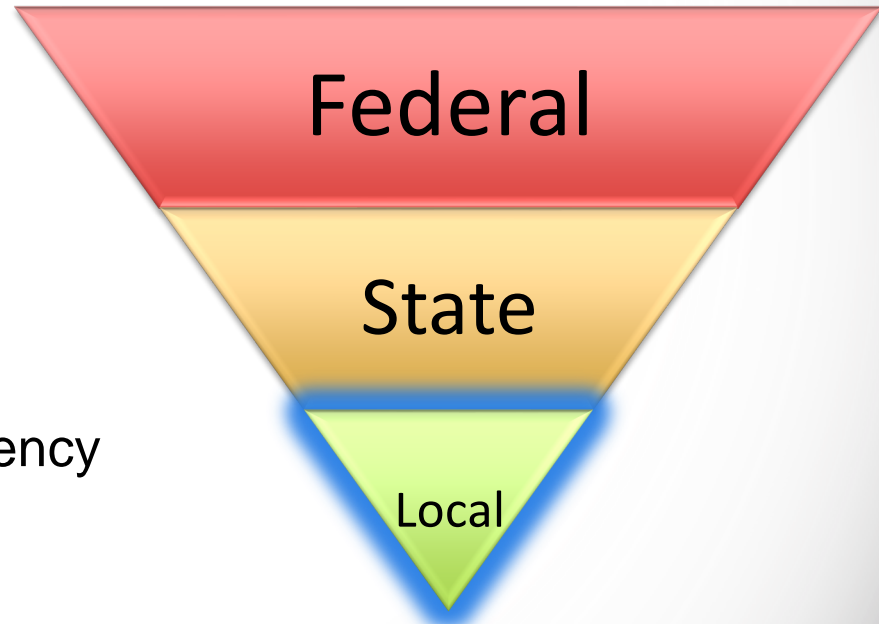


# Roles and Responsibilities

## Chief Executive Official

Powers of Chief Executive Official:

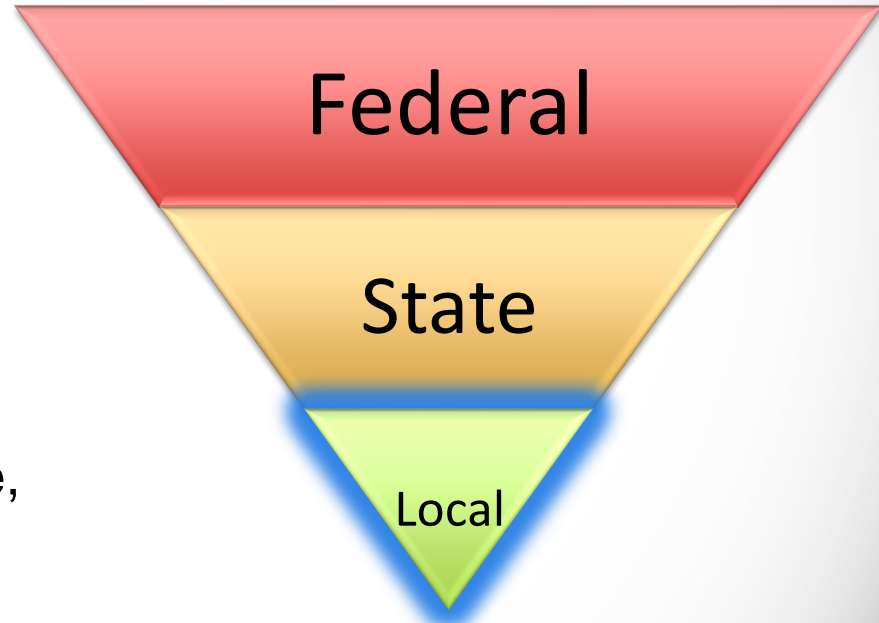
- Declare Local State of Emergency
- Issue travel restrictions on local and county roads
- Appropriate and expend funds
- Provide for health and safety
- Direct and coordinate local multi-agency response
- Appoint disaster workers



# Roles and Responsibilities

## Emergency Management Coordinator

- Oversees day-to-day operations in preparedness for a disaster
- During a disaster, acts as conduit between Incident Command and Elected Officials
- Develops strategic vision for emergency preparedness, response, and recovery

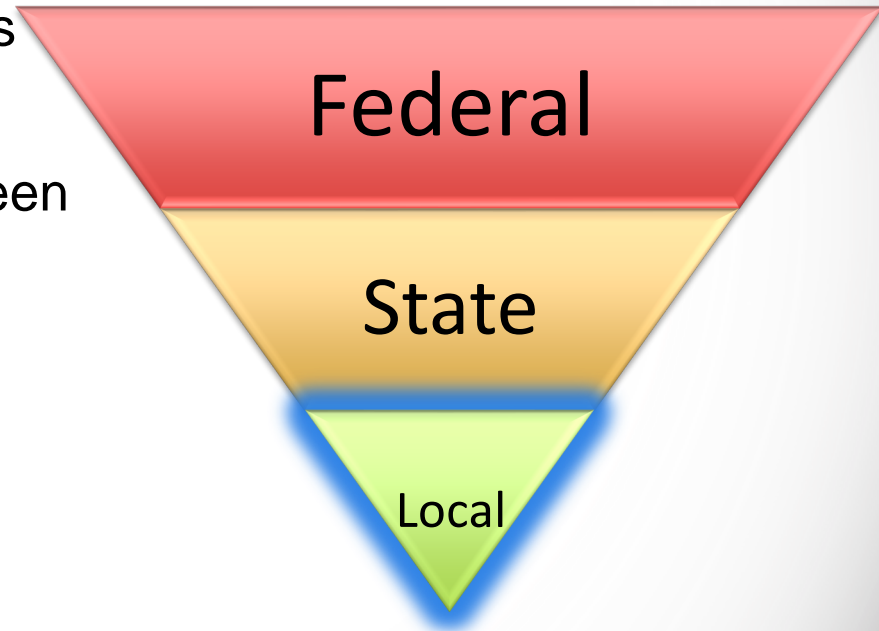




# Roles and Responsibilities

## Local State of Emergency

- Provides notification to other agencies of an incident
- Indicates plans and protocols have been put into action
- Must be renewed by governing body every seven days
- Separate request needed to ask for Governor's declaration

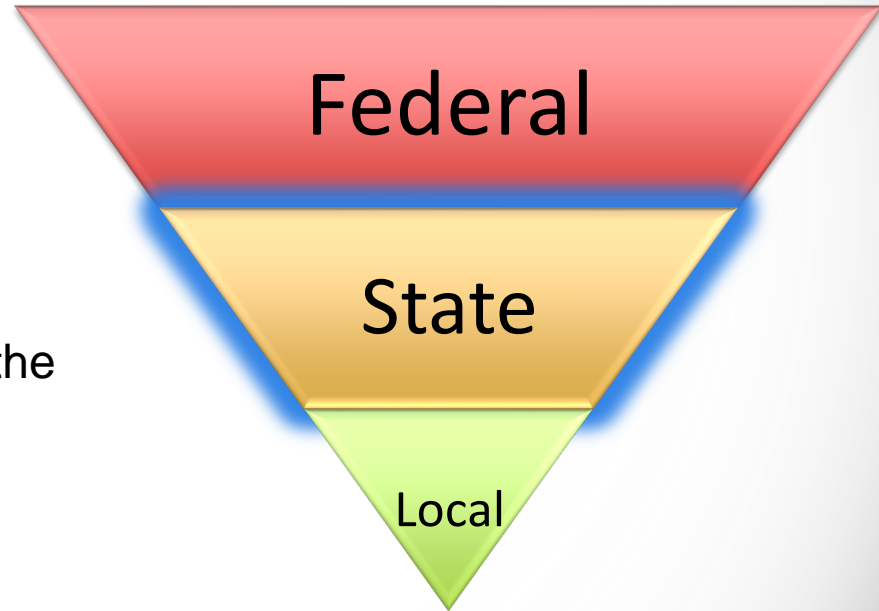


# Roles and Responsibilities

## State Assistance

When efforts are beyond the ability of local government, they may turn to the state and request a Governor's Declaration:

- Request can only be made by Chief Executive Official
- Request submitted through the District Coordinator who is the liaison between the levels of government
- MSP provides recommendation and manages resource requests
- Governor issues declaration

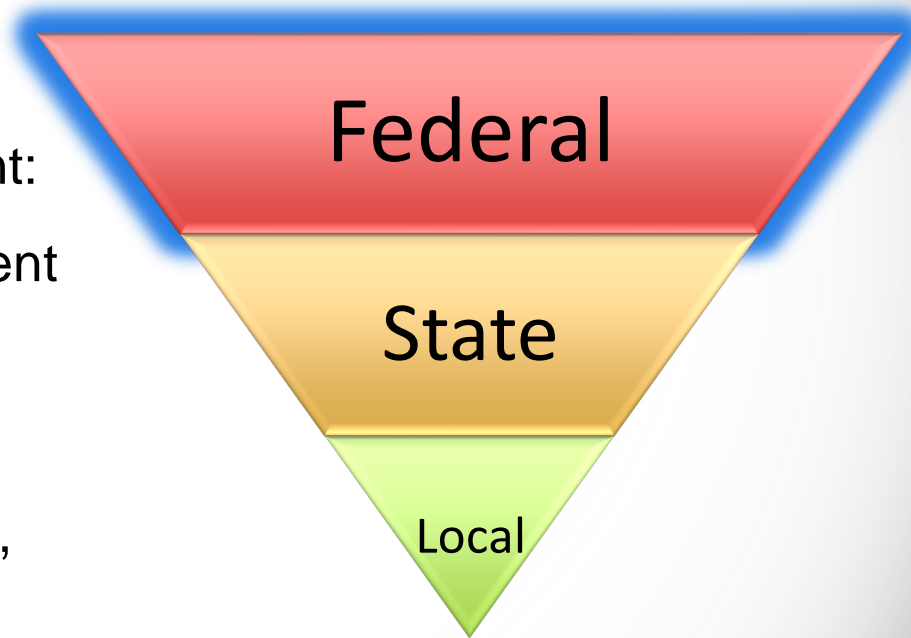


# Roles and Responsibilities

## Federal Assistance

If local and state resources are exhausted, the Governor may request assistance from the federal government:

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the response
- The President may expend funds, distribute resources between states, etc.

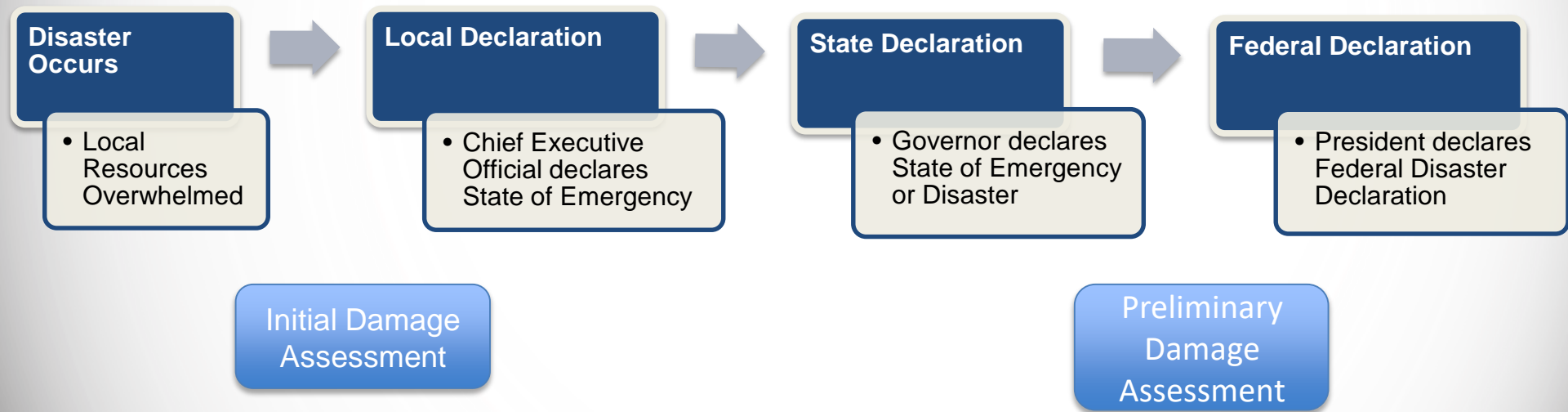


# The Assistance Process



# The Assistance Process

## Steps



# Public Official Notes

## The Assistance Process

- Local government **must** exhaust local resources before requesting state assistance
- Declaration process is not always straightforward
- State requests federal assistance through FEMA
- FEMA is the agency of last resort
- Work with your local emergency management coordinator when your community receives a state or federal declaration




# The Assistance Process

## Administrative Rules – State Assistance to Counties and Municipalities

- Administrative Rules are passed by the State Legislature
- Provides direction on how to follow and interpret the law
- Rule 30.53 - Assistance Eligibility
- Rule 30.54 - Application Process
- Rule 30.55 – Review Process




# Allocation of Resources



RESIDENTS AFFECTED  
BY THE RECENT FLOODING WHO  
NEED ASSISTANCE

# DIAL 211

LISTEN CLOSELY & FOLLOW PROMPTS



**NOREEN LOGEL**  
RESOURCE COORDINATOR

CITY MANAGER GORMAN





# Legal and Lawsuits



# Disclaimers

- Not an opinion of the Michigan State Police.
- Consult relevant counsel for advice on specific questions



# Legal

## Michigan Emergency Management Act Public Act 390 of 1976

- Provides the framework for the state's emergency management and homeland security system
- Defines responsibilities of local and state governments
- Defines authority of Governor during emergencies and disasters
- Addresses liability
- Addresses requests for state and federal assistance



# Legal

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# Legal

## Lawsuits

Legal action common after disaster:

- After Hurricane Katrina, courts were flooded with lawsuits
- Public Act 390 of 1976, Section 11, and other laws provide protection to individuals and government entities



# Public Official

## Legal

- Review your legal authorities with your emergency management coordinator and legal counsel
- No disaster goes perfectly - legal action not uncommon
- Do what you feel is best for your community within the scope of the law



# Summary





# Public Officials

## Summary

- Work closely with your emergency manager now to prepare
- During a disaster:
  1. Remain calm
  2. Work closely with your emergency management coordinator
  3. Keep citizens informed – they will be looking for a leader
  4. Represent your jurisdiction as best you can.



# Questions?



# Summary

## Contact Information

Lt. Orville Theaker  
269-953-6099  
TheakerO@michigan.gov

Michigan State Police  
Emergency Management and  
Homeland Security Division  
(517) 284-3745  
[www.michigan.gov/emhds](http://www.michigan.gov/emhds)

This presentation was developed by the MSP/EMHSTC for the explicit use of training within the State of Michigan by MSP/EMHSD District Coordinators.  
Revised 11/2016

