



# Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group Annual Meeting

## Incident Command System (ICS) 300 & 400

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# ICS 300 & 400

- Various forms of ICS have been in use in the U.S. for many years.
- One of the first was developed in California under the Interagency Task Force, Firefighting Resources of California Organized for Potential Emergencies (FIRESCOPE).

# ICS 300 & 400

- The ICS developed from this effort transitioned into the National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS).
- This became the backbone ICS for all federal agencies with wildland fire management responsibilities.
- ICS was also adopted by agencies not in the wildland arena.

# ICS 300 & 400

- Slight differences in ICS methods and training materials existed between the different agencies and organizations.
- The National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) utilizes a performance-based approach with many tiers of training and associated task books.

# ICS 300 & 400

- The incident management system national curriculum was developed in an effort to standardize ICS training across the board.
- The 1994 version of the National ICS 100 & 200 curriculums are the nuts and bolts of introductory and single resource incident management concepts.

# ICS 300 & 400

- This early version did require the use of incident action plans and other documentation, and it didn't provide detail on form utilization.
- The ICS 300 & 400 1994 versions covered concepts on unified command, area command, major incident response, expanding resource needs, etc.

# ICS 300 & 400

- With the HSPD requirement for adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the earlier ICS curriculum was revised and reorganized.
- The new curriculum applies a greater emphasis on standard ICS form utilization including hands-on training during the classes.

# ICS 300 & 400

- The 1994 national ICS curriculum and 2008 NIMS ICS are overall very similar in content.
- 2008 NIMS also incorporates additional information and detail into the ICS 200 curriculum, including ICS form utilization, resource identification, and incident categorization.
- This version should better prepare students for ICS 300.

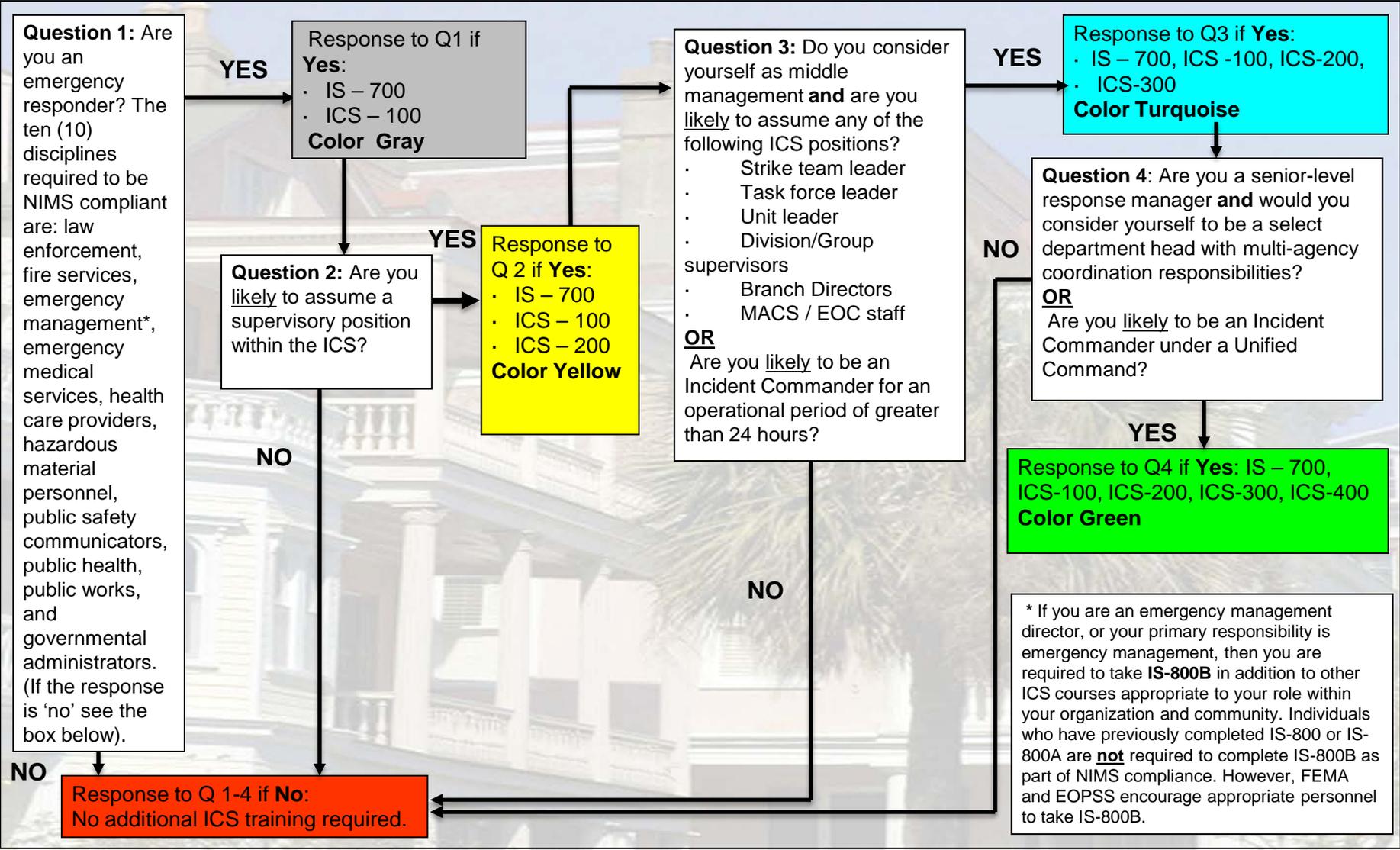
# ICS 300 & 400

- The 2008 NIMS is better organized with an improved level of detail and numerous practical application opportunities during scenarios.
- An incident command questionnaire was distributed to the working group membership, and the results will be presented during the panel discussion.
- Wide variation was noted across the complex regarding ICS training levels.

# ICS 300 & 400

- Our department adopted the Massachusetts NIMS advisory group flowchart for determining ICS training needs.
- We customized the flow chart to our specific rank and position structure.
- This flowchart now being considered for adoption by our site's Emergency Response Organization (ERO).

# ICS 300 & 400



# ICS 300 & 400

**NOTE:** The following colors have been added to the flowchart and applied to the Incident Command Training Matrix as a tracking tool:

- **Color Gray** Indicates: IS-700, ICS-100
- **Color Yellow** Indicates: IS-700, ICS-100, ICS-200  
(Position/Rank of Firefighter, Paramedic, Senior Paramedic, Engineer)
- **Color Turquoise** Indicates: IS-700, ICS-100, ICS-200, ICS300  
(Position/Rank of Training Officer, Captain, Battalion Chief, Chief's Aide, Assistant Chief)
- **Color Green** Indicates: IS-700, ICS-100, ICS-200, ICS300, ICS-400  
(Position/Rank of Fire Chief, Deputy Chief, Fire Marshal, Deputy Fire Marshal)

The flowchart was adapted from Massachusetts NIMS Advisory Group.

# ICS 300 & 400

- In addition to training level determination and placing greater emphasis on utilizing formal ICS forms, EROs also need to consider “incident typing.”
- The level (type) of incident will drive utilization of ICS form documentation.
- Detailed incident type information is available on the FEMA website.

# ICS 300 & 400

- The vast majority of responses would be single-resource (Type 5) incident conditions mitigated within a few hours.
- The next most common response is Type 4. Several resources are involved, but there is usually only one operational period.
- Requires a documented operational briefing of inbound resources.

# ICS 300 & 400

- Neither Type 5 nor Type 4 incidents require formal incident action plans (IAPs) utilizing ICS form documentation.
- Type 3 incidents require significant resources, and may extend into several operational periods.
- Generally, a formal IAP will be necessary for each operational period (but not mandatory).

# ICS 300 & 400

- A Type 3 incident may require activation of a state or regional Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT).
- Type 2 incidents require even more resources, including out-of-area regional and/or national assets.
- Multiple operational periods are expected with mandatory IAPs for each period.

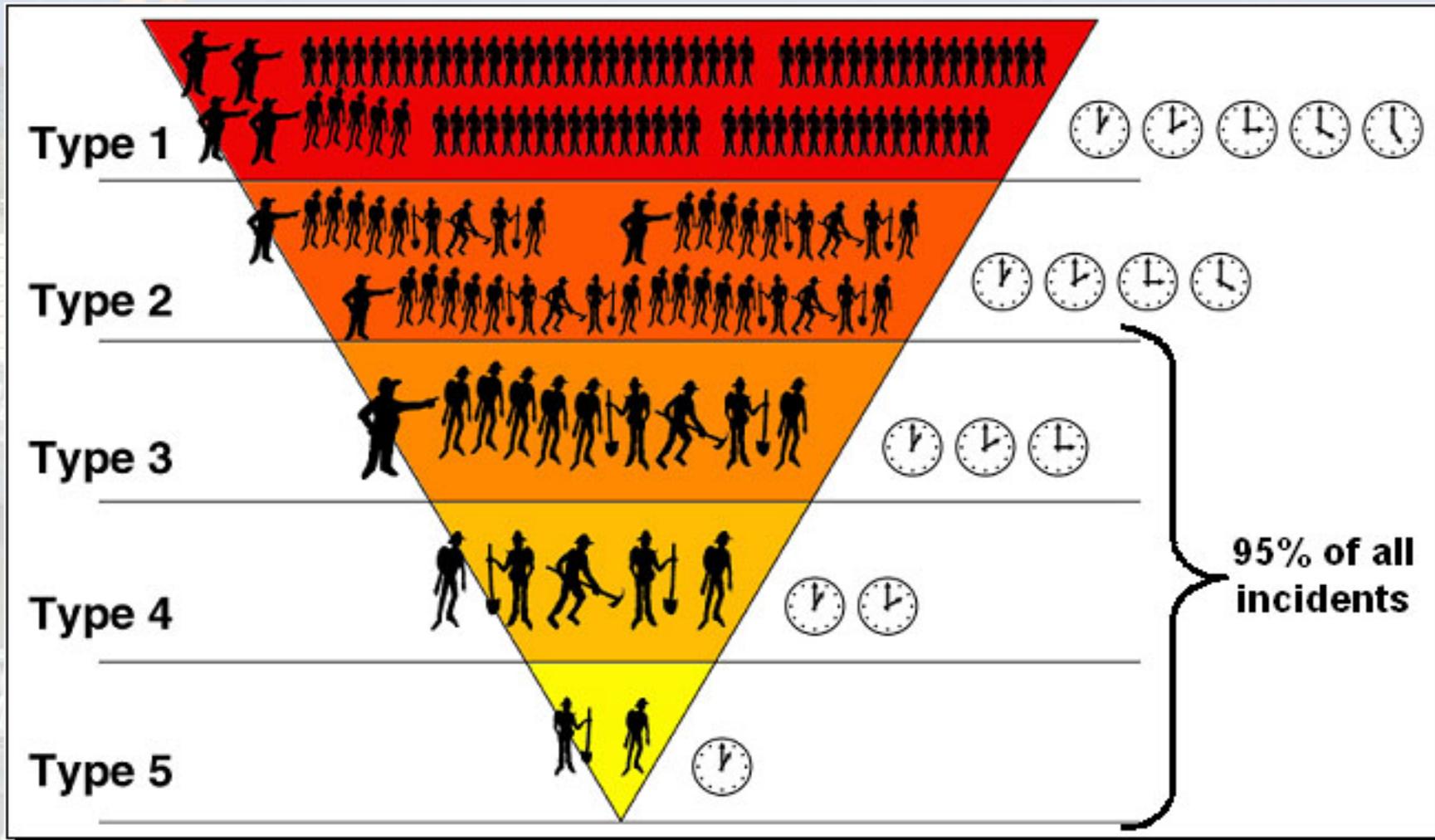
# ICS 300 & 400

- A Type 2 national or state IMT is required for command and control.
- Type 1 incidents are the most resource-demanding and require deployment of Type 1 IMT.
- Operations assigned personnel may exceed 500 responders per operational period with total incident personnel exceeding 1000.

# ICS 300 & 400

- The following slide was obtained from the NIMS ICS 200 curriculum and shows simplified incident typing examples.

# ICS 300 & 400



# ICS 300 & 400

- Although Type 5 and Type 4 incidents do not require formal IAPs, Incident Commanders are responsible for ensuring verbal IAP information is communicated to responders, safety is maintained, and incident status is tracked (using status boards, logs, recorded radio communications, incident reports, etc.).

# ICS 300 & 400

- Site EROs should work together to develop a common strategy and perhaps a policy/procedure defining whether a formal IAP should be utilized for any incident nearing the Type 3 incident definition.
- Our ERO established an Incident Command working group to address training requirements, documentation standards, and other issues.

# ICS 300 & 400

- One of the questions in the ICS survey related to how the sites consider their individual organization EROs.
- Most site EROs are made up of different organizations and functions, but are mainly considered onsite resources.
- Some may consider the ERO a single entity and therefore a single resource.

# ICS 300 & 400

- Other sites may consider those individual organizations as separate entities with individual jurisdictions, requiring a unified command structure.
- In this case, if all organizations agree, a single Incident Commander may still be appointed.

# ICS 300 & 400

- One of the primary goals of the Field and First Responders Working Group is to strive for standardization across the complex, where possible.
- The approach to single resource and unified command structures should be very similar from site to site.
- This leads us into the panel discussion segment of this presentation.

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## Questionnaire Results

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1.	For on-site emergency incidents, does your emergency response organization utilize a single resource incident command structure, a unified command structure, or a combination of both?	1 site - single resource 1 site - unified command 5 sites - combination
2.	What level of training (ICS 100, 200, 300, 400, 700, 800) is conducted?	All sites varied on the level of training by position.
3.	Does your site utilize NIMS ICS forms for all levels of incidents?	4 sites - Yes 3 sites - No
4.	Does your site use NIMS ICS forms only for expanded incidents (operational emergencies)?	3 sites - Yes 4 sites - No
5.	Does your site's emergency response organization respond off-site in a mutual-aid capacity?	6 sites - Yes 1 sites - No
6.	Does your organization utilize NIMS ICS forms during drills and exercises?	4 sites - Yes 3 sites - No

## Continue to the Panel Discussion

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