



Secretary of TRANSPORTATION

Secretary W. Sheppard Miller III

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of Commonwealth Government to provide for the safety and well-being of Commonwealth citizens and ensure the continuity of Commonwealth government operations, including the delivery of essential government services during a disaster. The Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (COVEOP) assigns specific responsibilities to agencies and offices to ensure the Commonwealth is able to meet this responsibility. Commonwealth agencies and institutions of higher education (IHEs) must be prepared to implement their own agency's emergency plans and execute their duties as assigned in the COVEOP, hazard specific annexes, and support plans. *COVEOP 2021*

INDIVIDUAL SECRETARIAT RESPONSIBILITIES








Each Secretariat is responsible for ensuring their agencies and offices are: (1) meeting their statutory obligations for emergency preparedness, (2) prepared and able to implement their agency continuity plans, and (3) prepared and able to execute the duties assigned to them in the COVEOP and all-hazards annexes.

THE TRANSPORTATION SECRETARIAT

This Secretariat is comprised of eight agencies that play a crucial role in emergency response and disaster recovery by facilitating the expedient arrival of first responders, utility restoration crews, and logistics shipments. The specialized expertise within the Secretariat is a significant factor in keeping the public safe and Virginia moving - especially in times of disasters.



Your Supporting Agencies:

-  Virginia Dept of Transportation
-  Virginia Dept of Motor Vehicles
-  Department of Aviation
-  Port Authority
-  Virginia Dept of Rail and Public Transportation
-  Motor Vehicle Dealer Board
-  Virginia Commercial Space Flight Authority

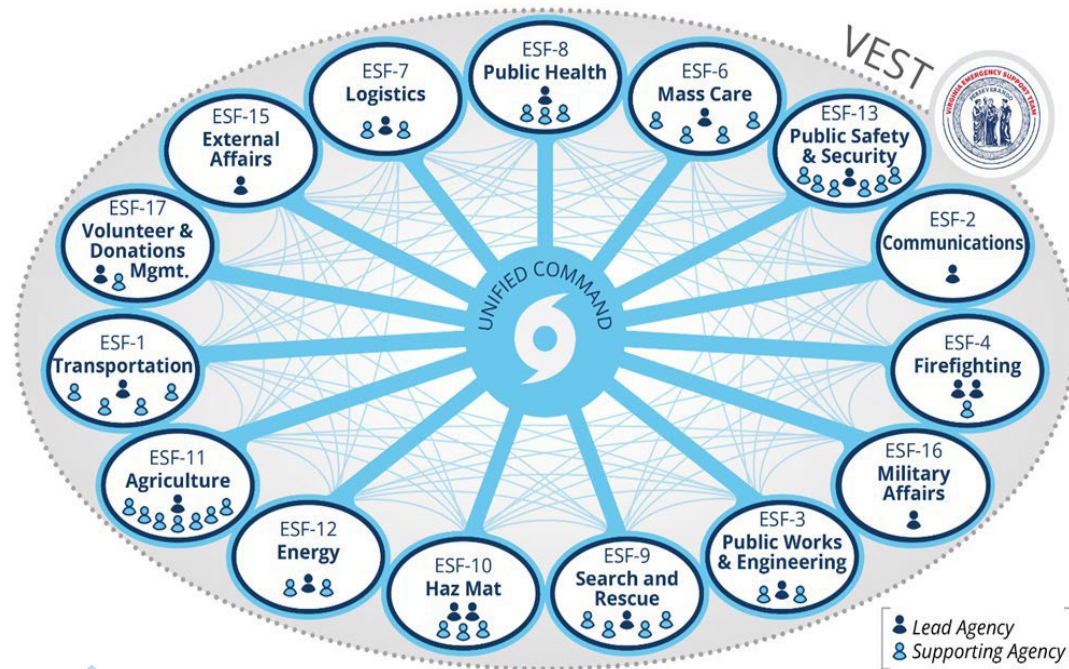




Secretary of Transportation

THE VIRGINIA EMERGENCY SUPPORT TEAM (VEST)

Comprised of Commonwealth agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private sector companies, the VEST supports all ten Cabinet Secretaries in meeting their statutory emergency management responsibilities. Command and General Staff and 17 Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) are activated through four levels to meet emergency needs, incidents that exceed local capacities, or when incidents span multiple VDEM Regions.



Emergency Support Functions (ESF)

Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) group governmental and certain private sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide support, resources, program implementation and services that are most likely needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and critical infrastructure, and help victims and communities return to normal following incidents. Each ESF has a Lead Agency and Supporting Agencies that collaborate to execute their responsibilities.

For more information, please go to <https://www.vaemergency.gov/2022-cabinet-exercise/> to review: 1) COVEOP, 2) Secretariat emergency management responsibilities per COVEOP, agency, and emergency support function, 3) Governor's Cabinet emergency management overview, and 4) individual Cabinet Secretary emergency management overview and construct.

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Your Supporting ESFs, their Lead Agencies, and Function:

ESF Number	Lead Agency	Function	Role
1	VDOT	ESF 1 Transportation	LEAD
3	VDH	ESF 3 Public Works and Engineering	
4	Virginia Forestry	ESF 4 Firefighting	
5	Virginia Department of Emergency Management	ESF 5 EM/Command and General Staff	
6	University of Virginia	ESF 6 Mass Care	
11	Virginia Department of Agriculture and Forestry	ESF 11 Agriculture and Natural Resources	
13	Virginia State Police	ESF 13 Public Safety and Security	
15	Virginia Department of Emergency Management	ESF 15 External Affairs	



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7.1.4.10 SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

7.1.4.10.1 Department of Aviation

The Department of Aviation is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 1 Transportation**
 - Plan and coordinate airlift (not rescue) missions in direct support of the VEOC during emergency response and recovery.
 - Determine and coordinate appropriate air transportation resources for the transport of essential goods via air as appropriate.
 - Provide an initial damage assessment report to ESF 1 in the VEOC within the required timeline of damages to air carrier and/or general aviation airports, airplanes, and airport facilities in the disaster area, excluding military or other federally owned property or facilities.

- **ESF 4 Firefighting**
 - Provide air transportation and support, fire detection, and reconnaissance operations when requested.

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.

- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.10.2 Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)

The Department of Motor Vehicles is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 1 Transportation**
 - Coordinate the transport of essential goods and people over all modes in support of VEOC operations during emergency operations and recovery.
- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 13 Public Safety and Security**
 - Support requests for public safety and security from the Virginia Department of State Police that are within the agency's capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols, and statutes as required.
 - Provide driver license and vehicle registration information to law enforcement for investigatory purposes.
- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.10.3 Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

The Department of Rail and Public Transportation is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 1 Transportation**
 - Coordinate with railroad companies to maintain the system, to include restoration

following an emergency or disaster.

- Provide an initial damage assessment report to ESF 1 representative in the VEOC within the required timeline of damages to the state railway system.
 - Coordinate with public transport agencies to request assistance needed for recovery.
- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
 - **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.10.4 Department of Transportation (VDOT)

The Department of Transportation is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 1 Transportation**
 - Implement VDOT Emergency Operations Plan, when required.
 - Maintain the state highway system, to include debris clearance and removal from highways, roads, bridges, and state-owned property.
 - Restore highways, roads, and bridges that are a responsibility of the VDOT; and assist cities and counties in the restoration of highways, roads and bridges, upon request (accounts receivable basis).
 - Facilitate, in coordination with the State Police and affected local governments, traffic movement during a large-scale evacuation and re-entry.
 - Provide an Initial Damage Assessment report within 72 hours of damages to state highways, roads, and bridges to the VEST.
 - Coordinate requests for federal assistance for debris or wreckage removal from VDOT property.
 - Provide ground transportation and other available resources as needed in support of VEOC operations.
 - Operate and maintain the Field Operations Section, and keep it informed of all significant information, actions, and plans.
 - Appoint a VDOT Incident Commander to ensure the VDOT goals of opening the

roadway(s) as quickly and safely as possible. The VDOT Incident Commander has the authority, responsibility, and commensurate accountability to be in charge of all VDOT activities associated with the incident.

- Provide for damage assessment and hazard mitigation surveys for highways, roads, and bridges in the state system.
 - Coordinate emergency engineering services for highway operations.
 - Coordinate waivers and/or clearances for the expedient but safe highway clearance for oversized and overweight vehicles.
 - Conduct emergency demolition, except demolition from private property, unless the structure poses a safety hazard to the traveling public. (The phrase demolition here refers to any extraordinary uses of explosives, beyond what might be considered normal for removal of debris/wreckage. Such request will likely emanate from the VEOC and be accomplished in coordination with other state agencies).
 - Prioritize identification of evacuation routes.
- **ESF 3 Public Works and Engineering**
 - Pre-identify critical routes throughout the state, in cooperation with local governments.
 - Responsible for removing debris from state managed highways.
- **ESF 4 Firefighting**
 - Provide personnel to operate heavy equipment in fire suppression operations.
 - Develop and provide firefighting hand crews, dozer crews, chain saw crews, and crew boss/leaders.
 - Provide equipment; such as chain saws, bulldozers and water tankers.
 - Provide ground transportation for fire personnel.
 - Provide mechanics for repair and support of fire equipment.
 - Provide fuel to support firefighting operations.
- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 6 Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Human Services and Housing Referral**
 - Provide support as directed and as outlined in the Commonwealth Family Assistance Center plan.

- Coordinate agency responsibilities assigned in the Commonwealth of Virginia State Coordinated Regional Shelter Plan.
- **ESF 11 Agriculture and Natural Resources**
 - Coordinate and provide expertise regarding road conditions and logistics, including food delivery and sheltering routes.
 - Provide ground transportation and other available resources as needed in support of state EOC operations.
- **ESF 13 Public Safety and Security**
 - Facilitate, in coordination with the Virginia Department of State Police and affected local governments, traffic movement during emergencies and other incidents as required.
- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.10.5 Virginia Port Authority

The Virginia Port Authority is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 1 Transportation**
 - Provide coordination with critical Virginia port facilities and federal port partners to restore damaged port facilities and ensure all main shipping channels are cleared and re-opened.
 - Provide an Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) report to ESF 1 in the VEOC within the required timeline of the disaster event of the status of the port's critical infrastructure and waterways, excluding military or other federally-owned property or facilities. The IDA will be developed from information gathered from federal, state, tribal, and local port partners.
- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.

- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.10.6 Motor Vehicle Dealer Board

The Motor Vehicle Dealer Board is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.10.7 Virginia Commercial Space Flight Authority

The Virginia Commercial Space Flight Authority is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information

- Center using the Joint Information System.
- Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
- Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.10.8 Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment

The Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.