

## Section 2.5 Standard Operating Procedures

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The classification of an incident level determines the corresponding alert and activation level that the Department of Emergency Management – Division of Emergency Communication (DEC) sends to EMS provider organizations. The alert levels correspond to **Standard Operating Procedures** which are defined as scripted participant actions in response to a MCI. Standard Operating Procedures are similar to **Job Action Sheets (aka Job Checklists or Position Descriptions)** that individual field personnel or EOC / DOC command staff follow during a disaster response. The difference is that Standard Operating Procedures apply to the response actions of an *entire EMS provider organization* (e.g. a hospital or an ambulance provider company).

The purpose of the alert levels and corresponding Standard Operating Procedures is to improve the speed, efficiency and overall coordination of the initial operational response to a MCI. An alert initiates the start of a Standard Operating Procedures that is followed in the first hour(s) to days of a MCI response until an Incident Command is organized and able to create and distribute an Incident Action Plan with response objectives that are specific to the incident. The details for each alert level are listed in **Part 1 – Standard Operating Procedures** of this plan.

## Section 2.6 EMS Provider Agency Roles and Responsibilities

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### 2.6.1 Primary Agencies

**San Francisco Fire Department:** Provides fire suppression, hazmat services, ALS ambulances, Multi-Casualty Transport vehicles and EMS First Response in the San Francisco EMS System. The SFFD field role in a MCI is to provide emergency medical care at the scene, transport victims to receiving facilities and to fill any position within the field ICS structure, especially positions within the field medical branch. SFFD operates mobile Multi-Casualty Units that can quickly bring additional emergency medical supplies to a scene.

The SFFD Departmental Operations Center provides command, coordination and support for their suppression and EMS units during a MCI.

**ALS Ambulance Providers:** Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ambulance Providers (American Medical Response, King American Ambulance, and Pro-Transport 1) provide emergency ALS level ambulance services and ALS inter-facility transport services.

ALS Ambulance Providers' role in a MCI is to provide emergency medical care at the scene, transport victims to hospital or other alternate treatment sites (if in use and authorized) and to fill any position within the field ICS structure, especially positions within the medical branch.