



LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS

Introduction	This section describes the basic law enforcement concepts and policies to preserve life and property while maintaining law and order during a MCI. It also outlines law enforcement and supporting agencies responsibilities for evacuation and traffic control in hazardous areas.
Objectives	The objectives of law enforcement and traffic control operations are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ To mobilize, deploy and organize personnel for traffic and crowd control operations.▪ To provide traffic control and conduct evacuation if required.▪ To provide security and crowd control at staging areas, casualty collection points and key facilities.▪ To establish procedures to communicate rapidly with personnel in controlled areas.▪ To establish liaison with coroner services and assist in identifying and protecting human remains. Secure personal effects of the deceased.▪ To establish procedures to allow rapid access by authorized personnel to controlled areas.
Operational Concepts	Law enforcement's response is built on jurisdictional authority. The responsible local law enforcement official in the jurisdiction where the MCI has occurred is in command unless otherwise expressly provided for, or later agreed to by the parties.
Enforcement Action	Law enforcement's actions taken during a MCI will concentrate on efforts to secure the safety and well-being of people. These actions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Establishing communications with involved agencies/jurisdictions▪ Conducting evacuation if required▪ Traffic control for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic▪ Conducting investigations▪ Providing scene security
Local Law Enforcement	City Police Departments will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Handle law enforcement duties within and outside secured areas▪ Direct the placement of barricades and traffic control devices▪ Control access into MCI area(s) based on access criteria
Operational Area (County)	Sheriff's Department will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Handle the same law enforcement duties as local law enforcement within unincorporated areas▪ Channel law enforcement mutual aid requests▪ Assist local enforcement agencies as required



LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS CONTINUED

State

California Highway Patrol will:

- Handle law enforcement duties on state highways and roadways in unincorporated areas
- Manage access to the state highways
- Establish perimeters at a MCI scene where local enforcement is absent
- Assist local and county agencies as required

Access Criteria

Criteria for allowing entry into closed areas is established for each incident. Two options are available

No Access

"NO ACCESS": Prohibits public from entering the closed area. Authorized are allowed entry to perform emergency work. Media representatives are allowed access on a controlled basis with valid entry permit

Limited Access

"LIMITED ACCESS": Allows entry according to criteria established by the Incident Commander.

Illegal Access

Penal Code Section 409.5 (Authority of Peace Officers to Close Areas in Emergencies) dictates that any unauthorized person who willfully and knowingly enters an area closed by a peace officer and who willfully remains within such area, after receiving notice to evacuate or leave, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor

Media Exception

Nothing in Penal Code Section 409.5 prevents a duly authorized representative of any news service, newspaper, radio or television station or network from entering a closed area.