



WORKPLACE
**SAFETY
TRAINING**

Understanding the
Incident Command System &
Communications Exercise

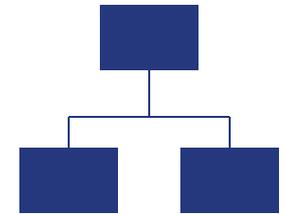
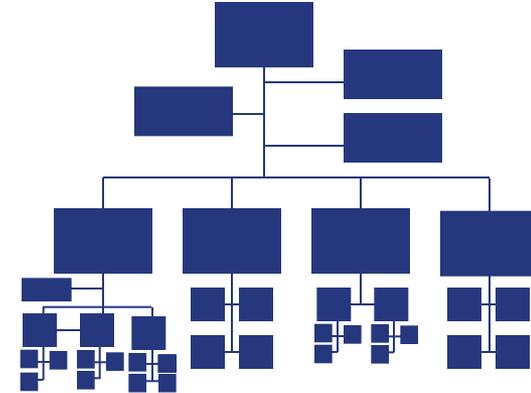
Incident Complexity and Resource Needs

Incident Complexity

Resource Needs

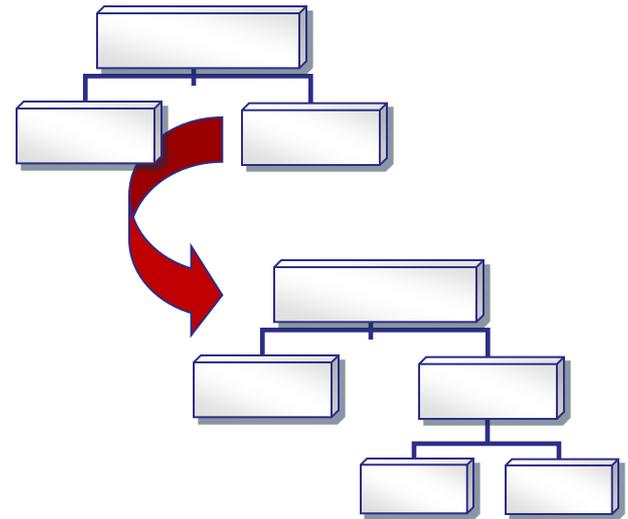
ICS Structure

Complexity ↑



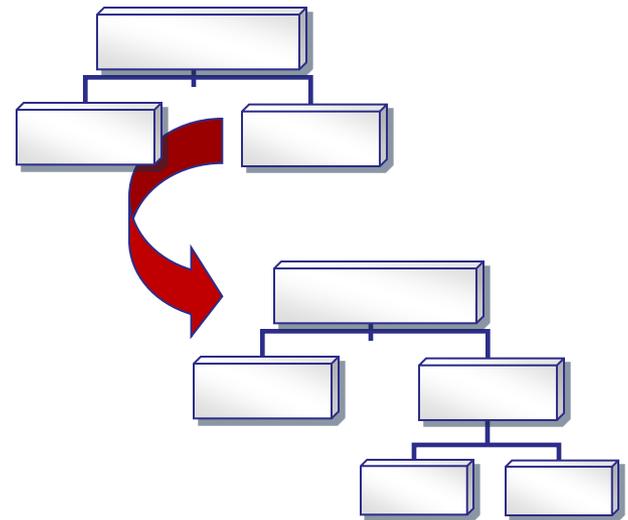
Modular Organization (1 of 2)

- Develops in a top-down, modular fashion.
- Is based on the size and complexity of the incident.
- Is based on the hazard environment created by the incident.



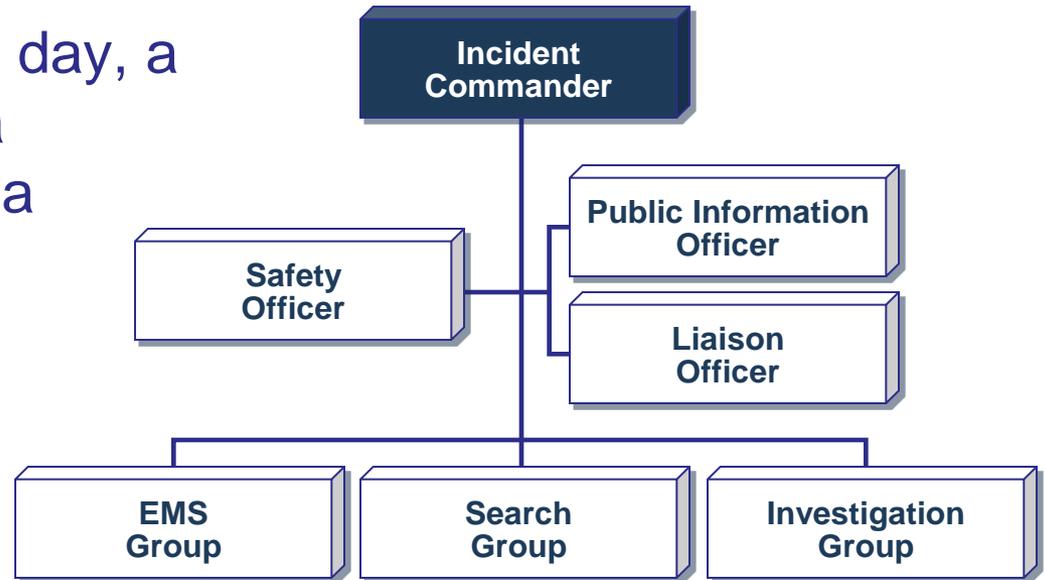
Modular Organization (2 of 2)

- Incident objectives determine the organizational size.
- Only functions/positions that are necessary will be filled.
- Each element must have a person in charge.



Example: Expanding Incident (1 of 3)

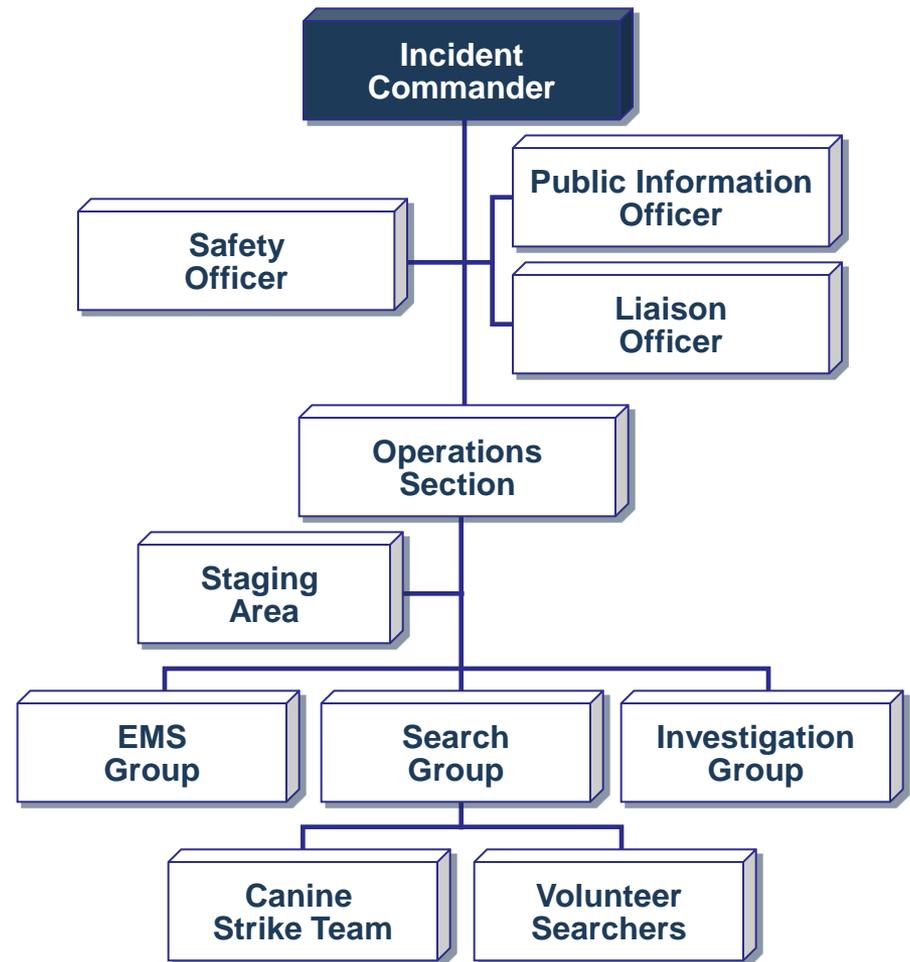
Scenario: On a chilly autumn day, a parent calls 911 to report a missing 7-year-old child in a wooded area adjacent to a coastal area.



Initially, the Incident Commander manages the General Staff resources.

Example: Expanding Incident (2 of 3)

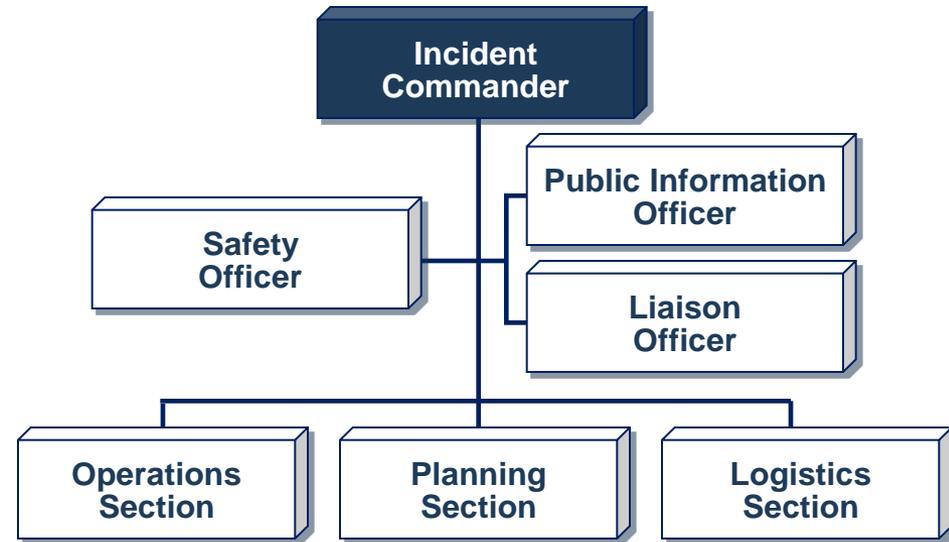
- Scenario: As additional resource personnel arrive, the Incident Commander assigns an Operations Section Chief to maintain span of control.



As the incident expands, an Operations Section Chief is assigned.

Example: Expanding Incident (3 of 3)

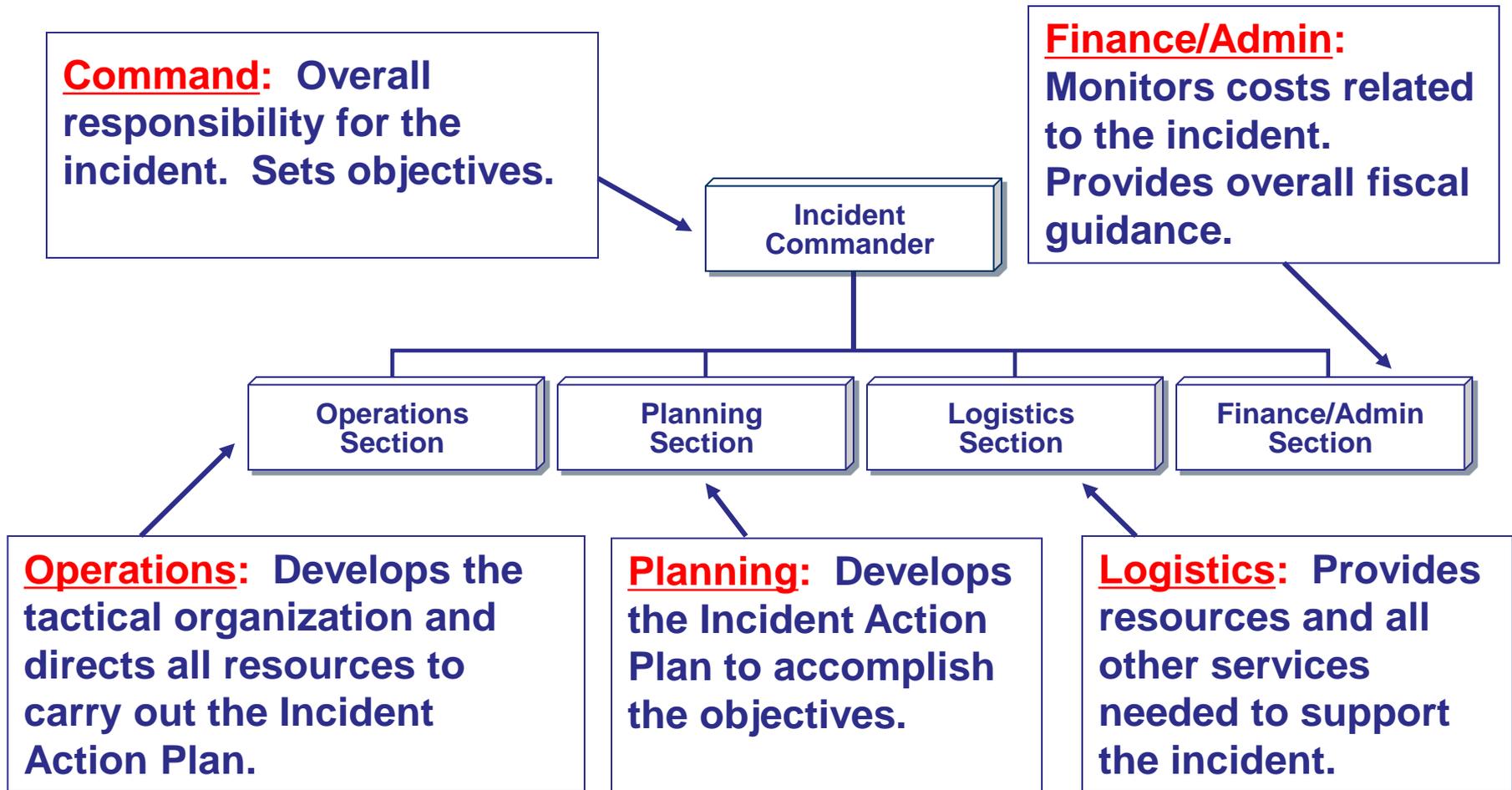
- Scenario: With hundreds of responders and volunteers arriving, there is a need for on-scene support of the planning and logistics functions.



The Incident Commander adds a Planning Section Chief and Logistics Section Chief.

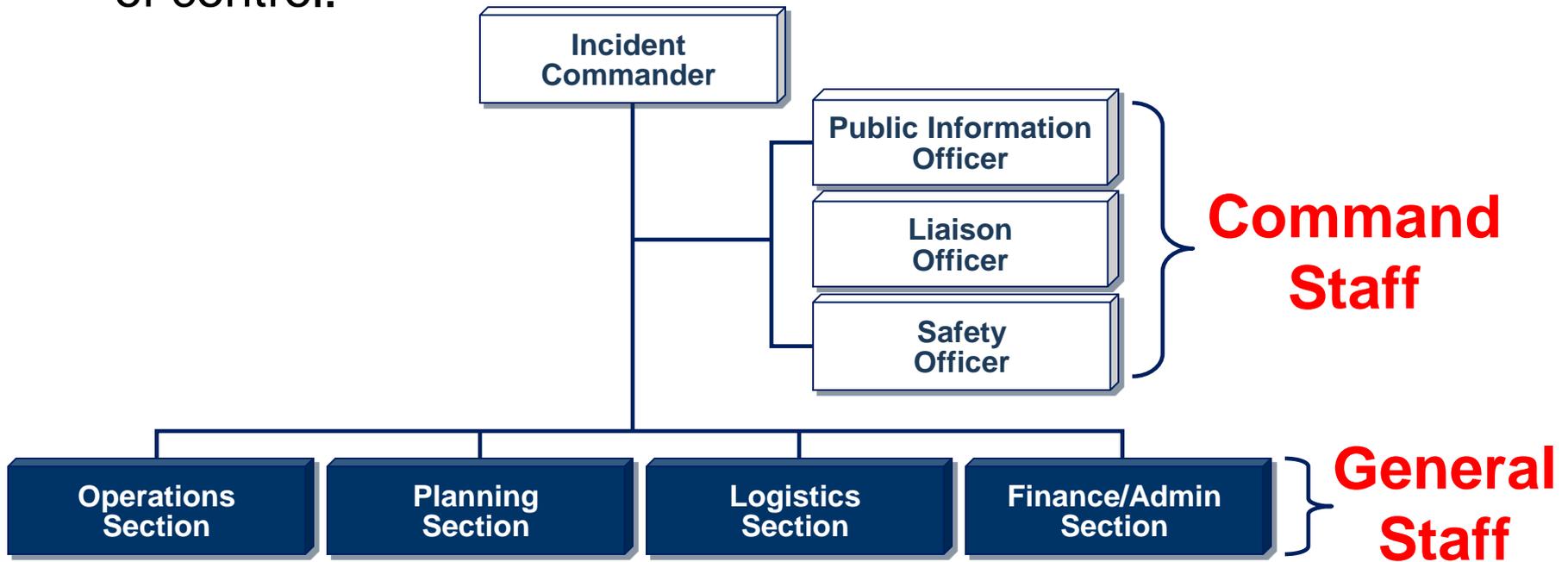
Remember . . . Not all Sections need to be activated!

Incident Command System



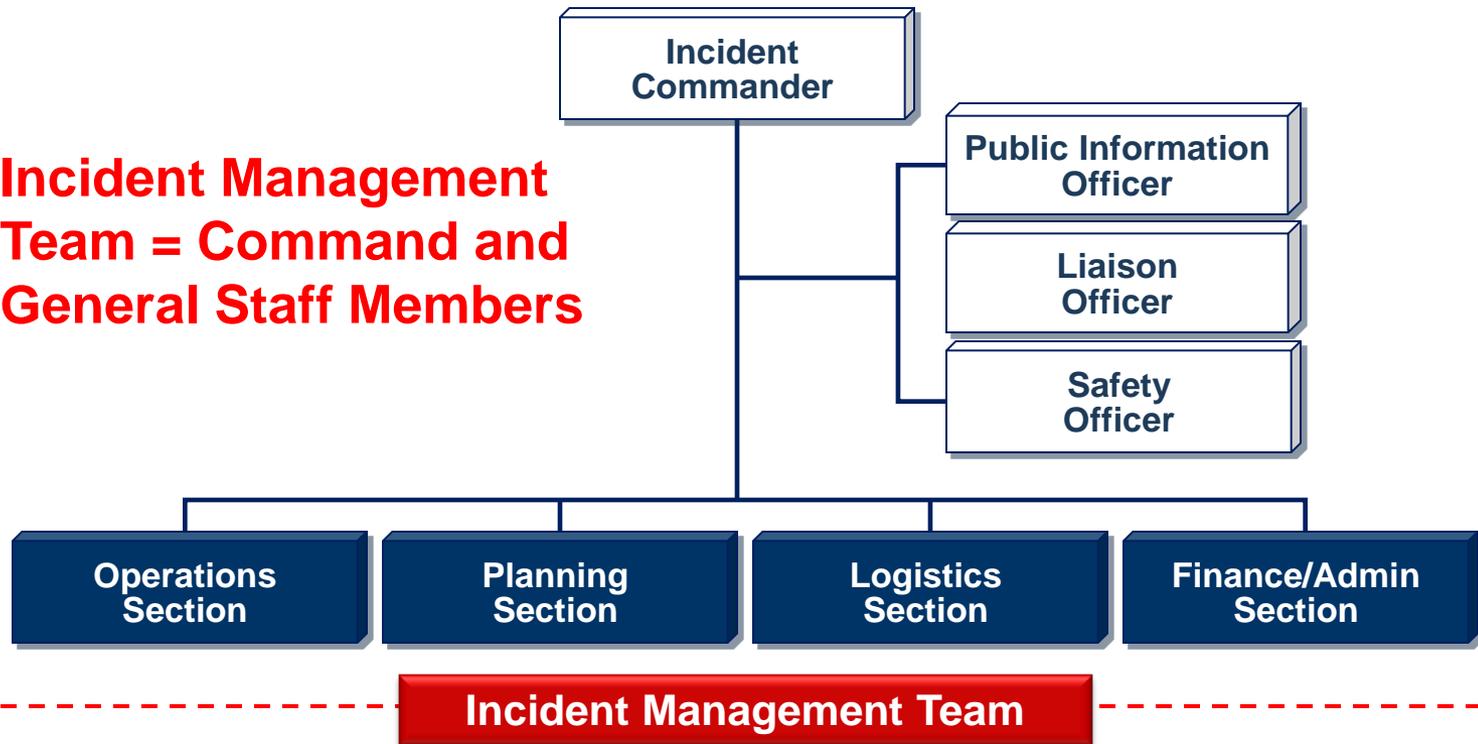
General Staff

- As the incident expands in complexity, the Incident Commander may add General Staff Sections to maintain span of control.



Incident Management Team

Incident Management Team = Command and General Staff Members



Management by Objectives

- ICS is managed by objectives.
- Objectives are communicated throughout the entire ICS organization.



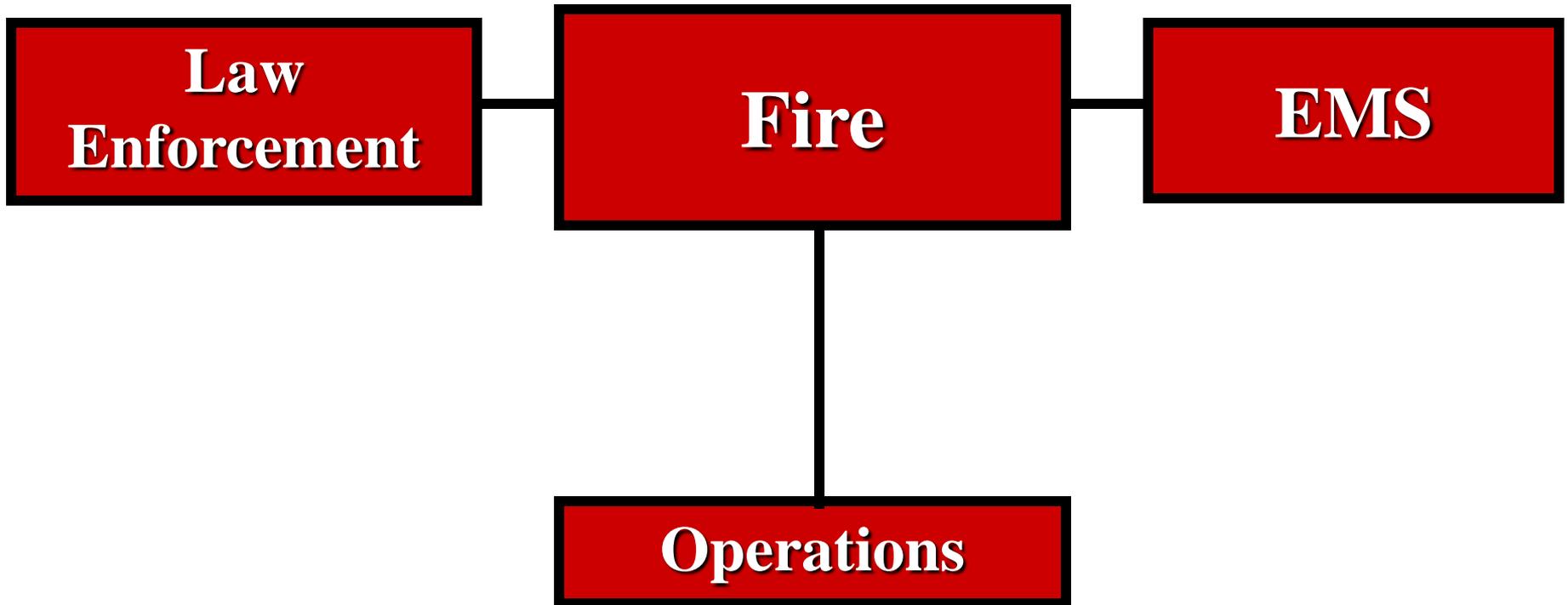
Overall Priorities

Initial decisions and objectives are established based on the following priorities:

- #1: Life Safety**
- #2: Incident Stabilization**
- #3: Property/Environmental Conservation**



Unified Command Structure



Unified Command

As a team effort, Unified Command allows all agencies with jurisdictional authority or functional responsibility for an incident to jointly provide management direction to the incident.

In Unified Command, no agency's legal authorities will be compromised or neglected.

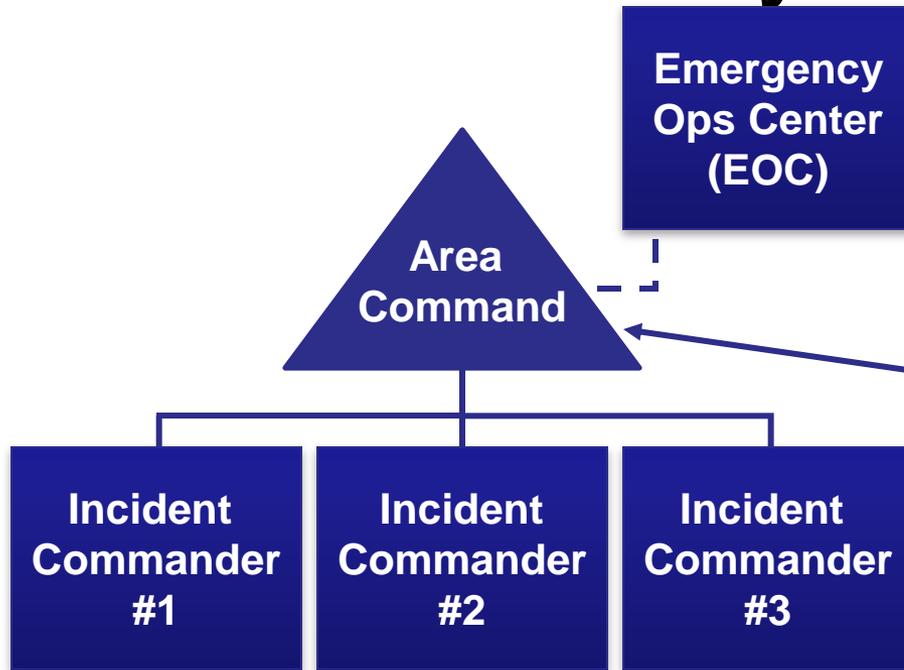


Definition of Area Command

- Area Command is used to oversee the management of:
 - Multiple incidents that are each being handled by an Incident Command System organization; or
 - A very large incident that has multiple incident management teams assigned to it.



Key Terms



Emergency Operations Center: The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support incident management takes place.

Area Command: Oversees the management of multiple incidents. Area Command may be unified, and works directly with Incident Commanders.

Incident Commander: Performs primary tactical-level, on-scene incident command functions. The Incident Commander is located at an Incident Command Post at the incident scene.

A System . . . Not a Facility



Dispatch



**On-Scene
Command**



**Coordination
Resource Centers**

Multiagency Coordination System



**Coordination
Entities/
Groups**

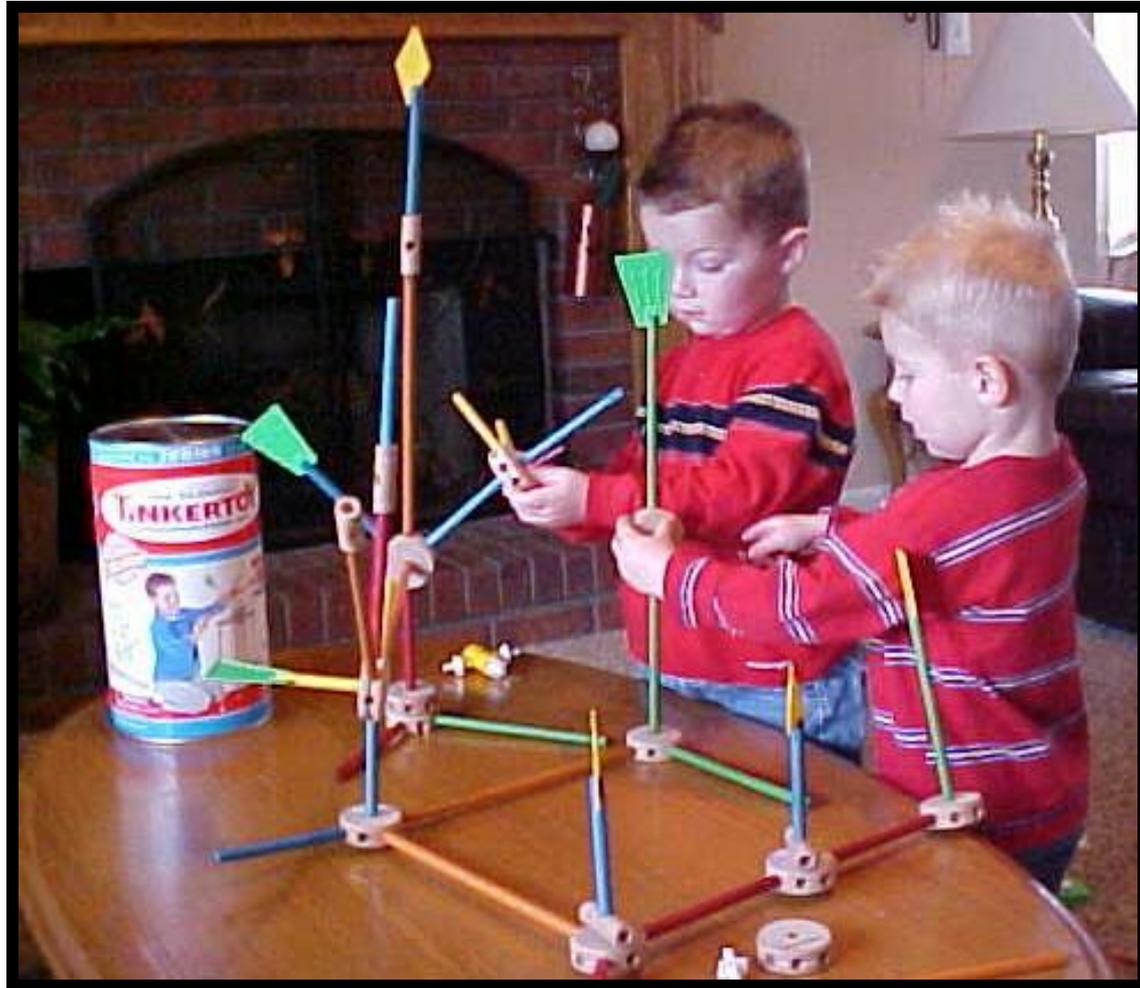


**Emergency
Operations
Centers**

After-Action Review

- Ensure an after-action review is conducted and answers the following questions:
 - What did we set out to do?
 - What actually happened?
 - Why did it happen?
 - What are we going to do different next time?
 - Are there lessons learned that should be shared?
 - What follow-up is needed?

Exercise



Establish Command!!!



Lessons Learned???

- Communications
- Common Terminology
- Organization
- Establish Strategy
- Directions
- Evaluate Strategy
- Assign Roles / Division of Labor
- Manages Personnel