DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OPERATING PROCEDURES MANUAL		
CHAPTER 210	**RESPONSE TO DISASTERS**	
	Effective: 10/20/2010	**Commissioner Approval:**
	Authorities: Click here to enter text.	
	Applicability: **OFFICERS**	
	Special Instructions: Click here to enter text.	

210.100 INTRODUCTION

This chapter establishes the definition of a disaster and the protocol for dealing with such a disaster.

210.300 RESPONSE TO DISASTERS

A. ***Initial response to disaster.***

1. Upon learning of a disaster, the lead supervisor will assign an officer to appraise the situation so that notification may be made to department and other authorities.
2. The first officer to arrive at the scene shall evaluate the situation and report their findings and any requests for necessary equipment or assistance.
3. Detachment/Bureau and Department Headquarters should be notified immediately of the emergency. The initial report will usually indicate the immediate equipment needs and the course of action to follow. Follow-up reports should be made regularly and as significant developments occur.
4. If a disaster plan covering the incident is available, the department response should comply with guidelines and procedures set out in the plan.

B. ***Action by off-duty officers.*** Upon learning of a major disaster, officers are responsible for immediately contacting their Detachment/Bureau Headquarters. If unable to contact headquarters via telephone, they shall do so in person, if possible, unless assigned to an area outside Detachment/Bureau Headquarters.

C. ***Officers allowed assuring safety of family*****.** If the disaster threatens the security of an officer's family, the officer shall be allowed reasonable time to provide for their safety. Officers in this situation will notify their headquarters of this need and proceed in an expeditious manner.

210.900 DEFINITIONS

Disaster – a natural or man-made calamity or a civil unrest incident requiring response by the Department that threatens the safety of large numbers of people or large amounts of property.