Center for Domestic Preparedness

Glossary and Abbreviation List

Version 1.1

FEMA

Glossary

Some of the terms listed may not be applied in this training course; however, they may be relevant in preparing for or responding to a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosive (CBRNE) incident. They are included in this glossary as an informational resource.

A

Accessible	Having the legally required features and/or qualities that ensure easy entrance, participation, and usability of places, programs, services, and activities by individuals with a wide variety of disabilities.
Accountability	Effective accountability of resources at all jurisdictional levels and within individual functional areas during incident operations is essential. Adherence to the following Incident Command System (ICS) principles and processes helps to ensure accountability: • Resource Check-In/Check-Out Procedures • Incident Action Planning • Unity of Command • Personal Responsibility • Span of Control • Resource Tracking
Action Plan	(See Incident Action Plan [IAP].)
Acquisition Procedures	A process used to obtain resources to support operational requirements.
Acute Radiation Syndrome (ARS)	A person exposed to radiation will develop ARS only if the radiation dose was high, penetrating (e.g., x-rays or gamma rays), encompassed most or all of the body, and was received in a short period of time. Clinical severity of the four subsyndromes of ARS (hematopoietic, cutaneous, gastrointestinal, and neurovascular) will vary with dose and host factors (e.g., young or old age, immunosuppression, and medical co-morbidity--especially extensive trauma and burns). Also known as *Radiation Sickness*.
Advanced Life Support (ALS)	Definitive emergency medical care that includes defibrillation, airway management, and the use of drugs and medications.

Agency	A division of government with a specific function or a nongovernmental organization (e.g., private contractor, business) that offers a particular kind of assistance. In the Incident Command System (ICS), agencies are defined as jurisdictional (i.e., having statutory responsibility for incident mitigation) or assisting and/or cooperating (i.e., providing resources and/or assistance). (See Assisting Agency, Cooperating Agency, and Multiagency.)
Agency Administrator (or Executive)	The official responsible for administering policy for an agency or jurisdiction. An Agency Administrator/Executive (or other public official with jurisdictional responsibility for the incident) usually makes the decision to establish an Area Command.
Agency Dispatch	The agency or jurisdictional facility from which resources are allocated to incidents.
Agency Representative	An individual assigned to an incident from an assisting or cooperating agency that has been delegated authority to make decisions on matters affecting that agency's participation at the incident. Agency Representatives report to the Incident Liaison Officer.
Air Sampling	The collection of samples of air to measure the radioactivity or to detect the presence of radioactive material, particulate matter, or chemical pollutants in the air.
Airborne Radioactivity Area	As defined in Title 10, Section 20.1003, of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 C.F.R. § 20.1003), the airborne radioactivity area is a room, enclosure, or area in which airborne radioactive materials, composed wholly or partially of licensed material, exist in concentrations that (1) exceed the Derived Air Concentration limits (DACs), or (2) would result in an individual present in the area without respiratory protection exceeding, during those hours, 0.6 percent of the Annual Limit on Intake (ALI) or 12 DAC-hours.
Air Operations Branch Director	The person primarily responsible for preparing and implementing the air operations portion of the Incident Action Plan (IAP). Also responsible for providing logistical support to helicopters operating at the incident.
All-Hazards or All-Risk	Describing an incident, natural or manmade, that warrants action to protect life, property, environment, and public health or safety, and to minimize disruptions of government, social, or economic activities.
Allocated Resources	Resources dispatched at the incident.

Alternate Light Source	Equipment used to produce visible and invisible light at various wavelengths to enhance or visualize potential items of evidence (fluids, fingerprints, clothing fibers, etc.).
Altered Standard of Care	A shift to providing care and allocating scarce equipment, supplies, and personnel in a way that saves the largest number of lives in contrast to the traditional focus on saving individuals.
Alert	Events that involve an actual or potential substantial degradation in the level of plant safety are in progress or have occurred. Any releases of radioactive material are expected to be limited to a small fraction of the limits set forth by the U.S. Environment Protection Agency (EPA).
Ambulatory Person	Walking about or able to walk about; denoting a person who is not confined to a bed.
American Board of Forensic Odontology (ABRO) Scales	An L-shaped plastic measurement scale/ruler used in forensic photography that is marked with circles, black and white bars, and 18 gray bars to assist in distortion compensation and provide exposure determination. For measurement, the plastic piece is marked in millimeters.
American Disabled for Attendant Programs Today (ADAPT)	ADAPT is a national grass-roots community that organizes disability rights activists to engage in nonviolent direct action, including civil disobedience, to assure the civil and human rights of people with disabilities to live in freedom.
Anarchism	Anarchism is a political philosophy encompassing theories and attitudes which consider the state, as compulsory government, to be unnecessary, harmful, and/or undesirable, and favors the absence of the state (i.e., anarchy). A person who believes in this philosophy is called an *anarchist*.
Angle Grinder	Used for sanding, grinding, and cutting (usually in tight spots). Used to assist in the removal of improvised devices.
Angled Steel Sleeping Dragon	A metal pipe sleeping dragon constructed of two pieces of pipe welded together to form an angle.
Animal Liberation Front (ALF)	A clandestine animal rights extremist group that has claimed credit for hundreds of attacks perpetrated under the guise of protecting animals.
Annual Limit on Intake (ALI)	The derived limit for the amount of radioactive material taken into the body of an adult worker by inhalation or ingestion in a year.

Antibody	A large Y-shaped protein used by the immune system to identify and neutralize foreign objects like bacteria and viruses. Each antibody recognizes a specific antigen unique to its target. This is because at the two tips of its “Y,” it has structures akin to locks. Every lock only has one key, in this case, its own antigen. When the key is inserted into the lock, the antibody activates, tagging or neutralizing its target.
Anti-Defamation League	The mission of the Anti-Defamation League is to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all citizens alike.
Antigen	Any substance that, as a result of coming in contact with appropriate cells, induces a state of sensitivity or immune responsiveness and that reacts in a demonstrable way with antibodies or immune cells of the sensitized subject in vivo or in vitro.
Antigenic Drift	A minor change of an antigen on the surface of a pathogenic micro-organism.
Antigenic Shift	An abrupt, major change in the antigenicity of a virus believed to result from a recombination of genes.
Antisubversive Law	A law that is a systematic attempt to overthrow or undermine a government or political system by persons working secretly from within the system.
Area Command	1—The management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by an Incident Command System (ICS), or 2—To oversee the management of a very large incident that has multiple Incident Management Team(s; IMT) assigned to it. Area Command has the responsibility to see overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources based on priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met and strategies followed.
Area of Refuge	A temporary haven from the effects of a fire or other emergency.
As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA)	Means making every reasonable effort to maintain exposures to ionizing radiation as far below the dose limits as practical, consistent with the purpose for which the licensed activity is undertaken, taking into account the state of technology, the economics of improvements in relation to state of technology, the economics of improvements in relation to benefits to the public health and safety, and other societal and socioeconomic considerations, and in relation to utilization of nuclear energy and licensed materials in the public interest.

Asphyxiation	To kill or make unconscious through inadequate oxygen, presence of noxious agents, or other obstruction to normal breathing.
Assessment	The process of acquiring, collecting, processing, examining, analyzing, evaluating, monitoring, interpreting the data, information, evidence, objects, measurements, images, sound, etc., whether tangible, intangible, to provide a basis for decisionmaking.
Assigned Resources	Resources checked in and assigned work tasks at an incident.
Assignments	Tasks given to resources to perform within a given operational period, based upon the tactical objectives in the Incident Action Plan (IAP).
Assistant	Title for subordinates of the Command Staff positions. The title indicates a level of technical capability, qualifications, and responsibility subordinate to the primary positions. Assistants may also be assigned to Unit Leaders.
Assisting Agency	An agency or organization providing personnel, services, or other resources to the agency with direct responsibility for incident management. (See Supporting Agency.)
Attack Rate	A variant of an incident rate, applied to a narrowly defined population observed for a limited period of time, such as during an epidemic.
Available Resource	Resource assigned to an incident, checked in, and available for a mission assignment, normally located in a Staging Area.
Avian Influenza	Respiratory illness that occurs amongst wild birds and poultry; it is caused by Type A influenza virus. Occasionally, some strains of this virus may infect humans.

B

Backflow	A reverse flow in water pipes. A difference in water pressures pulls water from sources other than the well into a home's water system, for example waste water or flood water.
Bacteria	Any of a domain of prokaryotic round, spiral, or rod-shaped single-celled microorganisms that may lack cell walls or are gram-positive or gram-negative if they have cell walls, that are often aggregated into colonies or motile by means of flagella, that typically live in soil, water, organic matter, or the bodies of plants and animals.

Badging	The assignment of physical incident-specific credentials to establish legitimacy and limit.
Base	1—The location at which primary logistics functions for an incident are coordinated and administered. There is only one Base per incident (Incident name or other designator will be added to the term Base). The Incident Command Post (ICP) may be collocated with the Base. 2—A liquid or solid with a pH higher than 7.
Basic Life Support (BLS)	A specific level of prehospital medical care provided by trained responders, including emergency medical technicians, in the absence of advanced medical care, including emergency cardiopulmonary resuscitation, control of bleeding, treatment of shock, acidosis and poisoning stabilization of injuries and wounds, and basic first aid.
Becquerel (Bq)	A unit, in the International System of Units (SI), of measurement of radioactivity equal to one disintegration per second.
Bicycle Lock	Traditional U-shaped locks placed around a protester's neck and other appendages; used to link protesters together. (Commonly called a *Daisy Chain*.)
Bindle Paper	Clean paper folded for the containment of trace evidence, sometimes included as part of the packaging for collecting trace evidence.
Biohazard	A biological agent or condition (as an infectious organism or insecure laboratory procedures) that constitutes a hazard to humans or the environment ; also**:** a hazard posed by such an agent or condition.
Biohazard Bag	A container for materials that have been exposed to blood or other biological fluids and have the potential to be contaminated with hepatitis, AIDS, or other viruses.
Biological	1—Of or relating to biology or to life and living processes. 2—Used in or produced by applied biology.
Biological Agent	Living agents used to threaten human life (e.g., anthrax, smallpox, or any infectious disease).
Biological Fluids	Fluids that have human or animal origin, most commonly encountered at crime scenes (e.g., blood, mucus, perspiration, saliva, semen, vaginal fluid, and urine).

Biological Warfare	Warfare involving the use of living organisms (as disease germs) or their toxic products as weapons; also: warfare involving the use of herbicides.
Biosecurity	Embodies all the cumulative measures that can or should be taken to keep disease (e.g., viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa, parasites) from a farm and to prevent the transmission of disease by humans, insects, rodents, and wild birds and/or animals within an infected farm to neighboring farms.
Bioterrorism	Terrorism involving the use of biological weapons.
Black Bloc	A collection of anarchists work together in connection with a particular protest demonstration. The main goal of the Black Bloc is to provide solidarity in opposition to the repressive government forces during a specific event. It is not a formal organization or a continuing entity. (See Anarchism.)
Blepharospasm	Spasmodic winking from involuntary contraction of the orbicularis oculi muscle of the eyelids.
Blister Agents	Substances that cause blistering of the skin. Exposure is through liquid or vapor contact with any exposed tissue (e.g., eyes, skin, and lungs). Examples are mustard (H), distilled mustard (HD), nitrogen mustard (HN), and lewisite (L); also known as vesicants.
Blood Agents	Substances that injure a person by interfering with cellular respiration (the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide between blood and tissues). Examples are hydrogen cyanide (AC) and cyanogen chloride (CK).
Bloodborne Pathogen	Disease-causing microorganisms that are present in blood and can cause disease in humans. Pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
Body Surface Area (BSA)	The total surface area of the human body. The BSA is used in many measurements in medicine, including the calculation of drug dosages and the amount of fluids to be administered intravenously.
Boundaries	The perimeter or border surrounding potential physical evidence related to the crime.

Branch	The organizational level having functional or geographic responsibility for major parts of incident operations. The Branch level is organizationally between Section and Division/Group in the Operations Section, and between Section and Units in the Logistic Section. Branches are identified by the use of Roman numerals or by functional name (e.g., Medical and Security).

C

Cache	A predetermined complement of tools, equipment, and/or supplies stored in a designated location, available for incident use.
Caltrops	A caltrop (jack rock, road star, or crow's foot) is a weapon made up of two (or more) sharp nails or spines arranged in such a manner that one of them always points upward from a stable base (for example, a tetrahedron). Caltrops serve to slow down the advance of horses, vehicles, and human troops.
Camp	A geographic site, within the general incident area, separate from the incident Base, equipped and staffed to provide food, water, and sleeping and sanitary facilities to incident personnel.
Capabilities and Needs Assessment	Designed to provide operational capability information and guide the identification of program needs. This assessment is to be conducted for each identified jurisdiction.
Capability	The means to accomplish a mission, function, or objective A capability may be achieved with any combination of properly planned, organized, equipped, trained, and exercised personnel that achieves the intended outcome.
Carabiner	An oblong metal ring with a spring clip, typically used in mountaineering; employed in a protester device to secure the protester to the pin inside the device.
Case Fatality Rate	The proportion of persons with a particular condition (cases) who die from that condition. The denominator is the number of incident cases; the numerator is the number of cause-specific deaths among those cases.
Case File	The collection of documents comprising information concerning a particular investigation. (This collection may be kept in case jackets, file folders, ring binders, boxes, file drawers, file cabinets, or rooms. Subfiles are often used within case files to segregate and group interviews, media coverage, laboratory requests and reports, evidence documentation, photographs, videotapes, audiotapes, and other documents.)

Case Identifiers	The alphabetic and/or numeric characters assigned to identify a particular case.
Casualty Collection Point (CCP)	A CCP is a site for the congregation, triage, preliminary treatment, and evacuation of casualties following a catastrophic disaster.
Catapult	A device to throw or launch missiles; an ancient military device.
Catastrophic Incident	Any natural or manmade incident, including terrorism that results in extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage, or disruption severely affecting the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale, and/or government functions.
Categorizing Resources	The process of organizing resources by category, kind, and type, including size, capacity, capability, skill, and other characteristics. This makes the resource ordering and dispatch process within and across organizations and agencies, and between governmental and nongovernmental entities, more efficient, and ensures that the resources received are appropriate to their needs.
Causative	Effective or operating as a cause or agent (e.g., causative bacteria of cholera).
Certifying Personnel	The process of authoritatively attesting that individuals meet professional standards for the training, experience, and performance required for key incident management functions.
Chain of Command	A series of management positions in order of authority.
Chain of Custody	A process used to maintain and document the chronological history of the evidence. Documents should include name or initials of the individual collecting the evidence, each person or entity subsequently having custody of it, dates the items were collected or transferred, agency and case number, person's or suspect's name, and a brief description of the item.
Check-In	The process whereby resources first report to an incident. Check-in locations include Incident Command Post (Resources Unit), Incident Base, Camps, Staging Areas, helibases, helispots, and Division Supervisors (for direct-line assignments).

Chelating Agent	Chelating agents work by binding and holding on to radioactive materials or poisons that get into the body. Once bound to a radioactive material or poison, the chelating agent is then passed from the body in the urine. Chelating agents help decrease the amount of time it takes to get a poison out of the body.
Chemical	A substance obtained by a chemical process or used for producing a chemical effect.
Chemical Agent	A compound that may cause bodily harm if touched, ingested, inhaled, or ignited. These compounds may be encountered at a clandestine laboratory, or through a homemade bomb or tankard leakage (e.g., ether, alcohol, nitroglycerin, ammonium sulfate, red phosphorus, cleaning supplies, gasoline, or unlabeled chemicals).
Chemical Enhancement	The use of chemicals that react with specific types of evidence (e.g., blood, semen, lead, and fingerprints) in order to aid in the detection and/or documentation of evidence that may be difficult to see.
Chemical Threat	Concern about potential exposure to a chemical or other airborne hazard.
Chemical Warfare	Tactical warfare using incendiary mixtures, smokes, or irritant, burning, poisonous, or asphyxiating gases.
Chemical Weapon	A weapon used in chemical warfare.
Chemoluminescence	Emission of light as a result of a chemical reaction.
Chiefs	The Incident Command System (ICS) title for individuals responsible for command of functional sections: Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration.
Chloropicrin (PS)	A heavy, colorless, insoluble liquid compound that causes tears and vomiting; used as a pesticide and as tear gas.
Choking Agents	Substances that cause physical injury to the lungs. Exposure is through inhalation. Death results from lack of oxygen. An example of a choking agent is phosgene (CG).
Cistern	A receptacle for the collection, holding and storing of water.
Claudication	Limping or lameness in a body part characterized by localized weakness, pain and tension.

Clean and Disinfecting/Sanitize	The process of removing biological and/or chemical contaminants from tools and/or equipment (e.g., using a mixture of 10:1 household water and bleach).
Clear Text	The use of plain English in radio communications transmissions. No 10-Codes or agency-specific codes are used when using Clear Text.
Cohesion	1—The act or state of sticking together tightly; *especially*: unity. 2—Union between similar plant parts or organs. 3—Molecular attraction by which the particles of a body are united throughout the mass.
Cold Zone	Area where the command post and support functions that are necessary to control the incident are located. Also referred to as the clean zone, green zone, or support zone.
Coliform	A group of related bacteria whose presence in drinking water may indicate contamination by disease-causing microorganisms.
Collect/Collection	The process of detecting, documenting, or retaining physical evidence.
Collection Sewer	Any gravity flow pipelines, force mains, effluent supply lines, and appliances appurtenant thereto, used for conducting wastes from building drains to a treatment system or to a ground absorption sewage treatment and disposal system.
Command	The act of directing and/or controlling resources by virtue of explicit legal, agency, or delegated authority. May also refer to the Incident Commander (IC).
Command Post	(See Incident Command Post.)
Command Staff	The staff who report directly to the Incident Commander (IC), including the Public Information Officer (PIO), Safety Officer (SO), Liaison Officer, and other positions as required. They may have an assistant or assistants, as needed.
Committed Dose Equivalent (CDE)	The dose to some specific organ or tissue that is received from an intake of radioactive material by an individual during the 50-year period following the intake.
Committed Effective Dose Equivalent (CEDE)	The committed dose equivalent for a given organ multiplied by a weighting factor.
Common (Seasonal) Flu	Influenza that occurs commonly from year to year.

Common Name	A common name is a name in general use within a community; it is often contrasted with a scientific name. Each agent has a scientific name based on its composition and formula.
Common Operating Picture	An overview of an incident by all relevant parties that provides incident information enabling the Incident Commander (IC)/Unified Command (U/C) and any supporting agencies and organizations to make effective, consistent, and timely decisions.
Common Terminology	Normally used words and phrases, avoiding the use of different words/phrases for same concepts, to ensure consistency and to allow diverse incident management and support organizations to work together across a wide variety of incident management functions and hazard scenarios.
Communications	The process of transmission of information through verbal, written, or symbolic means.
Communications/Dispatch Center	Agency or interagency dispatch centers, 9-1-1 call centers, emergency control or command dispatch centers, or any naming convention given to the facility and staff that handles emergency calls from the public and communication with emergency management/response personnel. The center can serve as a primary coordination and support element of the Multiagency Coordination System(s; MACS) for an incident until other elements of the MACS are formally established.
Communications Unit	An organizational unit in the Logistics Section responsible for providing communication services at an incident. A Communications Unit may also be a facility (e.g., a trailer or a mobile van) used to provide the major part of an Incident Communications Center.
Community-Oriented Policing (COP)	Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies, which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.
Compacts	Formal working agreements among agencies to obtain mutual aid.
Comparison Samples	A generic term used to describe physical material/evidence discovered at crime scenes that may be compared with samples from persons, tools, and physical locations. Comparison samples may be from either an unknown/questioned or a known source.

Compensation Unit/Claims Unit	The functional unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for financial concerns resulting from property damage, injuries, or fatalities at the incident.
Complex	Two or more individual incidents located in the same general area, which are assigned to a single Incident Commander (IC) or to Unified Command (UC).
Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (*CGP*) *101*	A guide designed to assist jurisdictions with developing operations plans. It promotes a common understanding of the fundamentals of planning and decisionmaking to help emergency planners examine a hazard and produce integrated, coordinated, and synchronized plans.
Consequence	The effect of an event, incident, or occurrence.
Concrete Hammer (18 pounds)	A small, electrically powered jackhammer used to defeat concrete-encased locking devices. May be used with a jackhammer harness to be operated at a 90 degree angle. (See Rotary Hammer.)
Consumable Medical Supplies	Items used in the treatment of patients that must be replaced because they are disposable and usually for one-time use; examples of this are latex gloves, paper gowns, needles, syringes, and tongue depressors.
Contagion	The transmission of a disease by direct or indirect contact.
Contamination	1—Undesirable radiological, chemical, or biological material (with a potentially harmful effect) that is either airborne, or deposited in (or on the surface of) structures, objects, soil, water, or living organisms in a concentration that makes the medium unfit for its next intended use. 2—The unwanted transfer of material from another source to a piece of physical evidence.
Contamination Area	Any area, accessible to individuals, where removable surface contamination levels exceed or are likely to exceed the removable surface contamination values specified in Appendix D of 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* (C.F.R.) § 835, but do not exceed 100 times those values.
Contamination Reduction Zone	This area separates the contaminated area from the clean area and acts as a buffer to reduce contamination of the clean area. Also known as the warm zone.

Continuity of Government	A coordinated effort within the Federal Government's executive branch to ensure that National Essential Functions continue to be performed during a catastrophic emergency (as defined in *National Security Presidential Directive 52/Homeland Security Presidential Directive 20*).
Continuity of Operations	An effort within individual organizations to ensure that Primary Mission Essential Functions continue to be performed during a wide range of emergencies.
Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan	Designed to establish policy and guidance to ensure the mission essential functions and to direct the relocation of personnel and resources to an alternate facility.
Control/Blank Sample	Material of a known source that presumably was uncontaminated during the commission of the crime.
Cooperating Agency	An agency supplying assistance other than direct operational or support functions or resources to the incident management effort.
Coordinate	To advance an analysis and exchange of information systematically among principals who have or may have a need to know certain information to carry out specific incident management responsibilities.
Coordination	The process of systematically analyzing a situation, developing relevant information, and informing appropriate command authority of viable alternatives for selection of the most effective combination of available resources to meet specific objectives. The coordination process (which can be either intra- or interagency) does not involve dispatch actions. However, personnel responsible for coordination may perform command or dispatch functions within the limits established by specific agency delegations, procedures, legal authority, etc.
Coordination Center	Any facility that is used for the coordination, agency, or jurisdictional resources in support of one or more incidents.
Corrective Actions	The implementation of procedures that are based on lessons learned from actual incidents or from training and exercises.
Cost-Sharing Agreements	Agreements between agencies or jurisdictions to share designated costs related to incidents. Cost-Sharing Agreements are normally written, but may also be oral between authorized agency and jurisdictional representatives at the incident.

Cost Unit	The functional unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for tracking costs, analyzing cost data, making cost estimates, and recommending cost-saving measures.
Credentialing	The authentication and verification of the certification and identity of designated incident managers and emergency responders.
Crew	(See Single Resource.)
Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD)	CISD is a structured intervention designed to promote the emotional processing of traumatic events through the ventilation and normalization of reactions, as well as preparation for possible future experiences. CISD is an essential technique associated with efficient and effective Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM).
Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)	CISM is a comprehensive, integrative, multicomponent crisis intervention system. CISM is considered comprehensive because it consists of multiple crisis intervention components, which functionally span the entire temporal spectrum of a crisis. CISM interventions range from the pre-crisis phase through the acute crisis phase, and into the post-crisis phase. CISM is also considered comprehensive in that it consists of interventions which may be applied to individuals, small functional groups, large groups, families, organizations, and even communities.
Critical Infrastructure	Assets, systems, and networks, whether physical or virtual, so vital to the United States that the incapacitation or destruction of such assets, systems, or networks would have a debilitating impact on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination of those matters.
Cross Connection	Actual or potential connections between a potable water supply and a non-potable source, where it is possible for a contaminant to enter the drinking water supply.
Cross-Contamination	The unwanted transfer of material between two or more sources of physical evidence.
Curie (Ci)	A measure of how many radioactive atoms are disintegrating per unit time. Equal to 37 billion disintegrations per second.
Cytokine Dysregulation	Cytokines are soluble hormone-like proteins used by cells of the immune system to coordinate their actions. Dysregulation is impairment of a physiological regulatory mechanism (as that governing metabolism, immune response, or organ function).

D

Daisy Chain	A term used to describe a group of demonstrators linked together using a U-bolt bike lock. This is accomplished by a demonstrator placing the lock around his or her neck and then linking to another demonstrator with a lock around his or her neck. This tactic is used to block or restrict access to an area. (See Bicycle Lock.)
Decontamination	A process used to reduce, remove, or neutralize radiological, chemical, or biological contamination to reduce the risk of exposure.
Decontamination Corridor	A distinct area with the “Warm Zone” that functions a protective buffer and bridge between the “Hot Zone” and the “Cold Zone,” where decontamination stations and personnel are located to conduct decontamination procedures. An incident may have multiple decontamination corridors, depending upon the scope and nature of the incident.
Definitive Decontamination	(See Technical Decontamination.)
Deflagrate	To burn or cause to burn with great heat and intense light.
Delegation of Authority	A statement provided to the Incident Commander (IC) by the Agency Executive delegating authority and assigning responsibility. The Delegation of Authority can include objectives, priorities, expectations, constraints, and other considerations or guidelines as needed. Many agencies require a written Delegation of Authority to be given to Incident Commanders prior to their assuming command or larger incidents.
Demobilization	The orderly, safe, and efficient return of an incident resource to its original location and status.
Demobilization Unit	The functional unit within the Planning Section responsible for assuring orderly, safe, and efficient demobilization of incident resources.
Demolition Hammer	A device used to chip and chisel; to make grooves, bar cuts, drive piles, and demolish concrete. Used to assist in the removal of improvised devices. (Also called *Jack Hammer*.)

Department Operations Center (DOC)	An Emergency Operations Center (EOC) specific to a single department or agency. The focus of a DOC is on internal agency incident management and response. DOCs are often linked to and, in most cases, are physically represented in a combined agency EOC by authorized agent(s) for the department or agency.
Deputy	A fully qualified individual who, in the absence of a superior, could be delegated the authority to manage a functional operation or perform a specific task. In some cases, a Deputy could act as relief for a supervisor and therefore must be fully qualified in the position. Deputies can be assigned to the Incident Commander (IC), General Staff, and Branch Directors.
Derived Air Concentrations (DAC)	The concentration of a given radionuclide in air, which, if breathed by the reference man for a working year of 2,000 hours under conditions of light work (inhalation rate 1.2 m^3 of air per hour), results in an intake of one Annual Limited on Intake (ALI).
Derived Intervention Level (DIL)	The concentration derived from the intervention level of dose at which introduction of protective measures should be considered.
Derived Response Levels (DRL)	The DRL is the calculated exposure rate that will produce a dose equal to the applicable Relocation's *Protective Action Guide*.
Detonate	To explode violently.
Device	A contrivance or an invention serving a particular purpose, especially a machine used to perform one or more relatively simple tasks. Also, a technique or means, a plan, or scheme, especially a malign one.
Diphosgene (DP)	A chemical originally developed for chemical warfare, a few months after the first use of phosgene. At room temperature it is a stable, colorless liquid with a vapor pressure of 10 mmHg at 20 °C. It decomposes to phosgene around 300 °C.
Director	The Incident Command System (ICS) title for individuals responsible for supervision of a Branch.
Disaster	A natural, unintentional incident that significantly disrupts the Environment of Care (EC).

Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT), National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)	DMATs provide primary and acute care, triage of mass casualties, initial resuscitation and stabilization, advanced life support and preparation of sick or injured for evacuation. The basic deployment configuration of a DMAT consists of 35 persons; it includes physicians, nurses, medical technicians, and ancillary support personnel. They can be mobile within 6 hours of notification and are capable of arriving at a disaster site within 48 hours. They can sustain operations for 72 hours without external support. DMATs are responsible for establishing an initial (electronic) medical record for each patient, including assigning patient unique identifiers in order to facilitate tracking throughout the NDMS. Functions as part of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS).
Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT), National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)	A DMORT works under the guidance of local authorities by providing technical assistance and personnel to recover, identify, and process deceased victims. Teams are composed of funeral directors, medical examiners, coroners, pathologists, forensic anthropologists, medical records technicians and transcribers, fingerprint specialists, forensic odontologists, dental assistants, x-ray technicians, and other personnel. U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) also maintains several Disaster Portable Morgue Units (DPMU) that can be used by DMORTs to establish a stand-alone morgue operation.
Disinfection	A process that eliminates many or all pathogenic microorganisms, except bacterial spores, on inanimate objects. Disinfectants are the agents used to accomplish this process.
Dispatch	The implementation of a command decision to move a resource or resources from one place to another.
Dispatch Center	A facility from which resources are assigned to an incident.
Dispensing/Vaccination Center (DVC)	The principal operational unit of the dispensing functions of a community-wide disease outbreak response. A DVC is a single dispensing site that can be free standing or located in a preexisting building. A DVC may also be called a Point of Dispensing (POD).
Division	Divisions are used to divide an incident into geographical areas of operation. A Division is located within the Incident Command System (ICS) organization between the Branch and the Task Force/Strike Team. (See Group.) Divisions are identified by alphabetic characters for horizontal applications and, often, by floor numbers when used in buildings.

Division Boundaries	Division boundaries are used to divide an incident into geographic areas of operation.
Documentation	Written notes, audio/videotapes, printed forms, sketches and/or photographs that form a detailed record of the scene, evidence recovered, and actions taken during the search of the crime scene.
Documentation Unit	The functional unit within the Planning Section responsible for collecting, recording, and safeguarding all documents relevant to the incident.
Domestic Preparedness	The state of being prepared, especially military readiness for combat.
Domestic Terrorism	The unlawful use, or threatened use, of force or violence by a group or individual based and operating entirely within the United States or Puerto Rico without foreign direction committed against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof in furtherance of political or social objectives.
Domestic Use	Any item, including food or drink, intended for the sole purpose of human use or consumption.
Driver	A person who is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the vehicle holding the equipment and tools.
DuoDote™	The DuoDote Auto-Injector is a single, prefilled, dual-chambered auto-injector that is filled with two separate chemical nerve agent antidotes; the outer cylinder with 2.1 mg of atropine and the inner with 600 mg of pralidoxime chloride (2-PAM chloride). The DuoDote treats symptoms of chemical nerve agent poisonings and toxic levels of common organophosphate insecticides. It is a replacement for the Mark 1™/Nerve Agent Antidote Kit (NAAK). The DuoDote will phase out the Mark 1, which was in production until the end of December 2008 and has a shelf life of approximately 5 years.
Durable Medical Supplies	Devices which are very resistant to wear and may be used over a long period of time. They include items such as wheelchairs, hospital beds, artificial limbs, etc.
Dying Declaration	Statements made by a person who believes he or she is about to die, concerning the cause or circumstance surrounding his or her impending death. Includes their own activities, as well as others involved in the commission of a crime.

E

Earth First! (EF!)	Earth First! (EF!) is a terrorist group that takes a “by any means necessary” approach to the earth. The group declines to participate in the democratic process, preferring instead to damage, disable, and destroy the property of its ever-growing list of enemies. EF! targets include, but are not limited to, loggers, ranchers, and farmers—especially those who grow genetically modified crops. Their crimes include assault, arson, and untold acts of sabotage.
Earth Liberation Front (ELF)	Environmental terrorist group known to use economic sabotage and guerrilla warfare to stop the exploitation and destruction of the environment.
Ecological	The totality or pattern of relations between organisms and their environment.
Ecoterrorism	1—Sabotage intended to hinder activities that are considered damaging to the environment. 2—Political terrorism intended to damage an enemy's natural environment.
Effluent	The liquid discharge of a septic tank or other sewage treatment device.
Elimination Sample	A sample of a known source taken from a person who had lawful access to the scene to be used for comparison with evidence of the same type.
Emergency	Absent a Presidentially declared emergency, any incident(s), human-caused or natural, that requires responsive action to protect life or property. Under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, an emergency means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States.
Emergency Decontamination	The physical process of immediately reducing contamination of individuals in potentially life-threatening situations with or without the formal establishment of a decontamination corridor.

Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)	A congressionally ratified organization that provides form and structure to interstate mutual aid. Through EMAC, a disaster-affected State can request and receive assistance from other member States quickly and efficiently, resolving two key issues up front: liability and reimbursement.
Emergency Management Coordinator/Director	The individual within each political subdivision that has the coordination responsibility for jurisdictional emergency management.
Emergency Management/Resource Personnel	Includes Federal, state, territorial, tribal, substate regional, and local governments, nongovernmental organizations (NGO), private sector-organizations, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and all other organizations and individuals who assume an emergency management role. (Also known as emergency responder.)
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)	A specially trained medical technician certified to provide basic emergency services (e.g., cardiopulmonary resuscitation [CPR]) before and during transportation to a hospital.
Emergency Operations Center (EOC)	The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support domestic incident management activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional disciplines (e.g., fire, law enforcement, and medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., Federal, state, regional, county, city, tribal), or some combination thereof.
Emergency Operations Plan	The ongoing plan maintained by various jurisdictional levels for responding to a wide variety of potential hazards. It describes how people and property will be protected; details who is responsible for carrying out specific actions; identifies the personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources available; and outlines how all actions will be coordinated.

Emergency Planning Zones (EPZ)	To facilitate a preplanned strategy for protective actions during an emergency, there are two EPZs around each nuclear power plant. The exact size and shape of each EPZ is a result of detailed planning which includes consideration of the specific conditions at each site, unique geographical features of the area, and demographic information. This preplanned strategy for an EPZ provides a substantial basis to support activity beyond the planning zone in the extremely unlikely event it would be needed. The two EPZs are described as follows: • Plume Exposure Pathway—The plume exposure pathway EPZ has a radius of about 10 miles from the reactor site. Predetermined protective action plans are in place for this EPZ and are designed to avoid or reduce dose from potential exposure of radioactive materials. These actions include sheltering, evacuation, and the use of potassium iodide where appropriate. • Ingestion Exposure Pathway—The ingestion exposure pathway EPZ has a radius of about 50 miles from the reactor site. Predetermined protective action plans are in place for this EPZ and are designed to avoid or reduce dose from potential ingestion of radioactive materials. These actions include a ban of contaminated food and water.
Emergency Response	A response effort by employees from outside the immediate release area or by other designated responders.
Emergency Support Function (ESF)	Used by the Federal government and many state governments as the primary mechanism at the operational level to organize and provide assistance. ESFs align categories of resources and provide strategic objectives for their use. ESFs utilize standardized resource management concepts such as typing, inventorying, and tracking to facilitate the dispatch, deployment, and recovery of resources before, during, and after an incident.
Enabling Learning Objective (ELO)	ELOs, also known as subordinate objectives, correspond to the skills required to accomplish the Terminal Learning Objective (TLO). Specifically, ELOs provide the level of detail necessary to describe the knowledge and skills that must be learned to demonstrate satisfactory performance of the terminal objective ELOs.
Endemic	Denoting a temporal pattern of disease occurrence in a population in which the disease occurs with predictable regularity with only relatively minor fluctuations in its frequency over time.

Environmental Health	Environmental health addresses all the physical, chemical, and biological factors external to a person, and all the related factors impacting behaviors. It encompasses the assessment and control of those environmental factors that can potentially affect health. It is targeted towards preventing disease and creating health-supportive environments. This definition excludes behavior not related to environment, as well as behavior related to the social and cultural environment, and genetics.
Epidemic	The occurrence of more cases of disease than expected in a given area or among a specific group of people over a particular period of time.
Eschar	A slough of tissue produced by a thermal burn, corrosive, or gangrene.
Etiology	The science and study of the causes of disease and their mode of operation.
Evacuation	The organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal, or removal of civilians [individuals] from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.
Event	A planned, nonemergency activity. Incident Command System (ICS) can be used as the management system for a wide range of events (e.g., parades, concerns, or sporting events; See Planned Event).
Evidence Identifiers	Tape, labels, containers, and string tags used to identify the evidence, the person collecting the evidence, the date the evidence was gathered, basic criminal offense information, and a brief description of the pertinent evidence.
Exclusion Zone	Area immediately surrounding the incident which extends far enough to prevent adverse effects from released dangerous goods to personnel outside the zone. All individuals entering the Exclusion Zone must wear the prescribed levels of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and be decontaminated before leaving. Also known as the hot zone.
Expert	An individual with in-depth knowledge in a specific area or field.
Extremism	Advocacy of extreme political measures: radicalism.

Extrication	To free or remove from an entanglement or difficulty, particularly, to remove a protester from a protester device or an accident victim from a vehicle or a trapped person in a collapsed structure.
Extrication Saw	Large circular saw, primarily used by fire services for the verification of structure fires. Used to assist in the removal of protesters from improvised devices. (Also known *as K-12*.)
Extrication Team	The operations unit for the removal of protesters from protester devices. The team is comprised of 8–10 members, each with specific duties. The team includes Team Leader, Safety Officer (SO), Spotter, Large-Tool Operator, Small-Tool Operator, and Driver.

F

Facilities Unit	Functional unit within the Support Branch of the Logistics Section that provides fixed facilities for the incident. These facilities may include the Incident Base, feeding areas, sleeping areas, sanitary facilities, etc.
Fatalities Management	The capacity to effectively perform scene documentation, the complete collection and recovery of the dead, victim's personal effects and items of evidence; decontamination of remains and personal effects (if required); transportation, storage, documentation, and recovery of forensic and physical evidence; determination of the nature and extent of injury; identification of the fatalities using scientific means; certification of the cause and manner of death; processing and returning of human remains and personal effects of the victims to the legally authorized person(s) (if possible); and interaction with and provision of legal, customary, compassionate, and culturally competent required services to the families of the deceased within the context of the family assistance center.
Federal	Of or pertaining to the Federal Government of the United States of America.
Field Operations Guide (FOG)	A durable pocket-size manual of instructions on the application of the Incident Command System (ICS). It contains essential information required to perform specific assignments or functions.
Finance/ Administration Section	The Section responsible for all incident costs and financial considerations. Includes the Time Unit, Procurement Unit, Compensation/Claims Unit, and Cost Unit.

First Responder	Those individuals who in the early stages of an incident are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, evidence, and the environment, including emergency response providers as defined in Section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 *United States Code* [U.S.C.] § 101), as well as emergency management, public health, clinical care, public works, and other skilled support personnel (such as equipment operators) that provide immediate support services during prevention, response, and recovery operations.
Floodplain	Areas subject to frequent flooding means those areas inundated at designated frequencies including alluvial soils and areas subject to tidal or storm overwash.
Fluorescence	Luminescence that is caused by the absorption of radiation at one wavelength followed by nearly immediate reradiation usually at a different wavelength and that ceases almost at once when the incident radiation stops.
Food and Agriculture Councils (FACs)	The U.S. Department of Agriculture's primary vehicle for administering programs to address agricultural and rural development concerns at the local level.
Food Unit	Functional unit within the Service Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for providing meals for incident personnel.
Fomites	An object (as a dish or an article of clothing) that may be contaminated with infectious organisms and serve in their transmission.
Force Multiplier	A capability that when added to and employed…significantly increases the combat potential of that force and thus enhances the probability of successful mission accomplishment.[17] During protests, it increases the protester's effectiveness without increasing the number of actual protesters. This is accomplished through the use of locking and nonlocking protester devices.
Frangible/Breaking Devices	Readily or easily broken apparatus or invention serving a particular purpose, especially to perform one or more relatively simple tasks (i.e., explosion).
Frisk	Process of monitoring personnel for contamination. Frisking can be performed with hand-held survey instruments or automated monitoring devices.

Function	The five major activities in the Incident Command System (ICS): Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. A sixth function, Intelligence/Investigations, may be established, if required, to meet incident management needs. The term function is also used when describing the activity involved (e.g., the planning function).
Functional and Access Needs Population	A population whose members may have additional needs before, during, and after an incident in functional areas, including but not limited to: maintaining independence, communication, transportation, supervision, and medical care. Individuals in need of additional response assistance may include those who have disabilities; who live in institutionalized settings; who are elderly; who are children; who are from diverse cultures, who have limited English proficiency, or who are non-English-speaking; or who are transportation disadvantaged.

G

General Emergency (GE)	Events that involve actual or imminent substantial core damage or melting of reactor fuel with the potential for loss of containment integrity are in progress or have occurred. Radioactive releases can be expected to exceed the limits set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for more than the immediate site area.
General Staff	A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the Incident Commander (IC). The General Staff normally consists of the Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and Finance/Administration Section Chief. An Intelligence/Investigations Chief may be established, if required, to meet incident management needs.
Genetic Drift	The ability of a virus to mutate naturally; the term is used in population genetics to refer to the statistical drift over time of allele frequencies in a finite population due to random sampling effects in the formation of successive generations.

Genetic Shift	Occurs when the genetic material of a virus is fragmented and a cell is infected by two different but related viruses. The virus progeny can inherit fragments coming from both parent viruses (genetic reassortment). Influenza virus genome consists of eight RNA molecules. If a cell is simultaneously infected by a human and an avian virus, a combination of their RNA molecules in a progeny virus may result in a progeny virus with novel properties. This is also referred to as an antigenic shift, which may lead to a pandemic.
Gray	The SI unit “Gray” has replaced the older “rad” designation. (1 Gy = 1 joule/kilogram = 100 rad). Gray can be used for any type of radiation (e.g., alpha, beta, neutron, gamma), but it does not describe the biological effects of different radiations. Biological effects of radiation are measured in units of “Sievert” (or the older designation “rem”). Sievert is calculated as follows: Gray multiplied by the “radiation weighting factor” (also known as the “quality factor”) associated with a specific type of radiation.
Greenpeace	A nongovernmental organization for the protection and conservation of the environment. Greenpeace uses direct action, lobbying, and research to achieve its goals.
Gross Decontamination	The initial phase of the decontamination process during which the amount of surface contaminant is significantly reduced.
Ground Support Unit	Functional unit within the Support Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for the fueling, maintaining, and repairing of vehicles, and the transportation of personnel and supplies.
Group	An organizational subdivision established to divide the incident management structure into functional areas of operation. Groups are composed of resources assembled to perform a special function not necessarily within a single geographic division. Groups are located between Branches (when activated) and Resources in the Operations Section. (See Division.)

H

Hazard	1—Something that is potentially dangerous or harmful, often the root cause of an unwanted outcome. 2—a natural, technological/accidental, or adversarial/human-caused source or cause of harm or difficulty.

Hazardous Waste	Hazardous waste is waste that is dangerous or potentially harmful to our health or the environment. Hazardous wastes can be liquids, solids, gases, or sludges. They can be discarded commercial products, like cleaning fluids or pesticides, or the by-products of manufacturing processes.
Health Department	A division of a local or larger government responsible for the oversight and care of matters relating to public health.
Helibase	The main location for parking, fueling, maintenance, and loading of helicopters operating in support of an incident. It is usually located at or near the Incident Base.
Helipad	Any designated location where a helicopter can safely take off and load. Some helipads may be used for loading of supplies, equipment, or personnel.
Hemagglutinin	An antigenic glycoprotein found on the surface of the influenza viruses (as well as many bacteria and other viruses). It is responsible for binding the virus to the cell that is being infected.
Hierarchy of Command	(See Chain of Command.)
High Contamination Area	Any area, accessible to individuals, where removable contamination levels exceed or are likely to exceed 100 times the removable contamination values specified in Appendix D of 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* (C.F.R.) § 835.2.
High Radiation Area	Any area with dose rates greater than 100 millirems (1 millisievert) in one hour 30 centimeters from the source or from any surface through which the ionizing radiation penetrates. Areas at licensee facilities must be posted as “high radiation areas” and access into these areas is maintained under strict control.
Hospice Care	Hospice care is end-of-life care provided by health professionals and volunteers. They give medical, psychological and spiritual support. The goal of the care is to help people who are dying have peace, comfort and dignity. The caregivers try to control pain and other symptoms so a person can remain as alert and comfortable as possible. Hospice programs also provide services to support a patient's family. Usually, a hospice patient is expected to live 6 months or less.

Hospital Incident Command System (HICS)	The Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) is a management system based on *National Incident Management System* (*NIMS*) that consists of a flexible organization structure and time-proven management principles. The system includes defined responsibilities and reporting channels and uses common language to promote internal and external communication and integration with community responders. HICS can be utilized for emergency incidents or for planned events.
Hostile Action-Based Action (HAB)	An act toward a Nuclear Power Plant or its personnel that includes the use of violent force to destroy equipment, take hostages, and/or intimidate the licensee to achieve an end.
Hot Zone	The area immediately surrounding a CBRNE/all-hazards incident which extends far enough to prevent adverse effects from released CBRNE to personnel outside the zone. Also referred to as the exclusion zone, red zone, or restricted zone.
Hypovolemia	Decreased volume of blood in the body.

I

Immediate Decontamination	(See Technical Decontamination.)
Impression Evidence	Objects or materials that have retained the characteristics of other objects that have been physically pressed against them.
Improvised Explosive Device (IED)	A weapon that is fabricated or emplaced in an unconventional manner incorporating destructive, lethal, noxious, pyrotechnic, or incendiary chemicals designed to kill, destroy, incapacitate, harass, deny mobility, or distract.
Improvised Nuclear Device (IND)	Illicit nuclear weapons bought, stolen, or otherwise originating from a nuclear state, or a weapon fabricated by a terrorist group from illegally obtained fissile nuclear weapons material that produces a nuclear explosion. It produces same physical and medical effects as a nuclear weapon explosion.
Improvised Protester Device	Any device used by protesters to enhance civil disobedience. It is used to slow down and impede emergency response resources. (Also called a *Protester Device*.)

Incident	An occurrence or event, natural or human-caused, which requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.
Incident Action Plan (IAP)	An oral or written plan containing general objectives reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods.
Incident Base	The location at which primary Logistics functions for an incident are coordinated and administered. There is only one Base per incident. (Incident name or other designator will be added to the term Base.) The Incident Command Post may be colocated with the Incident Base. There is only one Base per incident.
Incident Command	The Incident Command System (ICS) organizational element responsible for overall management of the incident and consisting of the Incident Commander (IC; either single or unified command structure) and any assigned supporting staff.
Incident Command Post (ICP)	The field location where the primary functions are performed. The ICP may be colocated with the Incident Base or other incident facilities and normally identified by a green rotating or flashing light.
Incident Command System (ICS)	A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations.

Incident Commander (IC)	The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.
Incident Communication Center	The location of the Communications Unit and the Message Center.
Incident Complex	(See Complex.)
Incident Management	The broad spectrum of activities and organizations providing effective and efficient operations, coordination, and support applied at all levels of government, utilizing both governmental and nongovernmental resources to plan for, respond to, and recover from an incident, regardless of cause, size, or complexity.
Incident Management Team (IMT)	An Incident Commander (IC) and the appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident. The level of training and experience of the IMT members, coupled with the identified formal response requirements and responsibilities of the IMT, are factors in determining “type” or level, of IMT.
Incident Objectives	Statements of guidance and direction needed to select appropriate strategies and the tactical direction of resources. Incident Objectives are based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished when all allocated resources have been effectively deployed. Incident Objectives must be achievable and measurable, yet flexible enough to allow strategic and tactical alternatives.
Incident Support Organization	Includes any off-incident support provided to an incident. Examples would be agency dispatch centers, airports, or mobilization centers.
Incident Type	Incidents are categorized by five types based on complexity. Type 5 incidents are the least complex and Type 1 the most complex.
Incubation Period	The period between the infection of an individual by a pathogen and the manifestation of the disease it causes.
Infectious Disease	A disease caused by the entrance into the body of organisms (as bacteria, protozoans, fungi, or viruses) which grow and multiply there. An infectious disease may, or may not, be transmissible from person to person, animal to person, or insect to person.

Influenza	1—Any of several acute highly contagious respiratory diseases caused by strains of three major orthomyxoviruses now considered to comprise three species assigned to three separate genera: Influenza A, Influenza B, or Influenza C. 2—Any human respiratory infection of undetermined cause.
Information	Pieces of raw, unanalyzed data that identifies persons, evidence, events, or illustrates processes that indicate the incidence of a criminal event.
Information Collection	The capture of information based on a reasonable suspicion of criminal involvement for use in developing criminal cases, identifying crime trends and protecting the community by means of intervention, apprehension, and/or target hardening.
Information Management	The collection, organization, and control over the structure, processing, and delivery of information from one or more sources and distribution to one or more audiences who have a stake in that information.
Ingestion Exposure Pathway	The principal exposure from this pathway would be from ingestion of contaminated water or foods such as milk or fresh vegetables. The time of potential exposure could range in length from hours to months.
Initial Action	The actions taken by resources that are the first to arrive at an incident.
Initial Response	Resources initially committed to an incident.
Initial Responding Officer	The first law enforcement officer to arrive at the scene.
Inner Perimeter	Secured inner area of operations.
Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS)	A system developed in the early 1980s that is an all-hazards approach that includes direction, control, and coordination for disasters regardless of their location, size and complexity.
Integrated Planning System	A system designed to provide common processes for developing and integrating plans for the Federal Government to establish a comprehensive approach to national planning in accordance with the Homeland Security Management System as outlined in the National Strategy for Homeland Security.

Intelligence/Investigations	An organizational subset within Incident Command System (ICS). Intelligence gathered within the Intelligence/Investigations function is information that either leads to the detection, prevention, apprehension, and prosecution of criminal activities-or the individual(s) involved-including terrorist incidents or information that leads to determination of the cause of a given incident (regardless of the source) such as public health events or fires with unknown origins. This is different from the normal operational and situational intelligence gathered and reported by the Planning Section.
Intelligence Cycle	The ongoing process that seeks continuous input so that every new piece of information which meets the standards of rigor can be added to the evidentiary picture.
Intelligence Officer	The intelligence officer is responsible for managing internal information, intelligence, and operational security requirements supporting incident management activities. These may include information security and operational security activities, as well as the complex task of ensuring that sensitive information of all types (e.g., classified information, law enforcement sensitive information, proprietary information, or export-controlled information) is handled in a way that not only safeguards the information, but also ensures that it gets to those who need access to it to perform their missions effectively and safely.
International Terrorism	Violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or any state, or that would be a criminal violation if committed within the jurisdiction of the United States or any state. These acts appear to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population, influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion, or affect the conduct of a government by assassination or kidnapping. International terrorist acts occur outside the United States or transcend national boundaries in terms of the means by which they are accomplished, the persons they appear intended to coerce or intimidate, or the locale in which their perpetrators operate or seek asylum.
Interoperability	Ability of systems, personnel, and equipment to provide and receive functionality, data, information and/or services to and from other systems, personnel, and equipment, between both public and private agencies, departments, and other organizations, in a manner enabling them to operate effectively together. Allows emergency management/response personnel and their affiliated organizations to communicate within and across agencies and jurisdictions via voice, data, or video-on-demand, in real time, when needed, and when authorized.

Investigator in Charge	The official responsible for the crime scene investigation.
Iodophor	A complex of iodine and a surface-active agent that releases iodine gradually and serves as a disinfectant.
Isolation	The physical separation and confinement of an individual or groups of individuals who are infected or reasonably believed to be infected, on the basis of signs, symptoms, or laboratory analysis, with a contagious or possibly contagious disease from nonisolated individuals, to prevent or limit the transmission of the disease.
Isodose-rate Line	A line on a map, diagram, or overlay joining all points at which the radiation dose rate at a given time is the same.
Isotope	Any of two or more species of atoms of a chemical element with the same atomic number and nearly identical chemical behavior, but with differing atomic mass or mass number and different physical properties.

J

Jack Hammer	(See Demolition Hammer.)
J Hook	Hook used to retrieve the chain inside a *sleeping dragon* after it has been breached.
Job Aid	Checklist or other visual aid intended to ensure that specific steps of completing a task or assignment are accomplished.
Joint Field Office (JFO)	The primary Federal incident management field structure. The JFO is a temporary Federal facility that provides a central location for the coordination of Federal, state, tribal, and local governments and private-sector and nongovernmental organizations with primary responsibility for response and recovery. The JFO structure is organized, staffed, and managed in a manner consistent with *National Incident Management System* (*NIMS*) principles. Although the JFO uses an Incident Command System (ICS) structure, the JFO does not manage on-scene operations. Instead, the JFO focuses on providing support to on-scene efforts and conducting broader support operations that may extend beyond the incident site.
Joint Information Center (JIC)	A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media. Public information officials from all participating agencies should colocate at the JIC.

Joint Information System (JIS)	Integrates incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, accurate, accessible, timely, and complete information during crisis or incident operations. The mission of the JIS is to provide a structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages; developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the Incident Commander (IC); advising the IC concerning public affairs issues that could affect a response effort; and controlling rumors and inaccurate information that could undermine public confidence in the emergency response effort.
JumpSTART Pediatric MCI Triage©	A rapid triage system with protocols for children 12 months to 8 years old.
Jurisdiction	A range or sphere of authority. Public agencies have jurisdiction at an incident related to their legal responsibilities and authority. Jurisdictional authority at an incident can be political or geographical (e.g., Federal, State, tribal, local boundary lines) or functional (e.g., law enforcement, public health).
Jurisdiction Threat Assessment	This is designed to accomplish several goals, all using a process that encourages open lines of communication between federal, state, and local agencies involved in public safety. The assessment utilizes a pre-existing Department of Defense (DOD) terrorist threat analysis methodology to first identify and evaluate the threat level of each Potential Threat Element (PTE) identified in one's jurisdiction. This methodology has been revised to meet the requirements of this assessment process. The threat level of an existing PTE is determined on the basis of its past violent history, intentions to commit a CBRNE act of terrorism, the capability to carry out a CBRNE act of terrorism, and any targeting efforts aimed at achieving the specific terrorist act. Each factor is considered when assessing the potential for violent or destructive activity emanating from a terrorist group. However, the accuracy of such analysis is dependent upon the availability of intelligence-related information concerning a particular individual or group. Small groups and rogue individuals, whose activities are difficult to anticipate due to limited or nonexistent intelligence information, represent an unpredictable but constant threat.
Jurisdictional Agency	The agency having jurisdiction and responsibility for a specific geographical area, or a mandated function.

K

Key Resources	Any publicly or privately controlled resource essential to the minimal operations of the economy and government.
Kinds of Resources	Describe what the resource is (e.g., medic, firefighter, Planning Section Chief, helicopters, ambulances, combustible gas indicators, bulldozers.)

L

Landing Zone	(See Helipad.)
Large-Tool Specialist	A member of the extrication team that works with the large equipment, such as the extrication saw or the concrete hammer.
Latent Print	A print impression not readily visible, made by contact of the hands or feet with a surface resulting in the transfer of materials from the skin to that surface.
Law Enforcement Responder	Law enforcement personnel who respond to the scene of a Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) event or potential terrorist event.
Left Wing	The leftist division of a group (as a political party).
Letter of Expectation	(See Delegation of Authority.)
Liaison	A form of communication for establishing and maintaining mutual understanding and cooperation.
Liaison Officer	A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies. The Liaison Officer may have Assistants.
Likelihood	The estimate of the potential that an incident or event will occur.

Local Government	Public entities responsible for the security and welfare of a designated area as established by law. A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under state law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; an Indian tribe or authorized tribal entity, or in Alaska a Native Village or Alaska Regional Native Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity.
Lock Box	Types of protester devices that include a large hole dug in the ground and filled with cement, allowing the incorporation of a sleeping dragon.
Logistics	Providing resources and other services to support incident management.
Logistics Section	The section responsible for providing facilities, services, and materials for the incident.
Lower Explosive Limits (LEL)	The lower limit of flammability of a gas or vapor at ordinary ambient temperatures expressed in percent of the gas or vapor in air by volume. This limit is assumed constant for temperatures up to 120 ^{o}C (250 ^{o}F). Above this, it should be decreased by a factor of 0.7 because explosibility increases with higher temperatures.
Lymphadenopathy	Abnormal enlargement of the lymph nodes.

M

Major Disaster	As defined under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, a major disaster is any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this Act to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, tribes, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

Management By Objectives (MBO)	A management approach that involves a five-step process for achieving the incident goal. The MBO approach includes the following: establishing overarching incident objectives; developing strategies based on overarching incident objectives; developing and issuing assignments, plans, procedures, and protocols; establishing specific, measurable tactics or tasks for various incident-management functional activities and directing efforts to attain them in support of defined strategies; and documenting results to measure performance and facilitate corrective action.
Manager	Individual within Incident Command System (ICS) organizational units who are assigned specific managerial responsibilities (e.g., Staging Area Manager or Camp Manager).
Mass Casualty Incident (MCI)	A casualty-creating hazard incident in which the available organizational and medical resources (both “first” and “second response”), or their management systems, are severely challenged or become insufficient to adequately meet the medical needs of the affected population. Insufficient management, response, or support capability or capacity can result in increased morbidity and mortality among the impacted population. “Mass casualty” equates to a “disaster,” whereas “multiple casualty incident” equates to an “emergency.”
Mass Decontamination	The physical process of reducing or removing surface contaminants from large numbers of people in potentially life-threatening situations in the fastest time possible.
Mass Prophylaxis	The process by which an entire community is to receive prophylactic drugs/vaccines over a defined period of time in response to possible exposure to a biological agent.
Measurement Scale	An object showing standard units of length, such as a ruler, used in photographic documentation of an item of evidence.
Medical Unit	Functional unit within the Service Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for the development of the Medical Emergency Plan and for providing emergency medical treatment of incident personnel.
Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)	A document describing in detail the specific responsibilities of, and actions to be taken by, each of the parties so that their goals may be accomplished. A MOA may also indicate the goals of the parties, to help explain their actions and responsibilities.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)	A document that describes very broad concepts of mutual understanding, goals and plans shared by the parties.
Message Center	The Message Center is part of the Incident Communications Center and is colocated or placed adjacent to it. It receives, records, and routes information about resources reporting to the incident, resource status, and administrative and tactical traffic.
Metal Pipe Sleeping Dragon	A sleeping dragon constructed of a metal pipe rather than Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC). Defeating this type of sleeping dragon is not difficult as long as the appropriate tools are used, although there is an increased risk to the protester and the extrication team. It is also known as a *Black Bear*, a *Bear Claw*, or an *Iron Maiden*.
Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)	A program that assists highly populated jurisdictions to develop plans, conduct training and exercises and acquire pharmaceuticals and personal protective equipment to achieve the enhanced capability necessary to respond to a mass casualty event caused by a terrorist act.
Military Designation/Symbol	Each agent has a symbol; it is not a chemical symbol or formula, but rather a shorthand way of designating the agent.
Mitigation	Activities providing a critical foundation in the effort to reduce the loss of life and property from natural and/or manmade disasters by avoiding or lessening the impact of a disaster and providing value to the public by creating safer communities. Mitigation seeks to fix the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage. These activities or actions, in most cases, will have a long-term sustained effect.
Mobile Field Force (MFF)	This group is specially trained to provide rapid, organized, and disciplined response to civil action/disorder, crowd control, or other tactical situations.
Mobilization	The process and procedures used by all organizations—federal, state, and local—for activating, assembling, and transporting all resources that have been requested to respond to or support an incident.
Mobilization Center	An off-incident location at which emergency service personnel and equipment are temporarily located pending assignment, release, or reassignment.

Mobilization Guide	Reference document used by organizations outlining agreements, processes, and procedures used by all participating agencies/organizations for activating, assembling, and transporting resources.
Monitoring Well	Any well constructed for the primary purpose of obtaining samples of groundwater or other liquids for examination or testing, or for the observation or measurement of groundwater levels.
Monkeywrenching	A term used by environmental extremists to describe the actions they take against targets they believe are harming the environment. The actions can involve a myriad of tactics, including anything from damaging logging equipment to opening gates to allow animals to wander freely. Monkeywrenching concentrates on damaging property, not injuring people.
Mortality Rate	The number of deaths per unit or group in a given place and time. Also referred to as *death rate*.
Move, Assess, Sort, Send (MASS™) Triage	A simple technique for rapidly sorting patients in their initial triage category before an individual assessment is performed.
Mucopurulent	An exudate (any fluid or semisolid that has exuded out of a tissue or its capillaries due to injury or inflammation) containing both mucus and pus.
Multiagency Coordination (MAC)	The coordination of assisting agency resources and support to emergency operations.
Multiagency Coordination (MAC) Group	A group of administrators or executives, or their appointed representatives, who are typically authorized to commit agency resources and funds. A MAC Group can provide coordinated decision making and resource allocation among cooperating agencies, and may establish the priorities among incidents, harmonize agency policies, and provide strategic guidance and direction to support incident management activities. MAC Groups may also be known as multiagency committees, emergency management committees, or as otherwise defined by the Multiagency Coordination System (MACS).

Multiagency Coordination System (MACS)	A system that provides the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. A MACS assists agencies and organizations responding to an incident. The elements of a MAC include facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications. It is also known as a multiagency system or multiagency committee. Two of the most commonly used elements are Emergency Operations Centers and MAC Groups.
Multiagency Incident	An incident where one or more agencies assists a jurisdictional agency or agencies. May be a single or unified command.
Multijurisdiction Incident	An incident requiring action from multiple agencies that each have jurisdiction to manage certain aspects of an incident. In the Incident Command System (ICS), these incidents will be managed under Unified Command (UC).
Multiple Causation of Disease	Epidemiological concept specifying that there are combinations of factors categorized as agent characteristics, host vulnerability, mode of transmission, and environmental factors that collectively determine whether health or disease will prevail within a population of individuals.
Multiple Scenes	Two or more physical locations of evidence associated with a crime (e.g., in a crime of personal violence, evidence may be found at the location of the assault and also on the person and clothing of the individual/assailant, the individual's/assailant's vehicle, and locations the individual/assailant frequents and resides).
Muscarinic Effect	Effects imposed on Muscarinic receptors (cholinergic receptors) on autonomic effector cells, some autonomic ganglion cells and some central neurons as stimulated by muscarine or parasympathomimetic drugs and blocked by atropine. Symptomology typically demonstrated includes excessive production and excretion of bodily fluids, gastrointestinal distress, blurred vision, and labored breathing.
Mutual Aid Agreements and/or Assistance Agreements	Written or oral agreement between and among agencies/organizations and/or jurisdictions that provides a mechanism to quickly obtain emergency assistance in the form of personnel, equipment, materials, and other associated services. The primary objective is to facilitate rapid, short-term deployment of emergency support prior to, during, and/or after an incident.

Mycotoxins	Toxic compounds produced by certain fungi, some of which are used for medicinal purposes (e.g., muscarine and psilocybin).
Myocarditis	Inflammation of the myocardium, or heart muscle.
Myositis	Inflammation of the muscle tissue.

N

National	Of a nationwide character, including the Federal, state, tribal, and local aspects of governance and policy.
National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)	A federally coordinated system that augments the nation's medical response capability. The overall purpose of the NDMS is to supplement an integrated national medical response capability for assisting state and local authorities in dealing with the medical impacts of major peacetime disasters and to provide support for the care of casualties evacuated back to the United States from overseas armed conventional conflicts. The Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) and Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT) are response teams within the NDMS.
National Essential Functions	A subset of government functions that are necessary to lead and sustain the Nation during a catastrophic emergency and that therefore, must be supported through continuity of operations and continuity of government capabilities.
National Incident Management System (*NIMS*)	A system mandated by *Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-5* that provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, state, local, and tribal governments; the private sector; and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, state, local, and tribal capabilities, the *NIMS* includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. *HSPD-5* identifies these as the Incident Command System (ICS); multiagency coordination systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.
National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP)	The *NIPP* provides the unifying structure for the integration of a wide range of efforts for the enhanced protection and resiliency of the nation's critical infrastructure and key resources (CIKR) into a single national program.

The National Integration Center (NIC) Incident Management Systems Integration (IMSI) Division	This Division is responsible for Administration and Compliance (i.e., developing and maintaining a national program for *National Incident Management System* [*NIMS*] education and awareness); Standards and Credentialing (i.e., ensuring the adoption of common standards); Training and Exercise Support (i.e., development of training and exercises); and Publication Management (i.e., naming and development of publications, review and certification of publications).
National Response Framework (NRF)	The *NRF* [or *Framework*] is a guide to how the Nation conducts all-hazards response. It is built upon scalable, flexible, and adaptable coordinating structures to align key roles and responsibilities *across* the Nation. It describes specific authorities and best practices for managing incidents that range from the serious but purely local, to large-scale terrorist attacks or catastrophic natural disasters. The *NRF* explains the common discipline and structures that have been exercised and matured at the local, tribal, state, and national levels over time. It describes key lessons learned from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, focusing particularly on how the Federal government is organized to support communities and states in catastrophic incidents. Most importantly, it builds upon the *National Incident Management System (NIMS)*, which provides a consistent template for managing incidents.
National Security Intelligence	The collection and analysis of information concerned with the relationship and homeostasis of the United States with foreign powers, organizations, and persons with regard to political and economic factors, as well as the maintenance of the United States' sovereign principles.
Natural Hazard	A source of harm or difficult created by a meteorological, environmental, or geological phenomenon or combination of phenomena.
Necrotic	Dead cellular tissue.
Nerve Agents	Substances that interfere with the central nervous system. Exposure occurs primarily through contact with the fluid (via skin and eyes) and secondarily through inhalation of the vapor. Examples are tabun (GA), soman (GD), and VX.
Neuraminidase	A hydrolytic enzyme that occurs on the surface of the pneumococcus, the orthomyxoviruses, and some paramyxoviruses and that cleaves terminal acetylated neuraminic acids from sugar residues (as in glycoproteins and mucoproteins).

Nicotinic effect	Effects imposed on nicotinic receptors (cholinergic receptors) on autonomic ganglion cells and motor end-plates of skeletal muscle as stimulated by nicotine and blocked by high doses of tubocurarine. Symptomology often includes nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain, sweating, headache, dizziness, difficulty seeing/hearing, confusion, chest pain, rapid heartbeat, and seizure activity.
Nitrification Field	It is the land area in which nitrification lines are located under the ground surface, usually designed as beds or trenches. Also known as the *septic drainfield*.
Nitrification Lines	Approved pipe or other approved materials which receive partially treated sewage effluent for distribution and absorption into the soil beneath the ground surface.
Nomex® Blanket	A blanket made of flame-resistant fibers manufactured by DuPont™.
Nonambulatory Person	Person who is unconscious or unable to walk.
Nongovernmental Organization (NGO)	An entity with an association that is based on interests of its members, individuals, or institutions. It is not created by a government, but it may work cooperatively with government. Such organizations serve a public purpose, not a private benefit. Examples of NGOs include faith-based charity organizations and the American Red Cross. NGOs, including voluntary and faith-based groups, provide relief services to sustain life, reduce physical and emotional distress, and promote the recovery of disaster victims. Often these groups provide specialized services that help individuals with disabilities. NGOs and voluntary organizations play a major role in assisting emergency managers before, during, and after an emergency.
Nonporous Container	Packaging through which liquids or vapors cannot pass (e.g., glass jars or metal cans).
Notification of Unusual Event (NOUE)	Events that indicate potential degradation in the level of safety of the plant are in progress or have occurred. No release of radioactive material requiring offsite response or monitoring is expected unless further degradation occurs.
Nuclear	1—Being a weapon whose destructive power derives from an uncontrolled nuclear reaction; 2—Of, produced by, or involving nuclear weapons; 3—Armed with nuclear weapons; 4—Having or using nuclear energy (e.g., nuclear reactor, nuclear medicine).

O

Objectives	A statement of what learners are expected to demonstrate as a result of instruction. Objectives are usually used to identify outcomes of units, blocks, modules, instructional periods, and areas of instruction such as courses of a few days. They are typically formatted as level-of-learning objectives, used primarily in education, and criterion objectives, typically used in training.
Occupational Dose	The dose received by an individual in the course of employment in which the individual's assigned duties involve exposure to radiation or to radioactive material from licensed and unlicensed sources of radiation.
Officer	The Incident Command System (ICS) title for the personal responsible for the Command Staff positions of Safety, Liaison, and Public Information.
Operational Intelligence	Used by most law enforcement agencies. It guides the department's decisions about how to maintain public safety and can justify monitoring individuals who may pose a threat to public safety.
Operational Period	The period scheduled for execution of a given set of operation actions as specified in the Incident Action Plan (IAP). Operational Periods can be of various lengths, although usually not over 24 hours.
Operations Section	The Incident Command System (ICS) Section responsible for all tactical incident operations and implementation of the Incident Action Plan (IAP). In ICS, the Operations Section normally includes subordinate Branches, Divisions, and/or Groups.
Organization	Any association or group of persons with like objectives. Examples include, but are not limited to, governmental departments and agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector.
Otalgia	Pain in the ear.
Other Responders	Individuals who are involved in an aspect of the crime scene, such as perimeter security, traffic control, media management, scene processing, and technical support, as well as prosecutors, medical personnel, medical examiners, coroners, forensic examiners, evidence technicians, and fire and rescue officers.

Otorrhea	Discharge from the ear.
Outer Perimeter	Outermost area from the hazard that is secure.
Out-of-Service Resources	Resources assigned to an incident but unable to respond for mechanical rest or personnel reasons.
Overhead Personnel	Personnel who are assigned to supervisory positions which include Incident Commander (IC), Command Staff, General Staff, Directors, Supervisors, and Unit Leaders.
Overpack	1—A package used to contain one or more packages to facilitate handling and protection of the inner packages. 2—A term used to describe the placement of damaged or leaking packages in a recovery drum or an overpack. 3—The outer packaging for radioactive materials.

P

Palliative Care	Therapy that focuses on decreasing pain and suffering by providing treatments for relief of symptoms along with comfort and support for patients of all ages. Palliative care uses a team approach that involves the treating doctor, the family, and other health care professionals and social services.
Pancytopenia	Abnormal depression in quantity of all cellular blood components.
Pandemic Influenza	Refers to an epidemic that has spread over several countries or continents, usually affecting a large number of people. An influenza pandemic is a rare but recurrent event.
Passive Resistance	A form of resistance in which the protester does not physically fight with police. This includes, but is not limited to, sit-ins, boycotts, civil disobedience, and the incorporation of protester devices, also known as nonviolent resistance.
Pathogenic	Any organism capable of causing illness, disease or death in humans.
Pathogenicity	The condition or quality of being pathogenic, or the ability to cause disease.
Pericarditis	Inflammation of the lining around the heart causing chest pain and accumulation around the heart.
Permeation	The quality of state of being permeated (to spread or diffuse).

Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL)	An exposure limit that is published and enforced by Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) as a legal standard. PEL may be a time-weighted average (TWA) exposure limit (8 hour), a 15-minute Short Term Exposure Limit (STEL), or a ceiling (C).
Persistence	Refers to the length of time a chemical agent remains as a liquid. A chemical agent is said to be “persistent” if it remains as a liquid for longer than 24 hours and nonpersistent if it evaporates within that time. Among the most persistent chemical agents are VX, tabun (GA), mustard (H), and lewisite (L).
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Articles such as disposable gloves, masks, and eye protection that are utilized to provide a barrier to keep biological or chemical hazards from contacting the skin, eyes, and mucous membranes and to avoid contamination of the crime scene; refer to 29 *Code of Federal Regulations* (C.F.R.) § 1910.132 Subpart I.
Personal Responsibility	The obligation to be accountable for one’s actions.
Personnel Accountability	The ability to account for the location and welfare of incident personnel. It is accomplished when supervisors ensure that Incident Command system (ICS) principles and processes are functional and that personnel are working within established incident management guidelines.
Plain Language	Communication that can be understood by the intended audience and meets the purpose of the communicator. For the purpose of the *National Incident Management System*, plain language is designed to eliminate or limit the use of codes and acronyms, as appropriate, during incident response involving more than a single agency.
Planned Event	A scheduled nonemergency activity (e.g., sporting event, concert, parade).
Planning Meeting	A meeting held as needed throughout the duration of an incident to select specific strategies and tactics for incident control operations and for service and support planning. On larger incidents, the planning meeting is a major element in the development of the Incident Action Plan (IAP).

Planning Section	The Incident Command System (ICS) Section responsible for the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of operational information related to the incident, and for the preparation and documentation of the Incident Action Plan (IAP). This Section also maintains information on the current and forecasted situation and on the status of resources assigned to the incident. Includes the Situation, Resources, Documentation, and Demobilization Units, as well as Technical Specialists.
Point of Dispensing (POD)	PODs are centralized locations where the public picks up life sustaining commodities following a disaster or emergency, including shelf-stable food and water. (See Dispensing/Vaccination Center [DVC].)
Portability	An approach that facilitates the interaction of systems that are normally distinct. Portability of radio technologies, protocols, and frequencies among emergency management/response personnel will allow for the successful and efficient integration, transport, and deployment of communications systems when necessary. Portability includes the standardized assignment of radio channels across jurisdictions, which allows responders to participate in an incident outside their jurisdiction and still use familiar equipment.
Potable	Suitable for drinking (i.e., water).
Potential Threat Element (PTE)	Any group or individual with which there are allegations or information indicating a possibility of the unlawful use of force or violence, specifically the utilization of a CBRNE against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of a specific agenda.
Potentially Hazardous Food (PHF)	Means a natural or synthetic food that requires temperature control because it is in a form capable of supporting: • the rapid and progressive growth of infectious or toxigenic microorganisms; • the growth and toxin formation of *Clostridium botulinum*; or • in raw shell eggs, the growth of *Salmonella* Enteritidis. PHF includes: • animal food (a food of animal origin) that is raw or heat treated, • a food of plant-origin that is heat-treated or consists of raw seed sprout, • cut melons, and • garlic-in-oil mixtures that are not modified in a way that results in mixtures that do not support the growth of pathogenic microorganisms.

Powered Air-Purifying Respirator (PAR)	Powered air-purifying respirators use a fan to blow air through the filter to the user. They are easier to breathe through and they need a fully charged battery to work properly. They use the same filters as gas masks, so it is important to know what the hazard is, and how much of it is in the air.
Pre-Positioned Resource	A resource moved to an area near the expected incident site in response to anticipated resource needs.
Preparedness	A continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action in an effort to ensure effective coordination during incident response. Within the *National Incident Management System* (*NIMS*), preparedness focuses on the following elements: planning; procedures and protocols; training and exercises; personnel qualification and certification; and equipment certification.
Preparedness Organization	An organization that provides coordination for emergency management and incident response activities before a potential incident. These organizations range from groups of individuals to small committees to large standing organizations that represent a wide variety of committees, planning groups, and other organizations (e.g., Citizen Corps, Local Emergency Planning Committees, Critical Infrastructure Sector Coordinating Councils).
Presumptive Test	A nonconfirmatory test used to screen for the presence of a substance.
Prevention	Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.
Primary Mission Essential Functions	Government functions that must be performed in order to support or implement the performance of National Essential Functions before, during, and in the aftermath of an emergency.

Private Sector	Organizations and individuals that are not part of any governmental structure. The private sector includes for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, formal and informal structures, commerce, and industry.
Prion	A disease-causing agent that is not bacterial, fungal, or viral and contains no genetic material.
Procedure	1—a: A particular way of accomplishing something or of acting; b: A step in a procedure; 2—a: A series of steps followed in a regular definite order; b: A series of instructions for a computer that has a name by which it can be called into action; 3—A traditional or established way of doing things.
Procurement Unit	Functional Unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for financial matters involving vendor contract.
Projectile Trajectory Analysis	The method for determining the path of a high-speed object through space (e.g., a bullet emanating from a firearm).
Prophylaxis	Medical care or measures provided to individuals to prevent or protect them from disease.
Protection	Actions to reduce or eliminate a threat to people, property, and the environment. Primarily focused on adversarial incidents, the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources is vital to local jurisdictions, national security, public health and safety, and economic vitality. Protective actions may occur before, during, or after an incident and prevent, minimize, or contain the impact of an incident.
Protective Action Guide (PAG)	Projected dose to an individual in the general population that warrants the implementation of protective action. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have recommended specific protective action guides in terms of the level of projected dose that warrants the implementation of evacuation and sheltering, relocation, and limiting the use of contaminated food, water, or animal feed.

Protective Action Decisions (PAD)	Measures taken in anticipation of, or in response to, a release of radioactive material to the environment. The purpose of PADs is to provide dose savings by avoiding or minimizing the radiation exposure received by individuals, thereby minimizing the health risks resulting from radiation exposure. Sheltering and evacuation are the two PADs relied upon for limiting the direct exposure of the general public within the plume exposure emergency planning zone. Preventive and emergency PADs are two categories of PADs relied upon for limiting exposure from contaminated food and water in the ingestion exposure emergency planning zone.
Protocol	A set of established guidelines for actions (which may be designated by individuals, teams, functions, or capabilities) under various specified conditions.
Public Health	The approach to medicine that is concerned with the health of the community as a whole to fulfill society's interest in assuring conditions in which people can be healthy.
Public Information	Processes, procedures, and systems for communicating timely, accurate, and accessible information on an incident's cause, size, and current situation; resources committed; and other matters of general interest to the public, responders, and additional stakeholders (both directly affected and indirectly affected).
Public Information Officer (PIO)	A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media and/or with other agencies with incident-related information requirements .There is only one PIO per incident. The PIO may have assistants.
Publication Management	Subsystem that manages the development, publication control, publication supply, and distribution of National Incident Management System materials.

Q

Qualitative Fit Test	A pass/fail fit test to assess the adequacy of respirator fit that relies on the individual’s response to the test agent.
Quarantine	The physical separation and confinement of an individual or groups of individuals, who are or may have been exposed to a contagious or possibly contagious disease, and who do not show signs or symptoms of a contagious disease, from nonquarantined individuals, to prevent or limit the transmission of the disease.

Quantitative Fit Test	An assessment of the adequacy of respirator fit by numerically measuring the amount of leakage into the respirator.

R

Radiation absorbed dose (rad)	A basic unit of absorbed radiation dose. It is a measure of the amount of energy absorbed by the body. The rad is the traditional unit of absorbed dose. It is being replaced by the unit gray (Gy), which is equivalent to 100 rad. One rad equals the dose delivered to an object of 100 ergs of energy per gram of material.
Radiation Area	Any area with radiation levels greater than 5 millirems (0.05 millisievert) in one hour at 30 centimeters from the source or from any surface through which the radiation penetrates.
Radiation Emergency Area (REA)	The REA is established outside the hospital to receive patients who have been contaminated with radioactive materials. The REA should be identified prior to an incident. It should have the following characteristics: proper size and layout, exclusive entry, and minimal Emergency Department (ED) disruption.
Radio Cache	A supply of radios stored in a predetermined location for assignment to incidents.
Radioactive	1—Of, caused by, or exhibiting radioactivity; 2—The property possessed by some elements (as uranium) or isotopes (as carbon-14) of spontaneously emitting energetic particles (as electrons or alpha particles) by the disintegration of their atomic nuclei; also: the rays emitted.
Radioactive Material Area	Any area within a controlled area, accessible to individuals, in which items or containers of radioactive material exist and the total activity of radioactive material exceeds the applicable values in Appendix E of 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* (C.F.R.) § 835.
Radiological	1—Of or relating to radiology; 2—Of or relating to nuclear radiation.
Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD)	A device that disperses radioactive material by conventional explosive or other mechanical means, such as a spray. Also called *dirty bomb.*

Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Program	FEMA established the REP Program to 1—ensure the health and safety of citizens living around commercial nuclear power plants would be adequately protected in the event of a nuclear power plant accident; and 2—inform and educate the public about radiological emergency preparedness.
Radiological Exposure Device (RED)	An RED is a terrorist device intended to expose people to significant doses of ionizing radiation without their knowledge. Constructed from partially or fully unshielded radioactive material, an RED could be hidden from sight in a public place (e.g., under a subway seat, in a food court, or in a busy hallway), exposing those who sit or pass close by. If the seal around the source were broken and the radioactive contents released from the container, the device could become a radiological dispersal device (RDD), capable of causing radiological. Also called a *hidden sealed source*.
Radiological Threat	The pending exposure to radiation energy. (This energy can be produced by short-wave x-rays or through unstable isotopes.)
Rate of Action/Onset Time	The rate of action or onset time is the period of time that elapses before a person begins to show or feel the symptoms of a particular agent. With some agents, this time will be just a few seconds, in other cases it could be minutes to hours. Knowing the onset time is important because it indicates how much time is left.
Reactive Skin Decontamination Lotion (RSDL)	Neutralizes traditional chemical agents with a combination of physical removal and nucleophilic breakdown which leaves a nontoxic residue that can be rinsed off with water.
Rebar Cutter	This tool may be used to cut Daisy Chains or other reinforced metal. The rebar cutter can cut up to 5/8 inch grade 60 rebar in 2.5 seconds. It is an electric tool that uses hydraulics to push a shaft through the rebar.
Reciprocating Saw	An electrically powered cutting device with interchangeable saw blades. It is used primarily on tripod legs.
Recognition Primed Decisionmaking	A model that describes how experts make decisions under stressful situations that are time critical and rapidly changing.
Recorders	Individuals within Incident Command System (ICS) organizational units who are responsible for recording information. Recorders may be found in Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration Sections.

Recovery	The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private-sector, nongovernmental, and public-assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental, and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; postincident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.
Recovery Plan	A plan developed to restore an affected area or community.
Rehabilitation	Coordinate and establish the routine rest and rehabilitation of incident responders. In addition, it should provide protection from the elements; provision for rehydration, snacks, rest; and handwashing station.
Reimbursement	A mechanism to recoup funds expended for incident-specific activities.
Reinforced Response	Those resources requested in addition to the initial response.
Reporting Locations	Location or facilities where incoming resources can check in at the incident. (See Check-In.)
Resource Management	Efficient incident management requires a system for identifying available resources at all jurisdictional levels to enable timely and unimpeded access to resources needed to prepare for, respond to, or recover from an incident. Resource management under the *National Incident Management System (NIMS*) includes mutual-aid agreements; the use of special Federal, state, local, and tribal teams; and resource mobilization protocols.
Resource Tracking	A standardized, integrated process conducted prior to, during, and after an incident by all emergency management/response personnel and their associated organizations.
Resources	Personnel and major items of equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained. Resources are described by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Resources Unit	Functional Unit within the Planning Section responsible for recording the status of resources committed to the incident. The Unit also evaluates resources currently committed to the incident, the impact that additional responding resources will have on the incident, and anticipated resource needs.
Response	Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency operations plans and of mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. As indicated by the situation, response activities include applying intelligence and other information to lessen the effects or consequences of an incident; increased security operations; continuing investigations into nature and source of the threat; ongoing public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and specific law enforcement operations aimed at preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity, and apprehending actual perpetrators and bringing them to justice.
Restricted Area	An area with access limited by the licensee for the purpose of protecting individuals against undue risks from exposure to radiation and radioactive materials.
Retrograde	To return resources back to their original location.
Rhabdomyolysis	Disintegration of striated muscle tissue with excretion of myoglobin in the urine.
Right Wing	The conservative faction of an assembly, party, etc.
Risk	The potential for an unwanted outcome resulting from an incident, event, or occurrence, as determined by its likelihood and the associated consequences.
Risk Assessment	A product or process which collects information and assigns values to risks for the purpose of informing priorities, developing or comparing courses of action, and informing decisionmaking.
Risk Assessment Process	Includes instruments developed by the FBI and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to evaluate and integrate vulnerability, threat, and public health performance and yield a risk profile.

Road Star	Two or more nails intertwined so that when thrown or left on the road, a sharp point will always face up, damaging vehicles and incapacitating horses as they pass over them; they are also known as caltrops. (See also Caltrops.)
Roentgen (R)	A unit of exposure to x-rays or gamma rays. One roentgen is the amount of gamma or x-rays needed to produce ions carrying 1 electrostatic unit of electrical charge in 1 cubic centimeter of dry air under standard conditions.
Roentgen equivalent mammal/man (rem)	Unit of equivalent dose. Rem relates the absorbed dose in human tissue to the effective biological damage of the radiation. Not all radiation has the same biological effect, even for the same amount of absorbed dose.
Rotary Hammer	A lightweight tool that can be used on smaller concrete-encased devices when the 40 pound jackhammer is too powerful. (See also Concrete Hammer.)
Rotary Tool	Lightweight, handheld rotary tool that can cut, sand, and grind. Used to assist in the removal of improvised devices, particularly plastic PVC pipes and bike locks. (Can refer to Dremel® or Angle Grinder.)
Ruckus Society	Organization that provides training, tools, and technical assistance to environmental and human rights organizers/protester groups.

S

Safety Officer (SO)	1—A member of the Command Staff responsible for monitoring incident operations and advising the Incident Commander (IC) on all matters relating to operational safety, including the health and safety of emergency responder personnel. The SO may have Assistants. 2—A member of the extrication team who possesses a working knowledge of all tools the team will use and all safety precautions for both team members and protesters. He or she monitors all extrication activity and halts any and all activity if there are safety concerns.
Sanitary System of Sewage Treatment and Disposal	A complete system of sewage collection, treatment and disposal, including approved privies, septic tank systems, connection to public or community sewage systems, incinerators, mechanical toilets, composting toilets, recycling toilets, mechanical aeration systems, or other such systems.

Sanitizers	Substances that reduce the number of microorganisms to a safe level usually capable of killing 99.999%, known as a 5 log reduction, of a specific bacterial test population, and to do so within 30 seconds.
Sarin (GB)	A human-made chemical warfare agent classified as a nerve agent. Originally was developed in 1938 in Germany as a pesticide. It is a clear, colorless, and tasteless liquid that has no odor in its pure form. It can evaporate into a vapor (gas) and spread into the environment.
Secondary Decontamination	Removal of an agent from a person already processed through mass decontamination that shows continued signs of contamination.
Secondary Devices	Bombs placed at the scene of an ongoing emergency response intended to cause casualties among responders. Secondary explosive devices are designed to explode after a primary explosion or other major emergency response event has attracted large numbers of responders to the scene to inflict additional injury, damage, and fear.
Section	The Incident Command System (ICS) organizational level having responsibility for a major functional area of incident management (e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, and Intelligence/Investigations if established). The Section is organizationally situated between the Branch and the Incident Command.
Sector	1—Seventeen critical infrastructures identified in *Homeland Security Presidential Directive* (*HSPD*)-7 An eighteenth, Information Technology was added later. 2—Term used in some applications to describe an organizational level similar to an Incident Command System (ICS) Division or Group. The term sector is not used in ICS.
Segment	A geographic area in which a Task Force/Strike Team Leader or Supervisor of a single resource is assigned authority and responsibility for the coordination of resources and implementation of planned tactics. A Segment may be a portion of a Division or an area inside or outside the perimeter of an incident. Segments are identified with Arabic numbers.
Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)	A supplied-air respirator consisting of an oxygen tank, carrying assembly, gauge, safety valve, and full facepiece for use when exposures are unknown or particularly toxic.

Septic Tank	A water-tight, covered receptacle designed for primary treatment of sewage and constructed to: receive the discharge of sewage from a building; separate settleable and floating solids from the liquid; digest organic matter by anaerobic bacterial action; store digested solids through a period of detention; and allow clarified liquids to discharge for additional treatment and final disposal.
Septic Tank System	A subsurface sanitary sewage system consisting of a septic tank and subsurface disposal field.
Service Branch	A branch within the Logistics Section responsible for service activities at the incident includes the Communications, Medical, and Food Units.
Sewage	The liquid and solid human waste and liquid waste generated by water-using fixtures and appliances, including those associated with food handling. The term does not include industrial process wastewater or sewage that is combined with industrial process wastewater.
Sewer/Public Sewer	Wastewater collection and treatment facilities, also known as a municipal sewer systems, serving the public for the purpose of rendering wastewater safe enough through primary, secondary and advanced treatment processes, to be discharged into motile surface waters.
Shelter	1—Something that covers or affords protection. 2—A position or the state of being covered and protected.
Short Term Exposure Limit (STEL)	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH®)-recommended exposure limit. Maximum concentration to which workers can be exposed for a short period of time (15 minutes) for only four times throughout the day with at least one hour between exposures.
Sievert (Sv)	The international system (SI) unit for dose equivalent equal to 1 Joule/kilogram. The sievert has replaced the rem. One sievert is equivalent to 100 rem.
Simple Triage And Rapid Treatment (START)	A rapid triage system used to allow first responders to triage multiple victims in 30 seconds or less based on three primary observations: Respiration, Perfusion, and Metal Status (RPM).
Single Resource	An individual, a piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or a crew or team of individuals with an identified work supervisor that can be used at an incident.

Single-Use Equipment	Items that will be used only once (e.g., tweezers, scalpel blades, droppers).
Site	Land or water area where any facility, activity or situation is physically located, including adjacent or nearby land used in connection with the facility, activity or situation.
Site Area Emergency (SAE)	Events that may result in actual or likely major failures of plant functions needed to protect the public are in progress or have occurred. Any releases of radioactive material are not expected to exceed the limits set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) except near the site boundary.
Situation Report	Confirmed or verified information regarding the specific details relating to an incident.
Situation Unit	Functional unit within the Planning Section responsible for the collection, organization, and analysis of incident status information, and for analysis of the situation as it progresses. Reports to the Planning Section Chief.
Sleeping Dragon	Passive-resistance device used by protesters. It involves a protester inserting his or her arm into a PVC pipe and attaching himself or herself to a pin via a carabineer and a chain. Protesters can attach themselves to buckets or barrels of concrete, permanent fixtures, or other protesters.
Sludge	A muddy or slushy mass, deposit, or sediment (i.e., precipitated solid matter produced by water and sewage treatment processes).
Small-Tool Specialist	A member of the extrication team who works with the small equipment, such as the Dremel tool or angle grinder.
Soft Target	Areas/structures that are more readily vulnerable, easily accessible, and virtually impossible to guard.
Solid Waste	A waste type, either solid or semisolid form, which includes predominantly household waste (domestic waste) with sometimes the addition of commercial wastes that is usually collected by a municipality within a given area.
Source Term	The types, quantities, and chemical forms of the radionuclides that encompass the source of potential for exposure to radioactivity.

Span of Control	The number of resources for which a supervisor is responsible, usually expressed as the ratio of supervisors to individuals. (Under the *National Incident Management System* [*NIMS*], an appropriate span of control is between 1:3 and 1:7, with optimal being 1:5, or between 1:8 and 1:10 for many large-scale law enforcement operations.)
Spotter	A member of the extrication team who watches and guides the person using the extrication tools.
Staging Area	Temporary location for available resources. A Staging Area can be any location in which personnel, supplies, and equipment can be temporarily housed or parked while awaiting operational assignment.
Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG)	A set of instructions having the force of a directive, covering those features of operations which lend themselves to a definite or standardized procedure without loss of effectiveness.
Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)	A complete reference document or an operations manual that provides the purpose, authorities, duration, and details for the preferred method of performing a single function or a number of interrelated functions in a uniform manner.
Status Report	Information specifically related to the status of resources (e.g., the availability or assignment of resources).
Step-off Pad	Transition area between contaminated and noncontaminated areas that is used to allow exit of personnel and removal of equipment.
Sterilization	To free from living microorganisms (as by the use of physical or chemical agents).
Strategy	The general plan or direction selected to accomplish incident objectives.
Strategic	Strategic elements of incident management are characterized by continuous long-term, high-level planning by organizations headed by elected or other senior officials. These elements involve the adoption of long-range goals and objectives, the setting of priorities, the establishment of budgets and other fiscal decisions, policy development, and the application of measures of performance or effectiveness.

Strategic Intelligence	An assessment of targeted crime patterns, crime trends, criminal organizations, and/or unlawful commodity transactions for purposes of planning, decision making, and resource allocation; the focused examination of unique, pervasive, and/or complex crime problems.
Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)	Large quantities of medicine and medical supplies to protect the American public if there is a public health emergency (terrorist attack, flu outbreak, earthquake) severe enough to cause local supplies to run out. Once Federal and local authorities agree that the SNS is needed, medicines will be delivered to any state in the United States in time for them to be effective.
Street Puppet	Usually a large pole with a caricature used as a visual enhancer; also used to conceal tripod legs, road stars, wrist rockets, blocking devices, and other devices used against law enforcement.
Strike Team	Specified combinations of the same kind and type of resources with common communications and a Leader.
Subsurface Disposal	The application of sewage effluent beneath the surface of the ground by distribution through approved nitrification lines, bed or other means.
Suicide Bomber	Bombs delivered by persons (suicide bombers or hand carried bombs) who are willing to sacrifice their own lives.
Supervisor	The Incident Command System (ICS) title for individuals responsible for command of Division or Group.
Supply Unit	Functional unit within the Support Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for ordering equipment and supplies required for incident operations.
Support Branch	A Branch within the Logistics Section responsible for providing personnel, equipment and supplies to support incident operations. Includes the Supply, Facilities, and Ground Support Unit.
Support Resources	Nontactical resources under the supervision of Logistics, Planning, Finance/Administration Sections, or the Command Staff.
Supporting Agency	An agency that provides support and/or resource assistance to another agency. (See Assisting Agency.)

Supporting Materials	Refers to the several attachments that may be included with an Incident Action Plan (IAP; e.g., Communications Plan, Map, Safety Plan, Traffic Plan, and Medical Plan).
Supporting Technology	Any technology that may be used to support the *National Incident Management System* (*NIMS*), such as orthophoto mapping, remote automatic weather stations, infrared technology, or communications.
Surge Capacity	A healthcare system's ability to rapidly expand beyond normal services to meet the increased demand for qualified personnel, medical care, and public health in the event of bioterrorism or other large-scale public health emergencies or disasters.
Surveillance	1—Close observation of a person, group, or activities. 2—the means by which epidemiologist are able to determine the presence or absence of agents and estimate the magnitude of a problem when it exists.
System	Any combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, processes, procedures, and communications integrated for a specific purpose.

T

Tactical Directions	Direction given by the Operations Section Chief that includes the tactics appropriate for the selected strategy, the selection and assignment of resources, tactics implementation, and the performance monitoring for each operational period.
Tactical Intelligence	Evaluated information on which immediate enforcement action can be based; intelligence activity focused specifically on developing an active case.
Tactics	The deployment and directing or resources on an incident to accomplish the objectives designated by strategy.
Task Force	Any combination or resources assembled to support a specific mission or operational need. All resource elements within a Task Force must have common communications and a designated leader.
Tar Dragon	A sleeping dragon wrapped in chicken wire and a coating of tar. The process is often repeated before a final wrapping of duct tape is applied. The purpose is to clog the extrication equipment.
Team	(See Single Resource.)

Team Leader	A person who controls the scene and works in conjunction with the arrest team and Safety Officer (SO).
Team Members	Individuals who are called to the scene to assist in investigation or processing of the scene (e.g., scientific personnel from the crime laboratory or medical examiner's office, other forensic specialists, photographers, mass disaster specialists, experts in the identification of human remains, arson and explosives investigators, clandestine drug laboratory investigators, as well as other experts).
Technical Decontamination	The planned and systematic process of reducing contamination to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA).
Technical Specialists	Person with special skills that can be used anywhere within the Incident Command System (ICS) organization. No minimum qualifications are prescribed, as technical specialists normally perform the same duties during an incident that they perform in their everyday jobs, and they are typically certified in their fields or professions.
Technique	1—The manner in which technical details are treated (as by a writer) or basic physical movements are used (as by a dancer); 2—Ability to treat such details or use such movements.
Technology Standards	Conditions, guidelines, or characteristics that may be required to facilitate the interoperability and compatibility of major systems across jurisdictional, geographic, and functional lines.[3]
Technology support	Assistance that facilitates incident operations and sustains the research and development programs that underpin the long-term investment in the Nation's future incident management capabilities.
Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR)	Temporary airspace restrictions for nonemergency aircraft in the incident area. TFRs are established by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to 1—Protect persons and property on the surface or in the air from a hazard associated with an incident on the surface; 2—Provide a safe environment for the operation of disaster relief aircraft; or 3—Prevent an unsafe congestion of sightseeing and other aircraft above an incident or event which may generate a high degree of public interest.
Tenesmus	Ineffectual and painful straining to void urine or evacuate stool.

Terminal Learning Objective (TLO)	TLOs are objectives that correspond to the overall instructional goals of the course. TLOs describe what learners will be able to do at the end of the overall instructional course.
Terrorism	As defined in the Homeland Security Act of 2002, activity that involves an act that is dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources; is a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State or other subdivision of the United States; and appears to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population, to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion, or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping.
Threat	Natural or manmade occurrence, individual, entity, or action that has or indicates the potential to harm life, information, operations, the environment, and/or property.
Time Unit	The functional unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for recording time for incident personnel and hired equipment.
Time-Weighted Average (TWA) Concentration	Refers to concentrations of airborne toxic materials which have been weighted for a certain time duration, usually 8 hours.
Tools	Those instruments and capabilities that allow for the professional performance of tasks, such as information systems, agreements, doctrine, capabilities, and legislative authorities.
Toxicology	A science that deals with poisons and their effect and with the problems involved (as clinical, industrial, or legal).
Toxins	A poisonous substance that is a specific product of the metabolic activities of a living organism and is usually very unstable, notably toxic when introduced into the tissues, and typically capable of inducing antibody formation.
Trace Evidence	Physical evidence that results from the transfer of small quantities of materials (e.g., hair, textile fibers, paint chips, glass fragments, gunshot residue particles).
Transient Evidence	Evidence that, by its very nature or the conditions at the scene, will lose its evidentiary value if not preserved and protected (e.g., blood in the rain).

Triage	1—a: The sorting of and allocation of treatment to patients and especially battle and disaster victims according to a system of priorities designed to maximize the number of survivors; b: The sorting of patients (as in an emergency room) according to the urgency of their need for care. 2—The assigning of priority order to projects on the basis of where funds and other resources can be best used, are most needed, or are most likely to achieve success.
Tripods	A type of force multiplier. Protester sits or stands at the apex of the tripod, necessitating the use of many responders to dismantle and remove the tripod.
Tympanic Membrane	A thin membrane separating the middle ear from the inner part of the external auditory canal that vibrates in response to sound energy and transmits the resulting mechanical vibrations to the structures of the middle ear—also *eardrum, tympanum*.
Type	An Incident Command System (ICS) resource classification that refers to capability. Type 1 is generally considered to be more capable than Types 2, 3, or 4, respectively, because of size, power, capacity, or (in the case of Incident Management Teams [IMT]) experience and qualifications.

U

Unified Approach	The integration of resource management, communications and information management, and command and management in order to form an effective system.
Unified Area Command	Version of command established when incidents under an Area Command are multijurisdictional. (See Area Command.)
Unified Command (UC)	An Incident Command System (ICS) application used when more than one agency has incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the UC, often the senior persons from agencies and/or disciplines participating in the UC, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single Incident Action Plan (IAP).
Unit	The organizational element having functional responsibility for a specific incident Planning, Logistics, or Finance/Administration activity.

Unit Leader	The individual in charge of managing Units within an Incident Command System (ICS) functional Section. The Unit can be staffed by a number of support personnel providing a wide range of services. Some of the support positions are preestablished within ICS (e.g., Base/Camp Manager), but many others will be assigned as technical specialists.
Unity of Command	The concept by which each person within an organization reports to one and only one designated person. The purpose of unity of command is to ensure unity of effort under one responsible commander for every objective.
Upper Explosive Limit or Upper Flammable Limit (UEL/UFL)	Pertaining to a vapor or gas, the highest concentration (highest percentage of the substance in air) that will produce a flash of fire when an ignition source (e.g., heat, arc, or flame) is present. At higher concentrations, the mixture is too “rich” to burn.

V

Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED)	An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) that is delivered by means of a vehicle. An VBIED has the capacity to hold enough explosive material to significantly damage or even destroy a building.
Vendor Managed Inventory (VMI)	If the incident requires additional pharmaceuticals and/or medical supplies, follow-on VMI supplies will be shipped to arrive within 24 to 36 hours. If the agent is well defined, VMI can be tailored to provide pharmaceuticals, supplies and/or products specific to the suspected or confirmed agent(s).
Vector	An organism, such as an insect or animal that transmits disease-carrying germs.
Very High Radiation Area	An area, accessible to individuals, in which radiation levels from radiation sources external to the body could result in an individual receiving a adsorbed dose in excess of 500 rad in 1 hour, 1 meter (3 feet, 3 inches) from the source or from any surface that the radiation penetrates.
Vesicants	(See Blister Agents.)
Viruses	Ultramicroscopic infectious agents that replicate themselves within cells of living hosts; many are pathogenic (i.e., capable of causing disease).

Vital Records	The essential agency records that are needed to meet operational responsibilities under national security emergencies or other emergency or disaster conditions (emergency operating records), or to protect the legal and financial rights of the government and those affected by government activities (legal and financial rights records).
Volatile Organic Compound (VOC)	Compounds that vaporize (become a gas) at room temperature. Common sources which may emit VOCs into indoor air include housekeeping and maintenance products, and building and furnishing materials. In sufficient quantities, VOCs can cause eye, nose, and throat irritations, headaches, dizziness, visual disorders, memory impairment; some are known to cause cancer in animals; some are suspected of causing, or are known to cause, cancer in humans. At present, not much is known about what health effects occur at the levels of VOCs typically found in public and commercial buildings.
Volatility	The ease with which a liquid or sold can pass into the vapor state. The higher a material's volatility, the greater its rate of evaporation. Significant property in that volatile materials will readily disperse and increase the hazard area.
Volunteer	For purposes of the *National Incident Management System* (*NIMS*), any individual accepted to perform services by the lead agency (which has authority to accept volunteer services) when the individual performs services without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for services performed.

W

Walkthrough	Initial assessments conducted by carefully walking through the scene to evaluate the situation, recognize potential evidence, and determine resources required. Also, a final survey conducted to ensure the scene has been effectively and completely processed.[84]
"Wally" Board	A device used to stabilize a Sleeping Dragon and the protester's arm while a device is removed. This board ensures the protester is not hurt in the removal process.
Warm Zone	Area between hot and cold zones where personnel and equipment decontamination and hot zone support take place. It includes control points for the access corridor and thus assists in reducing the spread of contamination. Also referred to as the *contamination reduction corridor* (CRC), *contamination reduction zone* (CRZ), *yellow z*one or *limited access zone*.
Water Table	Upper limit of the ground layer wholly saturated with water.

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)	Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) are defined in U.S. law (18 *United States Code* [U.S.C.] § 2332a) as (A) any destructive device as defined in section 931 of this title (i.e. explosive device); (B) any weapon that is designed or intended to cause death or serious bodily injury through the release, dissemination, or impact of toxic or poisonous chemicals, or their precursors; (C) any weapon involving a biological agent, toxin, or vector (as those terms are defined in section 178 of this title) (D) any weapon that is designed to release radiation or radioactivity at a level dangerous to human life.+
Well	Any excavation that is cored, bored, drilled, jetted, dug or otherwise constructed for the purpose of locating, testing, developing, draining or recharging any groundwater reservoirs or aquifer, or that may control, divert, or otherwise cause the movement of water from or into any aquifer.
Well Casing	A pipe or tubing constructed of specified materials and having specified dimensions and weights, that is installed in a borehole, during or after completion of the borehole, to support the side of the hole and thereby prevent caving, to allow completion of a well, to prevent formation material from entering the well, to prevent the loss of drilling fluids into permeable formations, and to prevent entry of contamination.
Well Head	The upper, terminal, of the well including adapters, ports, valves, seals, and other attachments.
Wetland	A designated water saturated area on the land surface established under the provisions of the Coastal Area Management Act or the Federal Clean Water Act.
Wipe sample	A sample made for the purpose of determining the presence of removable radioactive contamination on a surface. It is done by wiping, with slight pressure, a piece of soft filter paper over a representative type of surface area. It is also known as a *swipe* or *smear sample*.
Wrist Rocket	Wrist-mounted slingshots that have the ability to shoot BBs, marble, jacks, lug nuts, and other similar items

X, Y, & Z

Zoonotic	A disease of animals, such as rabies or psittacosis, which can be transmitted to humans.

Abbreviations

A

AAAASF	American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities
AAAHC	Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care
AAR	After Action Review
ABCS	Active Bacterial Core Surveillance
ABRO	American Board of Forensic Odontology
AC	1—Animal Care 2—Hydrogen Cyanide (Toxic Industrial Chemical [TIC])
ACS	Alternate Care Site
ACT	Adrenocorticotropic Hormone
ADAPT	American Disabled for Attendant Programs Today
AEFI	Adverse Effects Following Immunization
AEL	1—Acceptable Exposure Limit 2—Authorized Equipment List
AEM	Associate Emergency Manager
AHA	American Hospital Association
AHRMM	Association for Healthcare Resource and Materials Management
AHRQ	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
AI	Avian Influenza
AIA	American Institute of Architects
AIIR	Airborne Infection Isolation Room
ALARA	As Low As Reasonably Achievable
ALF	Animal Liberation Front
ALI	Annual Limited on Intake
ALOHA	Area Locations of Hazardous Atmospheres
ALS	Advanced Life Support
AMA	American Medical Association
AMC	Army Materiel Command
AMS	Aerial Measuring System

ANA	American Nursing Association
ANG	Army National Guard
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
AOA	American Osteopathic Association
APD	Advanced Portable Detector
APE	Area of Potential Effect
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
APHL	Agency for Public Health Laboratories
APHT	Applied Public Health Team
APR	Air-Purifying Respirator
APWA	American Public Works Association
AR	Army Reserve
ARAC	Atmospheric Release Advisory Capability
ARDS	Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
ARES	Amateur Radio Emergency Service
ARG	Accident Response Group
ARS	1—Acute Radiation Syndrome 2—Acute Radiation Sickness
ASAC	Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ASAP	As Soon As Possible
ASCE	American Society of Civil Engineers
ASG	Abu Sayyaf Group
ASHE	American Society for Healthcare Engineering
ASPR	Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response, Department of Health and Human Services
ASTHO	Association for State and Territorial Health Officials
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
ATF	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

AWA	Animal Welfare Act
B	
BC/DR	Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery
BCI	Business Continuity Institute
BCM	Business Continuity Management
BCP	Business Continuity Plan
BDRP	Biological Defense Research Program
BERM	Bioterrorism & Epidemic Outbreak Response Model
BHPP	Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program
BIA	Business Impact Analysis
BIDS	Biological Integrated Detection System
BLS	Basic Life Support
BNICE	Biological, Nuclear, Incendiary, Chemical, Explosive
BP	Blood Pressure
Bq	Becquerel
BRS	Biotechnology Regulatory Services
BSA	Body Surface Area
BURP	Business Unit Resumption Plan
BW	Biological Weapon
BWA	Biological Warfare Agent
BWC	Biological Weapons Convention
C	
C	Ceiling
C^3	Command, Control, and Coordination
C&D	Cleaning and Disinfection
C/B-RRT	Chemical Biological Rapid Response Team
CAFO	Confined Area Feeding Operation
CAH	Critical Access Hospital

CAP	1—Cognitive, Affective, and Psychomotor 2—College of American Pathologists 3—Civil Air Patrol
CARF	Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities
CART	Chemical Agents and Rifle Team
CBDCOM	Chemical Biological Defense Command
CBIRF	U.S. Marine Corps Chemical Biological Incident Response Force
CBRED	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Environmental Defense Response Teams
CBRNE	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive
CC	Campesino Caballeros
CCID	Coordinating Center for Infectious Diseases
CCP	Casualty Collection Point
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDE	Committed Dose Equivalent
CDP	Center for Domestic Preparedness
CDS	Civil Defense Set (manufactured by Dräger)
CEM	Certified Emergency Manager
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CERC	Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CEU	Continuing Education Unit
C.F.R.	*Code of Federal Regulations*
CG	Phosgene
CHAP	Community Health Accreditation Program
Ci	Curie
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
CIKR	Critical infrastructure and key resources
CIRG	Critical Incident Response Group
CISM	Critical Incidence Stress Management

CK	Cyanogen Chloride (chemical agent)
CL	Chlorine (chemical agent)
CMP	Crisis Management Plan
CME	Continuing Medical Education
CMS	Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
CMT	Crisis Management Team
CNA	Certified Nursing Assistant
CNP	Controlled Negative Pressure
CNS	Central Nervous System
COBRATF	Chemical, Ordnance, Biological, Radiological Training Facility
COE	Cooperative Extension System
COG	Continuity of Government
COOP	Continuity of Operations
COP	1—Common Operating Picture 2—Community-Oriented Policing
CoP	Conditions of Participation
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
COTPER	Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response
CPG	Comprehensive Preparedness Guide
CPM	Counts Per Minute
CPR	Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation
CPX	Command Post Exercise
CREC	Crisis Risk Emergency Communication
CRED	Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Diseases
CRI	Cities Readiness Initiative
CRM	Comprehensive Resource Management
CS	Chlorobenzylidenemalononitrile (Riot Control Agent)
CSD	Chemical Support Division
CSI	Criticality Safety Index
CSTE	Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

CT	1—Counterterrorism 2—Computed Tomography
CWA	Chemical Warfare Agent
CX	Phosgene Oxime (chemical agent)

D

DAC	Derived Air Concentrations
DAN	Direct Action Network
DHQP	Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DIL	Derived Intervention Level
DMAT	Disaster Medical Assistance Team
DMORT	Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team
DMSO	Dimethyl Sulfoxide (chemical agent)
DOC	Department Operations Center
DOD	Department of Defense
DOE	Department of Energy
DOJ	Department of Justice
DOL	Department of Labor
DOT	Department of Transportation
DP	Diphosgene (chemical agent)
DPMU	Disaster Portable Morgue Units
DRD	Direct-Read Dosimeter
DRL	Derived Response Levels
DUMBELS	Diarrhea, Urination, Miosis, Bronchoconstriction/Bronchorrhea, Emesis, Lacrimation, Salivation
DVC	Dispensing/Vaccination Center
DVC ICP	Dispensing/Vaccination Center Incident Command Post

E

EAS	Emergency Alert System
EC	Environment of Care

ECC	Emergency Communications Center
ECP	Exposure Control Plan
ECS	Emergency Care Simulators
ED	Emergency Department
EH	Environmental Health
EHS	Environmental Health Specialist
EI	Emotional Intelligence
EIP	Emerging Infections Program
ELF	Earth Liberation Front
ELISA	Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay
ELO	Enabling Learning Objective
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
EMAC	1—Emergency Management Assistance Compact 2—Emergency Medical Assistance Compact
EMAP	Emergency Management Accreditation Program
EMI	Emergency Management Institute
EMR	Electromagnetic Radiation
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EMSA	Emergency Medical Service Authority
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician
EMTALA	Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
EPHI	Electronic Protected Health Information
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPD	Electronic Personal Dosimeter
EPZ	Emergency Planning Zone
ERDEC	Edgewood Research Development and Engineering Center
ERG	*Emergency Response Guidebook*

ERP	Emergency Response Plan
ERT	1—Emergency Rescue Technician 2—Evidence Response Teams
ERV	Emergency Response Vehicle
ESAR-VHP	Emergency System for Advanced Registration of Volunteer Health Professional
ESF	Emergency Support Function
ETA	Emergency Treatment Area
ETI	Early Transient Incapacitation
EWID	Early Warning Infectious Disease

F

FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FAC	USDA State and Local Food and Agriculture Council
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FAR	Federal Acquisition Regulation
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FCO	Federal Coordinating Officer
FD	Fire Department
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRESCOPE	Firefighting Resources of Southern California Organized for Potential Emergencies
FM	Field Manual
FMT	Field Monitoring Team
FOG	Field Operations Guide
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
FRERP	Federal Radiological and Emergency Response Plan
FRMAC	Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center
FTX	Functional Training Exercise

G

GA	Tabun (nerve agent)

GAO	Government Accountability Office
GB	Sarin (nerve agent)
GBS	Guillain-Barré Syndrome
GC	Gas Chromatograph
GD	Soman (nerve agent)
GE	General Emergency
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPD	Gallons per Day
GPM	Gallons per Minute
GPO	Government Printing Office

H

H	Blister Agents (mustard/sulfur mustard)
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points
HAM	Home Amateur Radio Team
HAN	Health Alert Network
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials
HCC	Hospital Command Center
HCl	Hydrochloric Acid
HD	Distilled Mustard
HEAR	Hospital Emergency Administration Radio
HEPA	High-Efficiency Particulate Air
HERT	1—Hospital Emergency Response Team/Task Force 2—Hospital Emergency Response Training
HFAP	Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
HICPAC	Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee
HICS	Hospital Incident Command System
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HIPPA	Healthcare Information Patient Privacy Act
HIRA	Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

HMR	Hazardous Materials Regulations
HMRT	Hazardous Materials Response Teams
HMRU	Hazardous Materials Response Unit
HN	Nitrogen Mustard (chemical agent)
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
HPLC	High-Performance Liquid Chromatograph
HPP	Hospital Preparedness Program
HPS	Health Physics Society
HRCQ	Highway Route-Controlled Quantity
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration
HSEEP	Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program
HSGP	Homeland Security Grant Program
HSOC	Homeland Security Operations Center
HSPD	*Homeland Security Presidential Directive*
HTH	Calcium Hypochlorite
HVA	Hazard Vulnerability Assessment
H/VAC	Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning
I	
I&A	DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis
IACET	International Association for Continuing Education & Training
IACP	International Association of Chiefs of Police
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAP	Incident Action Plan
IC	Incident Commander
ICDDC	Interstate Civil Defense and Disaster Compact
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICRP	International Commission on Radiological Protection
ICS	Incident Command System
ICU	Intensive Care Unit

IDLH	Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IEMS	Integrated Emergency Management System
IIMG	Interagency Incident Management Group
ILI	Influenza-Like Illness
IMH	Incident Management Handbook
IMT	Incident Management Team
IND	1—Improvised Nuclear Device 2—Investigational New Drug
IPG	Incident Planning Guide
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IQ	Intelligence Quotient
IRCT	Incident Response Coordination Team
IRG	Incident Response Guide
IS	Independent Study
ISO	International Standards Organization
IT	Information Technology

J, K

JAMA	Journal of American Medical Association
JAS	Job Action Sheet
JFO	Joint Field Office
JIC	Joint Information Center
JIS	Joint Information System
JTTF	Joint Terrorism Task Force
JTWG	Joint Terrorism Working Group
KI	Potassium Iodide

L

L	Lewisite (blister agent)
LD_{50}	Lethal Dose
LDS	Ladder-Pipe Decontamination System

LED	Light-Emitting Diode
LEL	Lower Explosive Limits
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
LLIS	Lessons Learned Information Sharing
LPAI	Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza
LPHA	Local Public Health Agency
LPHS	Local Public Health System
LRN	Laboratory Response Network
LSA	Low Specific Activity

M

M256A1	Chemical Agent Detector Kit
M8	Chemical Agent Detector Paper
M9	Chemical Agent Detector Paper
MAC	Multiagency Coordination
MACS	Multiagency Coordination System
MASS	Move, Assess, Sort, Send
MBO	Management by Objectives
MCC	Medical Coordination Center
MCI	Mass Casualty Incident
ME	Medical Examiner
MEDCOM	U.S. Army Medical Command
MERS	Mobile Emergency Response Support
MFF	Mobile Field Force
MFI	Mass Fatality Incident
MHT	Mental Health Team
MSEL	Master Scenario Events List
MIL STD	Military Standard
MMRS	Metropolitan Medical Response System
MMST	Metropolitan Medical Strike Team

MO	Medical Officer
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRC	Medical Reserve Corps
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
MRSA	Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus
MS	Mass Spectrometry
MSEHP	Model State Emergency Health Powers Act
MSHA	Mine Safety and Health Administration
MTPB	Maximum Tolerable Period of Disruption

N

NAAK	Nerve Agent Antidote Kit
NACCHO	National Association for County and City Health Officials
NAEMT	National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NBC	Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical
NBHPP	National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program
NCAVC	National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime
NCEH	National Center for Environmental Health
NCIRD	National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases
NCP	National Contingency Plan
NCPDCID	National Center for Preparedness, Detection, and Control of Infectious Diseases
NCRP	National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurement
NCTC	National Counterterrorism Center
NDMS	National Disaster Medical System
NDPO	National Domestic Preparedness Office
NEHA	National Environmental Health Association
NEMA	National Emergency Management Association
NEPMU	New Environmental and Preventive Medicine Units

NEST	Nuclear Emergency Search Team
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NIC	1—*NIMS* Integration Center 2—National Integration Center
NIC IMSI	National Integration Center Incident Management Systems Integration Division
NIMS	*National Incident Management System*
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NIPP	*National Infrastructure Protection Plan*
NMRC	Naval Medical Research Center
NMRI	U.S. Naval Medical Research Institute
NMRT	National Medical Response Team
NMSZ	New Madrid Seismic Zone
NNDSS	National Notifiable Disease Surveillance System
NNRT	National Nurse Response Team
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOUE	Notification of Unusual Event
NPD	National Preparedness Directorate
NPG	National Preparedness Goal
NPPA	National Press Photographers Association
NPRT	National Pharmacy Response Team
NRCC	National Response Coordination Center
NREVSS	National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System
NRF	*National Response Framework*
NSF	National Sanitation Foundation
NSGIC	National States Geographic Information Council
NSPI	National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza
NSSE	National Special Security Event
NTAS	National Terrorism Advisory System
NTF	Noble Training Facility
NUREG	Nuclear Regulation

NVOAD	National Volunteer Organizations Against Disasters
NVSN	New Vaccine Surveillance Network
NWS	National Weather Service
O	
OCR	Office of Civil Rights
ODP	Office of Domestic Preparedness
OES	Office of Emergency Services
OIC	Officer-in-Charge
OIG	Office of the Inspector General
OJP	Office of Justice Programs
OLMC	On-Line Medical Control
OME	Office of Medical Examiner
OPEO	Office of Preparedness and Emergency Operations
OR	Operating Room
ORO	Offsite Response Organization
OSC	On-scene Coordinator
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OSPHL	Oregon State Public Health Laboratory
OSPP	OSHA Strategic Partnership Program
P, Q	
PAD	Protective Action Decision
PAG	Protective Action Guides (Environmental Protection Agency)
PAO	Public Affairs Officer
PAHPA	Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act
PAS	Passport Accountability System
PAPR	Powered Air-Purifying Respirator
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PDA	Preliminary Damage Assessment
PDD	Presidential Decision Directive

PDK	Personal Decontamination Kits
PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
PHF	Potentially Hazardous Food
PHI	Protected Health Information
PHICS	Public Health Incident Command System
PHS	Public Health Service
PID	Photoionization Detector
PIO	Public Information Officer
PIP	Pandemic Influenza Plan
PMI	Public or Media Inquiry
PMR	Progressive Muscular Relaxation
POD	Point of Dispensing
POV	Personal Owned Vehicles
PPD	Presidential Policy Directive
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPV	Positive Pressure Ventilation
PRBC	Packed Red Blood Cells
PRSA	Public Relations Society of America
PS	Cholorpicrin (chemical agent)
PSA	Public Service Announcement
PSCC	Public Safety Communications Center
PTE	Potential Threat Element
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

R

R	Roentgen
RACES	Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service
rad	Radiation Absorbed Dose
RAIN	Recognize, Avoid, Isolate, Notify
RAM	Radiological or Radioactive Material

RAP	Radiological Assistance Program
RCA	Riot Control Agents
RDD	Radiological Dispersal Device
RDECOM	Research, Development and Engineering Command
RDF	Rapid Deployment Force
REAC/TS	Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site
RED	Radiological Exposure Device
rem	Roentgen equivalent mammal/man
RHC	1—Rural Health Clinic 2—Regional Hospital Coordinator
RIP	Recognize, Identify, Preserve
RLAF	Responder Lanes Assessment Form
RPG	Rocket-Propelled Grenade
RPM	Respiration, Perfusion/Pulse, and Mental status
RPO	Recovery Point Objective
RRCC	Region Response Coordination Center
RRIS	Rapid Response Information System
RRT	Radiological Response Team
RSDL	Reactive Skin Decontamination Lotion
RSO	Radiological Safety Officers
RSS	Receive, Stage, and Store
RST	Radiological Strike Team
RT	Respiratory Therapist
RTAP	Real-Time Analytical Platform
RTF	Response Task Force
RTNDA	Radio-Television News Directors Association
RTO	Recovery Time Objective
RQ	Reportable Quantity

S

SAA	State Administrative Agency

SAC	Special Agent in Charge
SAE	Site Area Emergency
SAR	Supplied-Air Respirator
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
SC	Site Commander
SCBA	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
SCO	State Coordinating Officer
SEL	Standardized Equipment List
SFI	Strategic Foresight Initiative
SHU	Scoville Heat Unit
SI	International System of Units
SIOC	Strategic Information Operations Center
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SLUDGEM	Salivation, Lacrimation, Urination, Defecation/diarrhea, Gastric Distress, Emesis, Miosis
SMART	1—Single Membrane Antigen Rapid Test Tickets 2—Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely
SME	Subject Matter Expert
SNS	Strategic National Stockpile
SO	Safety Officer
SOCO	Single Overriding Communication Objective
SOG	Standard Operating Guidelines
SOLER	Stand squarely; Open posture; Lean slightly forward; Eye contact; Relax
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SPJ	Society of Professional Journals
SPLC	Southern Poverty Law Center
SSA	1—Social Security Administration 2—Supervisory Special Agent
STARCC	Simple, Timely, Accurate, Relevant, Credible, Consistent
START	Simple Triage and Rapid Triage System

STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
STEL	Short-Term Exposure Limit
SWAT	Special Weapons and Tactics

T

T^3	Triage, Treatment, and Transport
TARU	Technical Advisory Response Unit
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury
TCS	Time/Temperature Control for Safety
TEA	Threat Environment Assessment
TECP	Totally Encapsulating Chemical Protective
TEDA	Triethylene Diamine
TEDE	Total Effective Dose Equivalent
TEEP	Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program (Department of Energy)
TEU	U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit
THIRA	Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
TIC	Toxic Industrial Chemicals
TILT	Time in Lieu of Temperature
TIM	Toxic Industrial Materials
TM	Tympanic Membrane
TOXNET	TOXicology Date NETwork
TtT	Train the Trainer
TLD	Thermoluminescent Dosimeter
TLO	Terminal Learning Objective
TSS	Toxic Shock Syndrome
TWA	Time-Weighted Average

U

UAB	University of Alabama at Birmingham
UC	Unified Command
UCS	Unified Command Structure

UEL	Upper Explosive Limit
UFL	Upper Flammable Limit
UL	Underwriter's Lab
ULV	Ultra Low Volume
US&R	Urban Search and Rescue
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
USAMRIID	U.S. Army Military Research Institute for Infectious Disease
U.S.C.	*United States Code*
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geologic Survey

V

VA	Veterans Administration
VAERS	Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System
VBIED	Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device
VCA	Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment
VHF	Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers
VIP	Very Important Person
VMAT	Veterinary Medical Assistance Team
VMD	Volume Median Diameter
VMI	Vendor Managed Inventory
VOAD	Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds
VX	VX (nerve agent)

W, X, Y, Z

WHO	World Health Organization
WCU	Wounded Care Unit
WIC	Women, Infants, and Children
WISER	Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders
WMD	Weapons of Mass Destruction
WTC	World Trade Center