CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE TRAINING AND EXERCISE

An essential component of security and emergency preparedness is training staff on how to more effectively respond to a critical incident. The goal of Critical Incident Response Training is to enhance coordination, communication, and proficiency among response staff. Firestorm recognizes that an emergency plan is useful before and after an emergency; however, the most important thing that will affect the outcome of an emergency or critical incident is training.

Firestorm has established a multi-hazard training program to better prepare those charged with leading the response to respond effectively during emergencies. Training provided by Firestorm includes discussions of the four main response options during emergencies - evacuation, shelter-in-place, lockout, and lockdown. It includes an interactive discussion on common physiological responses that occur during emergencies, as well as strategies to combat the potentially debilitating impact of those responses.

The training is typically 3 hours in length and also covers a broad range of targeted violence hazards, including a violent intruder, bomb threats/suspicious packages, insider violence, child abduction, custody-related confrontations, hostage situations, relocation and reunification. The training also includes hands-on instruction on strategies for the *prevention* of targeted violence.

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