

**STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
CITY OF PERRY POLICE DEPARTMENT  
AND THE  
CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Statement of Understanding is to establish a broad framework for cooperation between the City of Perry Police Department and the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross in planning and preparing for, responding to, recovering from and mitigating disasters. This agreement sets forth a broad framework for cooperation between the two entities in rendering assistance and service to victims of disasters in the area covered by the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross.

**DEFINITION OF A DISASTER**

A disaster is an occurrence such as hurricane, tornado, flood, tidal wave, drought, residential or commercial fire, wildlands fire, explosion, building collapse, hazardous materials incident, terrorism or tragic event that causes human suffering or creates human needs that victims cannot alleviate without emergency assistance.

**DISASTER RELIEF**

Disaster relief refers to emergency assistance to persons who are deprived of the essential life needs because of a disaster. The purpose of providing such relief is to assist these persons with the basic needs of life until they begin their recovery process.

**TYPES OF DISASTER RELIEF**

The type of services that the Capital Area Chapter will provide to disaster victims is:

- Mass Care (Sheltering)
- Mass Care (Feeding)
- Emergency Family Services
- Disaster Family Well Being
- Disaster Health (Nursing) Services
- Disaster Mental Health Services
- Damage Assessment

**METHODS OF COOPERATION**

Cooperation and coordination between the two entities of this Statement of Understanding in providing disaster awareness education and preparedness programs are agreed to as follows:

**Educational activities relating to residents and neighborhoods:**

The Capital Area Chapter will conduct the American Red Cross Disaster Resistant Neighborhood program for the residents of the City of Perry. The City of Perry Police Department will participate in scheduled presentations to provide crime prevention information to City of Perry residents, upon request. If appropriate, a neighborhood participating in a joint program shall be designated a Crime Watch and a Disaster Resistant Neighborhood.

**Emergency assistance to law enforcement and other emergency workers:**

The Capital Area Chapter will provide Mass Care (feeding) support to law enforcement and other emergency workers in the City of Perry during a disaster or other emergency situation. When the emergency situation is expected to have a duration in excess of two (2) hours, where beverage and food are not easily accessible, the City of Perry Police Department or a representative will contact the Capital Area Chapter to request Mass Care (feeding) support. The request for Mass Care (feeding) support should be made as soon as the duration of an emergency situation can be reasonably predicted.

**Emergency assistance to victims of single-family or multi-family residential fires:**

The Capital Area Chapter can provide assistance to purchase food and clothing for victims of single-family or multi-family residential fires. The request for American Red Cross emergency assistance is normally made by local fire departments. However, should the City of Perry Police Department be at the fire scene, the Police Chief or representative should inquire with the victim(s) if assistance from the American Red Cross is desired. If assistance is needed, a representative of the City of Perry Police Department will contact the Capital Area Chapter to dispatch a Disaster Action Team.

The City of Perry Police Department will provide assistance to the Disaster Action Team, if requested, should the fire scene involve a volatile crowd, be in a high crime area or other unsafe circumstance.

**STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING MODIFICATION**

This Statement of Understanding can be modified at any time that both entities agree on the modifications and such modifications are reduced to writing and made an addendum to this statement.

Capital Area Chapter

City of Perry Police Department

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Karen Hagan  
Executive Director

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Police Chief

Date

Date

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Chris Floyd  
Director, Emergency Services

Date