Kentucky Division of Emergency Management
Standard Operating Guideline

Affected Unit: State Twenty - Four (24) Hour Warning Point (SWP)

Guideline: 2019

Topic: Required Notifications for Emergency Managers (EM’s)

This document outlines the incidents for which local agencies or entities, 24 hour warning points, dispatch centers, or local emergency managers shall provide notification for to the SWP. Local policy should be established to determine which local agency or entity will be responsible for reporting the incidents listed to the Duty Officer at the SWP.

The following Search and Rescue (SAR) reporting requirements are established in KRS 39F.180:

- Persons missing, lost or overdue, if the search has lasted more than two (2) hours. This report goes to the Local Emergency Management (EM) Director and the local SAR Coordinator who in turn will notify the Duty Officer in the SWP via telephone or radio.
- Any search for a minor defined in KRS 2.015 (18 years) shall be reported to Kentucky State Police.
- A search reported for a person who is known or reported to have an organic brain disorder, including but not limited to Alzheimer’s disease, shall immediately be reported as a Golden Alert to the local EM Director, local SAR Coordinator if different from the local EM Director, local media outlets, and the Duty Officer in the SWP via telephone or radio.
- A search reported for a person who is known or reported to have a developmental disability, including but not limited to autism, or traumatic brain injury and whose disappearance poses a credible threat to the health or safety of the person, as determined by Kentucky State Police or a local law enforcement agency, shall immediately be reported as a Golden D Alert to the local EM Director, local SAR Coordinator if different from the local EM Director, local media outlets, and the Duty Officer in the SWP via telephone or radio.
- A search for a veteran at risk shall immediately be reported as a Green Alert to the local EM Director, local SAR coordinator if different from the local EM Director, local media outlets, and the Duty Officer in the SWP via telephone or radio. An exception is made for any licensed long-term health care provider conducting a search for a missing resident unless the provider requests a search by a person or organization specified in 39F.10 Section 1a-b.
Any SAR mission which has lasted more than four (4) hours without the subject being found shall be immediately reported directly to the Duty Officer in the SWP via telephone or radio.

Kentucky Emergency Management provides answering and notification for a variety of state agencies as well as periodic briefings to the Governor’s Office on operations across the Commonwealth. In order to provide timely indications and warning, situational awareness to all those involved, as well as to the citizens of the Commonwealth, we request your assistance in providing notification to the SWP of the following types of situations:

- **Hazardous Materials (KRS 39E.190)**
  - Gasoline spills of 25 or more gallons
  - Diesel fuel spills of 75 or more gallons
  - Any spill of hazardous or potentially hazardous material into or threatening a waterway
  - Any incident involving large quantities of flammable liquids, gases or other volatile, poisonous, corrosive, or otherwise hazardous materials
  - Any event affecting a SARA Title III reporting facility

- **Fires or Explosions**
  - Fire at a school (actual or false alarm) (KY Minger Act 2000)
  - Major Urban Fires – examples include but not limited to multiple buildings, multi-occupancy dwellings, businesses or major employers in the community
  - Industrial fires or explosions
  - Public utilities fire or explosion
  - Large grass or woods fires or requests for the Division of Forestry
  - Any fire involving a fatality or injury
  - Fires that require the assistance of the State Fire Marshal’s Office

- **Transportation**
  - Aviation crashes
  - Any Interstate Highway, Parkway, (Federal or State) that will be closed for a period of 2 hours or more for any reason
  - School bus crashes with or without injury
  - Train derailment

- **Natural Disasters and Severe Weather**
  - Damage caused by, but not limited to, tornadoes, flash flooding, hail, severe winds, ice storms, snow storms, and fires caused by lightning
  - Earthquakes of any magnitude
Manmade or Terrorist Incidents

- Bomb threats or threats of violence (Active Shooter) involving commercial or public buildings
- Terrorist activity or Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) - either threatened or an actual occurrence
- White Powder incidents
- Suspicious Packages

- Health or Medical Related
  - Any medical or health related event reported by the local Health Department
  - Any report of Foreign Animal Diseases or other potentially epidemic outbreak of disease among domesticated or undomesticated animals
  - Any unexplained illness causing several people to be treated or transported to medical facilities
  - Radiation

- Other Situations
  - Major power outages (affecting 500 or more customers)
  - Any activity that requires the local community to establish an emergency shelter
  - Public water system outage or shortage
  - Public water treatment facility outage
  - Evacuation of a government building, major business, or facility (100 employees or more) or over 10 homes
  - Rescue Squad missions including search, vehicle extrication, traffic control, etc.
  - Any interruption in 911 service to the community
  - Mines (incidents resulting in deaths, entrapments, or injuries)
  - Fish kill

Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Assistant Director over Operations.

**Enacted By:** Wayne Burd, Assistant Director – Operations  
**Date Enacted:** 2019  
**Date Reviewed or Modified:** Modified September 2020 per changes to KRS 39F.180