



**2022 Highland County Local Emergency
Planning Committee (LEPC)
Hazardous Materials Tabletop Exercise (TTX)
After Action Report / Improvement Plan
(AAR/IP)**

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2022 Highland County Local Emergency Planning Committee Tabletop Exercise

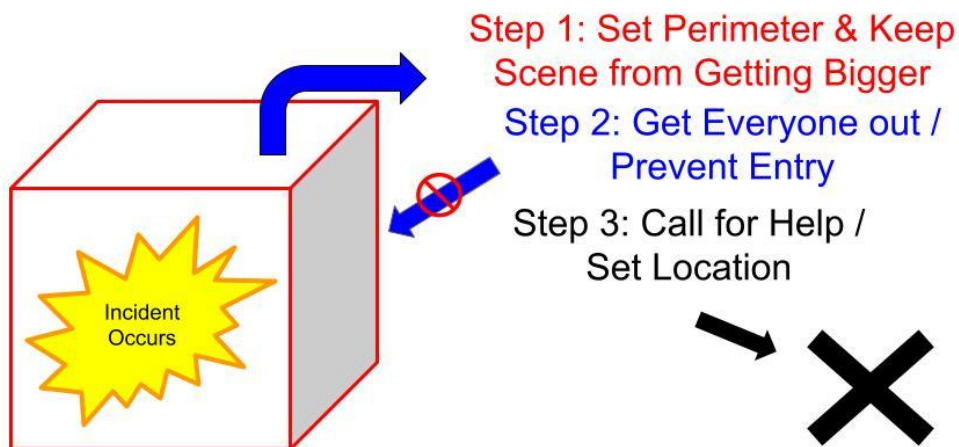
Preface

Purpose	The purpose of this TTX was to focus on the required response to a wreck, injuries, and a hazardous materials release in Hillsboro, Ohio and the actions needed for the threats and hazards. The scenario evolved with situation updates provided by the facilitator. After each update, the players discussed the incident impacts, agency concerns, as well as response actions. The exercise will also include hands-on map work and small group discussions.
HSEEP Compliance	This After Action Report / Improvement Plan follows the guidance set forth by the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) of the US Department of Homeland Security.
Title	The title of this document is the <i>2022 Highland County Local Emergency Planning Committee Tabletop Exercise After Action Report / Improvement Plan.</i>
Objectives	The 2022 Highland County LEPC TTX focused actions on a hazardous materials release event so that players could practice and evaluate emergency response procedures, identify areas for improvement, and foster collaboration and networking. The TTX focused on the Ohio SERC required objectives of: Objective #1 - Notification of Response/Support Agencies Objective #2 - Incident Assessment Objective #10 - Traffic and Access Control Objective #12 - Emergency Medical Services Objective #13 - Medical Facilities
Exercise Documents	The complete set of exercise documents are hosted at: https://www.preparednesssolutions.com/exercise-pages/2022-highland-county-lepc-ttx These documents include: • The exercise slide deck • Paper Patients • The exercise map of the scenario • Chemical information
Document Restrictions	This exercise is an unclassified exercise, and therefore exercise documents may be viewed by anyone after the exercise. However, reproduction or distribution of this document, in whole or in part, without permission from the Highland County Emergency Management Agency is prohibited.
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Lessons Learned

The following are the aggregate lessons learned, items needed, and concerns identified from the exercise. The lessons learned are not all inclusive, and do not set precedence for future discussions, planning efforts, or responses.

- Lessons Learned** The following items were identified as the main lessons learned from the exercise:
- A. The smartphones in everyone's pockets are very capable of quickly modeling areas of concern for most release events. [The Emergency Response Guide App](#) has a new mapping feature to quickly overlay the isolate and protect distances. Other apps that are useful include [WISER](#) and [Hazmat Evac](#).
 - B. The subject of [Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act \(EMTALA\)](#) came up in this scenario for those patients injured outside and in and around the helicopters. All stakeholders (medical staff, first responders, and public safety officials) need a good understanding of EMTALA limitations and requirements to rapidly and effectively respond to non-traditional or unique situations.
 - C. Hazmat events are low occurrence events that benefit from Job Aids and checklists. All practices and exercises should be seen as a chance to practice, update, and vet these job aids.
 - D. Digital message boards will be key to traffic and access control efforts. Knowing which departments have what capabilities would allow for more effective decision making.
 - E. The Incident Command System (ICS) would be deployed at several locations in this scenario. [Training opportunities](#) should be provided to potential responders to train and practice ICS in a multidisciplinary environment.
 - F. Communication throughout the exercise was excellent. It showed that within Highland County, policy and ego are not barriers to successful responses.
 - G. All responders should have a generic crisis response cheat sheet for times when they are confronted with novel and unique events without an easily identifiable start point. The Los Angeles Fire Model shown below is a good one.



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Improvement Plan

Based on review of actions, evaluator notes, and hotwash discussions, the following items were determined as those actions in need of improvement:

1. Sign up and procure GETS Cards for key public safety staff and have a system to make test calls on at least a quarterly basis.	Assigned to:
2. Ensure that all first responders have copies of current Highway Department maps in hard copy format in each vehicle with a pen or marker to assist with traffic and access control activities.	Assigned to:
3. Public Safety stakeholders should review available response oriented smartphone apps to better allow for response data collection and decision making.	Assigned to:
4. Develop a plan to utilize a video conference system to assemble stakeholder PIOs rapidly to align messaging and public information activities.	Assigned to:
5. Encourage local responders to attend the cost free Enhanced All-Hazards Incident Management/Unified Command at TEEX in College Station in Texas.	Assigned to:
6. Emergency response stakeholders need to be encouraged to continue to attend emergency management training to better prepare for their roles. Continue hosting and promoting the many FEMA/DHS IS , PIO , or ICS or DHS training locally and at times convenient to volunteers and full time staff.	Assigned to:

Job Aids and Checklists

[EMA On Scene Support Activities Checklist](#)

[Incident Commander Hazmat Specific Activities Checklist](#)

[Fire Incident Commander Incident Organizer](#)

[PIO Hazmat Specific Checklist](#)