

1 14B NCAC 03 .0401 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 320 as follows:

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SECTION .0400 – NORTH CAROLINA SEARCH AND RESCUE PROGRAM

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14B NCAC 03 .0401 PURPOSE

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(a) The purpose of this section is to prescribe requirements pertaining to the North Carolina Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management administered North Carolina Search and Rescue Program.

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(b) This section applies to Sponsoring Agencies and other participants in the North Carolina Search and Rescue Program that have executed agreements administered by the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management.

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11 *History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-66;*

12

Eff. January 1, 2023.

13

1 14B NCAC 03 .0402 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 320-321 as follows:
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3 **14B NCAC 03 .0402 ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS**

4 As used in this the following abbreviations and terms mean:

- 5 (1) All-hazards Disaster Response Model – a response methodology where resources provide all
6 applicable capability to respond to any threats or hazard that is impacting the state or has the
7 potential to impact the state.
- 8 (2) Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) - means those local, state, or federal entities having response
9 authority to act over a specific aspect of search and rescue in a specific geographic area.
- 10 (3) Contract Response Team – A regional all-hazards disaster response contract response team as
11 defined in G.S. 166A-65 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes
12 or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6 with self-sustaining logistical support allowing for
13 responses into disaster areas.
- 14 (4) County to County Mutual Aid – Resource sharing between county public safety resources under the
15 conditions of the NC Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement or another similar agreement between local
16 governments.
- 17 (5) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – is an agency of the United States Department
18 of Homeland Security with the responsibility to coordinate the response to a Presidentially-declared
19 disasters that has occurred in the United States and that overwhelms the resources of local and state
20 authorities.
- 21 (6) FEMA Public Assistance Program – is a federal reimbursement grant program that provides federal
22 funding to help communities respond to and recover from disasters.
- 23 (7) Incident Command System (ICS) - A standardized on-scene emergency management construct
24 specifically designed to provide an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity
25 and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.
26 The Incident Command System is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures,
27 and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the
28 management of resources during incidents. ICS is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable
29 to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional
30 agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations.
- 31 (8) Incident Support Team (IST) – A group of search and rescue experts who assist local and state
32 emergency management in management and support of deployed search and rescue system
33 resources.
- 34 (9) Local Emergency Management Coordinator (LEMC) – The County Emergency Management
35 Coordinator who is responsible for all local disaster preparedness, response, and recovery activities
36 in a specific geographic area.

- 1 (10) NC All-Hazards Incident Management Team (NCAHIMT) – The North Carolina Emergency
2 Management program responsible for supporting local and state incident management requirements
3 in local and state disaster response activities.
- 4 (11) NC Resource Typing – A document defining and categorizing, by capability, the resources
5 requested, deployed, and used in incidents. Resource typing definitions establish a common
6 language and defines a resource's minimum capabilities for equipment, teams, and units.
- 7 (12) North Carolina Search and Rescue System (NC SAR System) – The state search and rescue program
8 established in Article 6 of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- 9 (13) North Carolina Search and Rescue Technical Advisory Committee (NC SAR TAC) – An advisory
10 committee established in Article 6 of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes to advise
11 the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety and the North Carolina Division of
12 Emergency Management on the establishment of a search and rescue system.
- 13 (14) North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) - A division of the North Carolina Department
14 of Public Safety with the responsibility to coordinate the mitigation, planning, preparedness,
15 response, and recovery to a disaster or emergency that has or could occur in the State.
- 16 (15) North Carolina Emergency Management Operations Chief (NCEM OSC) – The Assistant Director
17 of Operations for the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management.
- 18 (16) North Carolina Emergency Management Director (NCEM Director) – The Director of the North
19 Carolina Division of Emergency Management.
- 20 (17) National Incident Management System (NIMS) - A set of principles that provides a systematic,
21 proactive approach guiding government agencies at all levels, nongovernmental organizations, and
22 the private sector to work to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the
23 effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, to reduce the loss of life or
24 property and harm to the environment.
- 25 (18) On-duty – When a person is functioning, paid or unpaid, as an agent of their sponsoring or
26 participating agency or the NC Division of Emergency Management as part of the NC Search and
27 Rescue Program.
- 28 (19) Participating Agency (PA) – An entity that assists a sponsoring agency with the formation of a
29 search and rescue team by providing personnel or equipment.
- 30 (20) Responsible Party (RP) – The entity whose actions or inactions caused an event requiring search
31 and rescue system resources.
- 32 (21) Sensitive Information – Any information, to include but not limited to audio recordings, images,
33 and video recordings gained during a search and rescue operation that has not been released to the
34 public by the authority having jurisdiction.
- 35 (22) Specialty Rescue Team – A group of response personnel who provided specialized, technical search
36 and rescue capability.

- 1 (23) Sponsoring Agency (SA) – A local or tribal unit of government or other entity with an active
2 response agreement with a local unit of government that organizes and coordinates a search and
3 rescue team in the North Carolina Search and Rescue System.
- 4 (24) State Coordinated Mutual Aid – Assistance between North Carolina Search and Rescue System
5 resources and local units of government facilitated and coordinated by North Carolina Emergency
6 Management.
- 7 (25) State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) – A document under the authority of G.S. 166A-19.12(2)
8 that details how the State of North Carolina will respond to a disaster or emergency requiring state
9 assistance utilizing an established comprehensive, all-hazards approach.
- 10 (26) State Mission Assignment (State Mission) – A NCEM approved request for assistance to deploy
11 state search and rescue system resources at the request of a local unit of government.
- 12 (27) System Personnel – Personnel from a contract or specialty rescue team with an active response
13 agreement with the Division of Emergency Management for search and rescue response or any
14 personnel employed on a full-time or part-time basis by the Division of Emergency Management
15 with a responsibility for search and rescue response.
- 16 (28) System Resource – Personnel or equipment from a contract or specialty rescue team with an active
17 response agreement with the Division of Emergency Management for search and rescue response.

18
19 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 166A-65; 166A-66;
20 Eff. January 1, 2023.
21

1 14B NCAC 03 .0403 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 321-322 as follows:
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3 **14B NCAC 03 .0403 DISPATCH OF A CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAM TO A SEARCH AND RESCUE**
4 **TEAM OR SPECIALTY RESCUE TEAM MISSION**

5 (a) NC SAR System Resources shall employ the all-hazards response model. System resources are not limited to
6 responses to only missing person incidents. System resources may support any incident where system resources may
7 relieve human suffering or protect life, property, or the environment for an actual or potential threat.

8 (b) NC Emergency Management shall maintain direction and control of any deployed NC SAR System resources that
9 have been deployed through action of NCEM.

10 (c) Any resource of the NC SAR System remains a local resource first and may deploy under their local authorities
11 or agreements notwithstanding any action by the State. Participation in the NC SAR System shall not limit or supersede
12 their local authorities, responsibilities, or agreements when deploying under those authorities or agreements.

13 (d) NC SAR System resources shall be deployed by the State using one of the following methods:

14 (1) State Coordinated Mutual Aid – The primary goal of State Coordinated Mutual Aid is to facilitate
15 mutual aid through polling NC SAR System resources, either in part or in whole, at the discretion
16 of NCEM officials to seek available qualified resources in the NC SAR System to fill a local request
17 for support. There is no requirement for NCEM to poll all resources, nor any requirement for the
18 local AHJ to take all or some portion of teams who are available. Final resource selection remains
19 with the local AHJ. NCEM officials shall use incident type and urgency, incident and resource
20 location, resource type, resource availability and timeliness to affecting incident outcome, and
21 resource cost as factors in determining what resources to poll when activating system resources.

22 (2) State Mission Assignment - State Mission's primary goal is to deploy NC SAR System resources
23 when there is a threat to life, property, or the environment and some barrier(s) to prevent the mission
24 being filled through local or state coordinated mutual aid. In cases of a State of Emergency as
25 defined in G.S. 166A-19.20 or G.S. 166A-19.22, NCEM shall deploy NC SAR System resources
26 through a State Mission Assignment to minimize any delay in initiating or augmenting lifesaving
27 operations.

28 (e) The County Local Emergency Management Coordinator (LEMC) or their designee shall have the authority to
29 request system resources. Local law enforcement agencies, fire departments, rescue squads, and any other local
30 authority having jurisdiction shall route requests for activation of NC SAR System Resources to their LEMC who will
31 make the request for support to NCEM.

32
33 *History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-66;*
34 *Eff. January 1, 2023.*
35

1 14B NCAC 03 .0404 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 322 as follows:
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3 **14B NCAC 03 .0404 ON-SITE OPERATIONS OF A CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAM**

4 All search and rescue system resources shall operate in accordance with the following standards of response:

- 5 (1) FEMA ICS and NIMS standards which are adopted and are incorporated by reference with
6 subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6;
7 (2) following all direction from NCEM personnel;
8 (3) when responding in support of law enforcement operations, resources shall coordinate activities with
9 the law enforcement authorities to ensure their actions support any potential criminal investigation.
10 (4) resources shall not release any sensitive information to the public or media during operations
11 without the consent of the local, state, or federal authority having jurisdiction consistent with the
12 Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes which is adopted and incorporated by references
13 with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6; and
14 (5) state and federal law.

15
16 *History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-66, National Incident Management System, 3rd Edition;*
17 *Eff. January 1, 2023.*
18

1 14B NCAC 03 .0405 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 322 as follows:
2

3 **14B NCAC 03 .0405 STANDARDS FOR ADMINISTRATION OF A CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAM,**
4 **INCLUDING PROCEDURES FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF RESPONSE COSTS**

5 (a) System resources shall maintain all personnel records to include:

- 6 (1) Responder medical history;
- 7 (2) Emergency contact information;
- 8 (3) Current pay and benefit rates, including overtime rates; and
- 9 (4) Policies for overtime pay if deploying paid persons.

10 (b) System personnel shall be in an on-duty status as an emergency management worker as defined in G.S. 166A-
11 19.60(e) which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S.
12 150B-21.6 during all training and response activities.

13 (c) System resources shall maintain a current team roster.

14 (d) System resources shall maintain all team training, certification, and credentials.

15 (e) System resources shall maintain all inventory and maintenance records for deployable equipment.

16 (f) Resource records must be available for review by NCEM officials to ensure compliance.

17 (g) Within 90 days of demobilization from a state mission, system resources shall submit documentation of actual
18 costs to NCEM for reimbursement consistent with FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide which is
19 adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. NCEM
20 may grant extensions beyond the 90-day period at their discretion due to extenuating circumstances such as extended
21 equipment repairs.

22
23 *History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-19.60; 166A-66; 42 U.S.C.5121 et seq; 44 CFR Part 206;*
24 *Eff. January 1, 2023.*
25

1 14B NCAC 03 .0406 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 322 as follows:

2
3 **14B NCAC 03 .0406 RECOVERING THE COSTS OF A SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM OR**
4 **SPECIALTY RESCUE TEAM MISSION**

5 NCEM shall seek reimbursement by the responsible party for system response costs in cases of negligence or manmade
6 disaster.

7 (1) Responsible parties shall be billed reasonable costs to include personnel and equipment costs
8 consistent with current protocols established for the recovery of cost of activation of a response team
9 for a hazardous materials emergency response set out in G.S. 166-27 which is adopted and
10 incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6 of
11 eligible costs.

12 (2) Responsible parties shall remit payment within 30 days of receipt of invoice via certified mail.

13
14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-27; 166A-66;*
15 *Eff. January 1, 2023.*
16

1 14B NCAC 03 .0407 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 322-324 as follows:
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3 **14B NCAC 03 .0407 PROCEDURES FOR BIDDING AND CONTRACTING FOR SEARCH AND**
4 **RESCUE TEAM AND SPECIALTY RESCUE TEAM MISSION**

5 (a) Eligibility for participation as a contract or specialty rescue team:

6 (1) Sponsoring agencies must:

7 (A) Be a local unit of government, state recognized tribal government, or maintain an active
8 response agreement with a local or tribal unit of government;

9 (B) Maintain participation in the statewide mutual aid agreement; and

10 (C) Ensure all members possess the qualifications as outlined in Rule .0409 of this Section
11 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments
12 pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6.

13 (2) Participating agencies shall ensure all members possess the qualifications as outlined in Rule .0409
14 of this Section which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or
15 amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6.

16 (b) Eligibility for participation on an incident support team.

17 (1) Personnel shall be a participating member of the NC SAR System, NCEM All-Hazards Incident
18 Management Team Program, or an employee of NC Emergency Management. If not an employee
19 of NCEM, each member's sponsoring agency must have an active memorandum of agreement that
20 outlines the conditions of their participation on an incident support team.

21 (2) Ensure all members possess the qualifications as outlined in Rule .0409 of this Section which is
22 adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S.
23 150B-21.6.

24 (c) Contract Response Teams – Within 18 months of a new contract period, NCEM shall electronically distribute a
25 bid announcement via electronic mail to all system resources and local emergency management coordinators for
26 interested parties to return a letter of interest by a specified date. NCEM shall distribute an electronic bid package to
27 all interested parties that must be returned to NCEM by a date specified in the bid package.

28 (1) Contract response teams shall be limited to seven regionally based all hazard response taskforces.
29 Each taskforce will be assigned a primary response region in the state.

30 (2) Bid packages shall be submitted for a specific response region.

31 (3) The bidding agency and any participating agencies shall be located in that specified response region.

32 (4) A review committee shall be established by the NCEM Director or designee. This committee will
33 open all completed sealed bid packages and evaluate them based on an agreed upon criteria at a date
34 to be set by the NCEM Director.

35 (5) The committee shall develop a bid package review summary that includes their recommendations
36 for selections that will be sent to the NCEM Operations Chief for concurrence before being reviewed
37 and approved by the NCEM Director.

1 (6) Agencies who are successful in the bid process will be notified, system agreements shall be drafted,
2 and executed by all parties for the agreed upon period.

3 (7) NCEM shall draft, execute, and maintain two agreements with the sponsoring agency for the
4 resource to maintain participation in the program.

5 (A) NCEM shall execute and maintain a cooperative agreement with the sponsoring agency
6 that outlines the conditions and activities that the resource must follow to enable
7 reimbursement of eligible training, equipment, and personnel costs associated with
8 maintaining a contract response team. The cooperative agreement shall be limited to the
9 contract period.

10 (B) Funds reimbursed through this agreement shall go directly to cover program costs and be
11 utilized by the sponsoring and/or participating agencies.

12 (C) The sponsoring agency shall maintain all records of any program spending and shall not
13 comingle funds or use program funding for any other purpose other than maintaining or
14 building search and rescue capability.

15 (D) Each sponsoring agency is responsible to draft, execute, and maintain agreements with any
16 participating agency that is supporting their bid for a contract response team with
17 personnel, equipment, or funding. NCEM may provide a template agreement for use
18 between sponsoring and participating agencies. The sponsoring agency may include any
19 participating agency resources in their bid as long as they have an active agreement.

20 (E) Resources shall maintain a response agreement that outlines response activities and the
21 reimbursement for costs of state missions.

22 (d) Specialty Rescue Teams - NC Emergency Management shall enter into response agreements with additional
23 specialty rescue teams to ensure statewide response capability in certain established program areas.

24 (1) These program areas shall include:

25 (A) Swiftwater Search and Rescue;

26 (B) Wilderness / Land Search and Rescue;

27 (C) Mountain Search and Rescue; and

28 (D) Helicopter Search and Rescue

29 (2) NC Emergency Management shall provide program support in establishing program standards,
30 supporting specialized training, and providing specialized equipment within the confines of
31 available funding. Participation as a specialty rescue team is considered at will and can be terminated
32 with or without cause by either party with 30-day notice.

33 (3) Each qualified resource shall enter into a response agreement specific to each established program
34 area with NCEM. The resource will then enter into a memorandum of understanding with NCEM
35 that shall be referred to as a specialty rescue team response agreement.

36 (4) Specialty rescue teams must demonstrate their ability to respond as a self-supported resource outside
37 their jurisdiction to be eligible to participate in the NC SAR System.

1 (5) Each specialty rescue team is responsible to draft, execute, and maintain agreements with any
2 participating agency that is supporting the sponsoring agency for a specialty response team with
3 personnel, equipment, or funding. NCEM may provide a template agreement for use between
4 sponsoring and participating agencies.

5
6 *History Note:* *Authority G.S. 166A-65; 166A-66; 166A-67;*
7 *Eff. January 1, 2023.*

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1 14B NCAC 03 .0408 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 324 as follows:
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3 **14B NCAC 03 .0408 CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING BIDS FOR CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAM**

4 (a) Bidding entities must:

- 5 (1) be submitted by an authorized representative of a local unit of government, state recognized tribal
6 government, or maintain an active response agreement with a local or tribal unit of government;
7 (2) provide a plan for bidding entity to deploy the required number of personnel for a period of up to
8 14 days when not being impacted locally. This may be as a single entity or as a collaboration of
9 multiple agencies in the specified response region. If a collaboration of multiple agencies, the
10 sponsoring or bidding agency must maintain cooperative agreements with all supporting agencies.
11 For the purposes of the bid submission, the bidding entity shall provide a letter of support from all
12 supporting agencies;
13 (3) provide a plan for bidding entity to maintain required number of personnel trained per Rule .0409
14 of this Section which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or
15 amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6; and
16 (4) ensure all participating members possess the qualifications as outlined in Rule .0409 of this Section.

17 (b) Bids shall be evaluated using the below criteria and consistent with 2 CFR Part 200 which is adopted and
18 incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6:

- 19 (1) geographic location of team base;
20 (2) ability to maintain required number of trained personnel to ensure response readiness without
21 negative impacts to local response obligations;
22 (3) ability to maintain and care for any system provided equipment;
23 (4) availability of local equipment to support response activities; and
24 (5) availability to maintain dedicated administrative staff to ensure management of administrative
25 duties, training, and logistical requirements.

26
27 *History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-66; 166A-67;*

28 *Eff. January 1, 2023.*
29

1 14B NCAC 03 .0409 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 324-329 as follows:
2

3 **14B NCAC 03 .0409 PERSONNEL, TRAINING, AND EQUIPMENT STANDARDS FOR**
4 **CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAMS AND SPECIALTY RESCUE TEAMS**

5 (a) Requirements for all system personnel:

- 6 (1) personnel shall be no less than 18 years of age;
7 (2) personnel shall be an agent of a sponsoring agency, participating agency, or an employee of the
8 North Carolina Division of Emergency Management. By participating in this program, they remain
9 agents of their employer and at no time become an agent of the State unless they are an employee
10 of the State;
11 (3) personnel shall maintain no less than 24 hours of search and rescue training annually;
12 (4) personnel shall be considered emergency management workers while participating in any program
13 activity as defined in G.S. 166A-19.60 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with
14 subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6; and
15 (5) personnel shall possess the qualifications of character and general fitness requisite for a public
16 servant and be of good moral character and entitled to the high regard and confidence of the public
17 as evidenced by:
18 (A) not having been convicted of a felony;
19 (B) not having been convicted of a misdemeanor as defined in 12 NCAC 09B .0111(1) which
20 is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant
21 to G.S. 150B-21.6. for five years or the completion of any corrections supervision imposed
22 by the courts, whichever is later;
23 (C) not having been convicted of an offense that would prohibit the possession of a firearm or
24 ammunition, under 18 U.S.C. 922, which is hereby incorporated by reference with
25 subsequent amendments and editions pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6 can be found at no cost
26 [https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2018-title18/pdf/USCODE-2018-title18-](https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2018-title18/pdf/USCODE-2018-title18-partI-chap44.pdf)
27 [partI-chap44.pdf](https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2018-title18/pdf/USCODE-2018-title18-partI-chap44.pdf);
28 (D) being truthful in providing information to the appointing agency for the purpose of
29 participating in the search and rescue system;
30 (E) not having pending or outstanding felony charges that, if convicted would exclude
31 eligibility under this rule; and
32 (F) not having engaged in any conduct that brings into question the truthfulness or credibility
33 of the individual, or involves "moral turpitude."
34 (6) make the following notifications:
35 (A) within seven days of the qualifying event notify the Sponsoring Agency in writing of all
36 criminal offenses for which the individual is charged or arrested. This shall include traffic
37 offenses identified in the Class B Misdemeanor Manual which is adopted and incorporated

1 by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6 and
2 offenses of driving under the influence (DUI) or driving while impaired (DWI);

3 (B) within seven days of the qualifying event notify the Sponsoring Agency in writing of all
4 criminal offenses for which the individual pleads no contest, pleads guilty, or of which the
5 individual is found guilty. This shall include traffic offenses identified in the Class B
6 Misdemeanor Manual which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent
7 changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6 and offenses of driving under the
8 influence (DUI) or driving while impaired (DWI);

9 (C) within seven days of service, shall notify the Sponsoring Agency that they have been served
10 by a judicial official against the individual;

11 (D) within seven days of the date the case was disposed of in court, the sponsoring agency,
12 provided they have knowledge of the person's arrests or criminal charges and final
13 dispositions, shall also notify the Division of Emergency Management of arrests or
14 criminal charges and final disposition; and

15 (E) within seven days of the issuance of all Domestic Violence Protective Orders (G.S. 50B)
16 and Civil No Contact Orders (G.S. 50C), the sponsoring agency, provided they have
17 knowledge of the order, shall also notify the Division of Emergency Management of these
18 orders.

19 (b) Requirements for all system equipment:

20 (1) equipment shall be made available for inspections and inventory;

21 (2) system resources shall count any state-owned issued equipment to the specified equipment
22 requirements;

23 (3) system resources shall maintain any state-owned equipment per manufactures recommendations and
24 immediately notify NCEM of any damage to state property; and

25 (4) upon separation all system resources shall return all state property in no more than 30 days.

26 (c) Urban Search and Rescue Team Personnel and Training Requirements

27 (1) A Type I or Type II Urban Search and Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 116 personnel who
28 have successfully completed the NC USAR Structural Collapse Rescue Technician Course or the
29 Federal Emergency Management Agency Equivalent Course.

30 (2) A Type III Urban Search and Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 58 personnel who have
31 successfully completed the NC USAR Structural Collapse Rescue Technician Course or the Federal
32 Emergency Management Agency Equivalent Course.

33 (3) North Carolina Division of Emergency Management shall be responsible for providing qualified
34 structures specialist, medical team managers, and canine search specialists for any typed urban
35 search and rescue team if required for a response.

36 (d) Urban Search and Rescue Team Equipment Requirements

- 1 (1) Urban Search and Rescue Teams shall maintain a functionally equivalent cache of equipment based
2 on the appropriate team type with the Emergency Management Accreditation Program Urban Search
3 and Rescue Cache List which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or
4 amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. as outlined in the latest published standard by the
5 Emergency Management Accreditation Program.
- 6 (2) Equipment shall be maintained in a state of readiness and with a means to transport all required
7 equipment.

8 (e) Swiftwater Rescue Team Personnel and Training Requirements

- 9 (1) Any Type I Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 32 personnel who have successfully
10 completed Swiftwater Rescue Technician level training that meets or exceeds training requirements
11 of Chapters 5, 11, and 12 of NFPA 1006 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with
12 subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. From the complete roster, the team
13 shall additionally maintain the following number of personnel trained in position specific roles:
- 14 (A) eight personnel who have completed the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue Boat
15 Operator Course;
- 16 (B) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater / Flood Rescue
17 Team Leader Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Leader
18 Course; and
- 19 (C) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater / Flood Rescue
20 Team Communications Specialist Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue
21 Communications Specialist Course.
- 22 (2) Any Type II Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 24 personnel who have successfully
23 completed Swiftwater Rescue Technician level training that meets or exceeds training requirements
24 of Chapters 5, 11, and 12 of NFPA 1006 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with
25 subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. From the complete roster, the team
26 shall additionally maintain the following number of personnel trained in position specific roles:
- 27 (A) four personnel who have completed the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue Boat
28 Operator Course;
- 29 (B) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue
30 Team Leader Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Leader
31 Course; and
- 32 (C) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue
33 Team Communications Specialist Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue
34 Communications Specialist Course.
- 35 (3) Any Type III Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 16 personnel who have successfully
36 completed Swiftwater Rescue Technician level training that meets or exceeds training requirements
37 from Chapters 5, 11, and 12 of NFPA 1006 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with

1 subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. From the complete roster, the team
2 shall additionally maintain the following number of personnel trained in position specific roles:

3 (A) two personnel who have completed the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue Boat
4 Operator Course;

5 (B) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue
6 Team Leader Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Leader
7 Course; and

8 (C) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue
9 Team Communications Specialist Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue
10 Communications Specialist Course.

11 (f) Swiftwater Rescue Team Equipment Requirements

12 (1) Any Type I Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain an equipment cache of no less than:

13 (A) six 800 MHz portable radios programed with the NC VIPER Radio System template;

14 (B) 16 portable radios capable for internal team communications;

15 (C) portable computer with a minimum of cellular internet access;

16 (D) 16 each of dry suits with a suitable liner, personal floatation devices with not less than
17 22lbs of floatation, helmet with headlamp, rescue knife, pealess whistle, boat motor key,
18 water rescue throw bag, and pair of water rescue boots;

19 (E) four each thermal imaging cameras and handheld spotlight;

20 (F) two hardcopy of NC road map;

21 (G) six global positioning system receivers;

22 (H) two forcible entry kits to include a Halligan, axe, sledgehammer and bolt cutters per kit;

23 (I) two chain saws;

24 (J) four inflatable ridged boats not less than 4 meters in length with not less than six outboard
25 motors;

26 (K) one rope rescue kit to include 20 locking carabiners, four full body harness, two knot
27 passing pulleys, 12 tandem prusiks, eight pulleys, two 200 foot life safety rope in a bag,
28 two 300 foot life safety rope in a bag, line thrower, and six sections of each 5 foot, 12 foot,
29 15 foot, 20 foot nylon tubular webbing;

30 (L) two decontamination kits to include, 2.5 gallon pressure sprayer, five gallon bucket, 40
31 gallon work box, 110 volt submersible pump, two 25 foot sections of garden hose, garden
32 hose wye adaptor, 110 volt submersible pump, soap and bleach solution, 1.5 inch to .75
33 inch male garden hose adapter;

34 (M) six non-venting fuel cells with fuel lines;

35 (N) two self-bailing raft;

36 (O) four boat field repair kits to include a patch and clamshell kit per kit;

37 (P) 12 paddles;

- 1 (Q) Shelter system for 16 personnel that can be setup in under 30 minutes time and does not
2 require power for setup with 16 each of a sleeping kit such as a cots, pad, or sleeping bag;
3 and
4 (R) Two each of two kilowatt or larger generators with portable lights; and
5 (S) Two electric air pumps, four manual inflation pumps, and eight compressed air cylinders
6 with whip or fill system to inflate boats or rafts.
7 (2) Any Type II Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain an equipment cache of no less than:
8 (A) four 800 MHz portable radios programed with the NC VIPER Radio System template;
9 (B) ten portable radios capable for internal team communications;
10 (C) portable computer with a minimum of cellular internet access;
11 (D) ten each of dry suits with a suitable liner, personal floatation devices with not less than
12 22lbs of floatation, helmet with headlamp, rescue knife, pealess whistle, boat motor key,
13 water rescue throw bag, and pair of water rescue boots;
14 (E) two each thermal imaging cameras and handheld spotlight;
15 (F) two hardcopy of NC road map;
16 (G) four global positioning system receivers;
17 (H) one forcible entry kits to include a Halligan, axe, sledgehammer and bolt cutters per kit;
18 (I) two chain saws;
19 (J) two inflatable ridged boats not less than 4 meters in length with not less than three outboard
20 motors;
21 (K) one rope rescue kit to include 20 locking carabiners, four full body harness, two knot
22 passing pulleys, 12 tandem prusiks, eight pulleys, two 200 foot life safety rope in a bag,
23 two 300 foot life safety rope in a bag, line thrower, and six sections of each 5 foot, 12 foot,
24 15 foot, 20 foot nylon tubular webbing;
25 (L) one decontamination kit to include, 2.5 gallon pressure sprayer, five gallon bucket, 40
26 gallon work box, 110 volt submersible pump, two 25 foot sections of garden hose, garden
27 hose wye adaptor, 110 volt submersible pump, soap and bleach solution, 1.5 inch to .75
28 inch male garden hose adapter;
29 (M) four non-venting fuel cells with fuel lines;
30 (N) one self-bailing raft;
31 (O) two boat field repair kits to include a patch and clamshell kit per kit;
32 (P) six paddles;
33 (Q) shelter system for ten personnel that can be setup in under 30 minutes time and does not
34 require power for setup with ten each of a sleeping kit such as a cots, pad, or sleeping bag;
35 and
36 (R) two each of two kilowatt or larger generators with portable lights; and

1 (S) two electric air pumps, two manual inflation pumps, and four compressed air cylinders
2 with whip or fill system to inflate boats or rafts.

3 (3) Any Type III Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain an equipment cache of no less than:

4 (A) six 800 MHz portable radios programed with the NC VIPER Radio System template;

5 (B) six portable radios capable for internal team communications;

6 (C) portable computer with a minimum of cellular internet access;

7 (D) six each of dry suits with a suitable liner, personal floatation devices with not less than
8 22lbs of floatation, helmet with headlamp, rescue knife, pealess whistle, boat motor key,
9 water rescue throw bag, and pair of water rescue boots;

10 (E) one hardcopy of NC road map;

11 (F) two global positioning system receivers;

12 (G) one forcible entry kits to include a Halligan, axe, sledgehammer and bolt cutters per kit;

13 (H) one chain saw;

14 (I) one inflatable ridged boats not less than 4 meters in length with not less than two outboard
15 motors;

16 (J) one rope rescue kit to include 20 locking carabiners, two full body harness, two knot
17 passing pulleys, 12 tandem prusiks, four pulleys, 200 foot life safety rope in a bag, 300
18 foot life safety rope in a bag, line thrower, and three sections of each 5 foot, 12 foot, 15
19 foot, 20 foot nylon tubular webbing;

20 (K) one decontamination kit to include, 2.5 gallon pressure sprayer, five gallon bucket, 40
21 gallon work box, 110 volt submersible pump, two 25 foot sections of garden hose, garden
22 hose wye adaptor, 110 volt submersible pump, soap and bleach solution, 1.5 inch to .75
23 inch male garden hose adapter;

24 (L) two non-venting fuel cells with fuel lines;

25 (M) one self-bailing raft;

26 (N) one boat field repair kits to include a patch and clamshell kit per kit;

27 (O) three paddles;

28 (P) shelter system for six personnel that can be setup in under 30 minutes time and does not
29 require power for setup with six each of a sleeping kit such as a cot, pad, or sleeping bag;
30 and

31 (Q) one each of two kilowatt or larger generators with portable lights; and

32 (R) one electric air pumps, one manual inflation pumps, and two compressed air cylinders with
33 whip or fill system to inflate boats or rafts.

34 (g) Helicopter search and rescue technicians shall:

35 (1) be a member of the Urban Search and Rescue, Swiftwater Rescue, Wilderness Search and Rescue,
36 or Mountain Rescue Program with a letter of support from their sponsoring agency;

1 (2) complete the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management Helicopter Rescue Indoctrination
2 Course; and

3 (3) attend scheduled training no less than quarterly basis to maintain their qualification as a helicopter
4 rescue technician.

5 (h) Helicopter Rescue Team Equipment Requirements

6 (1) Helicopter search and rescue technicians shall maintain all issued equipment in good working order
7 and in accordance with the manufacturer recommendations.

8 (2) Helicopter search and rescue technicians shall inspect their issued equipment prior to and after each
9 use and report any damage or unusual wear to the Aviation Life Safety Equipment Officer.

10 (i) Wilderness Search and Rescue Team Requirements

11 (1) A wilderness search and rescue team shall maintain a roster of no less than eight personnel that have
12 completed the NC Land Search Field Team Member Course or other wilderness search course that
13 meets the current requirements of ASTM F2209 which is adopted and incorporated by reference
14 with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6.

15 (2) A wilderness search and rescue team shall maintain a team equipment cache of no less than eight of
16 the following:

17 (A) field pack able to carry required equipment;

18 (B) multi-purpose knife;

19 (C) water container(s) sufficient to hold two quarts of potable water;

20 (D) safety glasses;

21 (E) pealess whistle;

22 (F) grid reader for 1:24000 scale;

23 (G) compass;

24 (H) two light sources with spare batteries;

25 (I) set of rain gear;

26 (J) tracking stick no less than 42 inches long;

27 (K) watch;

28 (L) fire starting kit;

29 (M) measuring device capable of measure no less than 18 inches;

30 (N) paper and pen or pencil;

31 (O) ICS 214 form;

32 (P) 50 foot of cordage;

33 (Q) eight zip ties; and

34 (R) signaling mirror.

35 (3) A wilderness search and rescue team shall maintain a rescue equipment cache of no less than the
36 following:

37 (A) two global positioning system receivers;

1 (B) two first aid kits.

2 (j) Mountain Rescue Team Requirements

3 (1) A mountain rescue team shall maintain a roster of no less than eight personnel that have completed
4 the NC Mountain Rescue Operations Course with no less than two personnel that have completed
5 the NC Mountain Rescue Technician Level Course.

6 (2) A mountain rescue team shall maintain a team equipment cache of no less than eight of following:

7 (A) field pack able to carry required equipment;

8 (B) multi-purpose knife;

9 (C) water container(s) sufficient to hold two quarts of potable water;

10 (D) grid reader for 1:24000 scale;

11 (E) fire starting kit;

12 (F) compass;

13 (G) two light sources with spare batteries;

14 (H) set of rain gear;

15 (I) watch;

16 (J) paper and pen or pencil; and

17 (K) ICS 214 form.

18 (3) A mountain rescue team shall maintain a rescue equipment cache of no less than the following:

19 (A) two global positioning system receivers;

20 (B) ten screw gate carabiners;

21 (C) four belay type friction devices;

22 (D) eight pre-sewn runners;

23 (E) eight sets of matching prussik pairs;

24 (F) four 30 foot cord suitable for anchor and litter rigging;

25 (G) eight mountaineering harnesses;

26 (H) two rappel type friction devices;

27 (I) two each single and double micro pulleys;

28 (J) two 150 foot ropes with a rating equal to or greater than 20 kilonewtons;

29 (K) two 250 foot ropes with a rating equal to or greater than 20 kilonewtons;

30 (L) eight pairs of snow shoes;

31 (M) eight pairs of trekking poles;

32 (N) four ice screws;

33 (O) eight pairs of slip-on boot traction devices;

34 (P) four pairs of crampons;

35 (Q) a patient litter such as a military type stokes basket or sked system; and

36 (R) two 800 MHz portable radios programed with the NC VIPER Radio System temlate.

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1 *History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-66; 166A-67; 166A-68;*
2 *Eff. January 1, 2023.*
3

1 14B NCAC 03 .0410 is adopted as published in 37:04 NCR 329 as follows:
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3 **14B NCAC 03 .0410 PROCEDURES FOR AUDITING CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAMS AND**
4 **SPECIALTY RESCUE TEAMS**

5 (a) Contract and specialty rescue teams shall be audited by the NC Division of Emergency Management no less than
6 every three years to ensure compliance with program requirements. Contract teams shall make the following available
7 for review:

- 8 (1) administrative records such as internal team plans and procedures, training records, personnel
9 records, equipment maintenance records, and any fiscal records pertaining to the contract or
10 specialty rescue team;
11 (2) equipment cache to include ensuring all required equipment is present, operational, and in a
12 deployment ready condition; and
13 (3) access to functional exercises that demonstrate the ability of the resource to muster, deploy, and
14 function in their specific functional area.

15 (b) An audit report shall be completed and filed to report any findings and recommendations of the audit team within
16 30 days of audit with a copy being sent to the sponsoring agency.

- 17 (1) The contract or specialty response team shall reply to any audit findings with a corrective action
18 plan within 30 days of receipt of audit report to the NC Division of Emergency Management.
19 (2) The contract or specialty response team shall address the issues of any audit findings prior to the
20 next audit. Any audit of a contract or specialty rescue team that finds the resource did not address a
21 finding from the most recent audit report shall be referred to the NC Search and Rescue Disciplinary
22 Committee.
23 (3) Any finding of malicious or willful misconduct, misrepresentation, or fraud shall be automatically
24 referred to the NC Search and Rescue Disciplinary Committee.

25 (c) The NC Search and Rescue Disciplinary Committee shall be appointed by the Director of the NC Division of
26 Emergency Management. The NC Search and Rescue Disciplinary Committee shall be a workgroup of the NC Search
27 and Rescue Technical Advisory Committee.

- 28 (1) The committee shall consist of:
29 (A) one representative of the NCEM Emergency Services Branch who shall serve as the chair;
30 (B) one representative from each of the NCEM Regional Branch Offices; and
31 (C) one representative from each program's technical advisory group.
32 (2) The committee shall conduct hearings to review reports of misconduct as well as any reported breach
33 of program requirements. Hearings conducted by the committee shall be informal and no party shall
34 be represented by legal counsel. The disciplinary committee shall determine:
35 (A) facts surrounding the incident in question;
36 (B) whether the facts of the incident violates the rules of the NC Search and Rescue Program;
37 and

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(C) the recommended sanction to be imposed up to and including dismissal of any individual or team on a temporary or permanent basis from the program.

(3) The committee shall prepare a final report of their findings for review and concurrence by the NCEM Operations Chief and the NCEM Director. The final decision on disciplinary action shall remain with the NCEM Director.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-66; 166A-67;
Eff. January 1, 2023.*