

EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN FLORIDA

STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The Florida State Emergency Response Team (SERT) is a coalition of state agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private sector partners led by the Florida Division of Emergency Management and is tasked with providing disaster assistance to the residents of the state of Florida. Within the SERT, the primary point of contact for private sector coordination is Emergency Support Function 18: Business, Industry, and Economic Stabilization (ESF 18), led by the Florida Department of Commerce. ESF 18 is the private sector's hub for emergency management information before, during, and after an emergency in Florida.

WAIVERS

State agencies in Florida may enact waivers of certain government functions following a Governor's Executive Order declaring a state of emergency. Examples of agency waivers include:

- Florida Department of Transportation - Size and weight restrictions for emergency support vehicles
- Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles – Hours of service restrictions for emergency support vehicles
- Florida Department of Health – Emergency prescription refills
- Florida Office of Attorney General – Prohibition on price gouging

Links to current state agency waivers will be available on our website, www.FloridaDisaster.biz.

RE-ENTRY TO DISASTER AREAS

In Florida, local elected officials and law enforcement officers will work together to determine when an area is safe enough for individuals to return.

Individuals and businesses seeking to provide essential commodities and services to impacted areas will be allowed re-entry by possessing and presenting to local officials:

- A valid government-issued ID, such as a driver's license or passport;
- Proof of employment, such as employer credentials, business card, or a letter on employer letterhead; and
- A demonstrated need to enter the area, such as a work order, inventory list, or employer authorization.

One of the primary goals of ESF 18 is the rapid restoration of local businesses and re-entry of essential personnel that provide goods and services to a community following a disaster.

ESF 18 CONTACT INFORMATION

When an emergency occurs in Florida, the Business Emergency Operations Center (BEOC) is activated alongside the SERT. The BEOC is available to respond to questions, concerns, and issues from businesses of all sizes. Visit www.FloridaDisaster.biz to sign up for emergency alerts and notifications.

Phone: 850-815-4925

Email: esf18@em.myflorida.com

FLORIDA'S EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

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- ESF 1 – Transportation
- ESF 2 – Communications
- ESF 3 – Public Works
- ESF 4 – Firefighting
- ESF 5 – Plans
- ESF 6 – Mass Care
- ESF 7 – Resource Management
- ESF 8 – Health & Medical
- ESF 9 – Search & Rescue
- ESF 10 – Environmental Protection
- ESF 11 – Food & Water
- ESF 12 – Energy
- ESF 13 – Military Support
- ESF 14 – External Affairs
- ESF 15 – Volunteers & Donations
- ESF 16 – Law Enforcement
- ESF 17 – Animals & Agriculture
- ESF 18 – Business & Industry
- ESF 19 – Fuels
- ESF 20 – Cybersecurity