

Master Acronym List for Victim Assistance Professionals

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Acronyms for Mass Violence Incidents: State and Local Levels

There are many acronyms that victim assistance, allied professionals, or anyone working with victims, survivors, or communities should be familiar with in all readiness, response, and resilience activities relevant to mass violence incidents.

Below are acronyms for state and local agencies and organizations and leaders; plans, policies, procedures and processes; laws; victim/survivor assistance and victims' rights; and terminology used in training and technical assistance initiatives.

A

AAR	After-Action Report
ADA	<i>Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990</i>
AEAP	Anti-Terrorism Emergency Assistance Program (USDOJ Office for Victims of Crime)
AG	Attorney General
AHJ	Authority Having Jurisdiction
AHRP	All Hazards Response Plan
AO	Area of Operations
AOR	Area of Responsibility
APHT	Applied Public Health Team
ARC	American Red Cross (state, regional and local chapters)
ARES	Amateur Radio Emergency Services
ARF	Action Request Form

B

BERT	Building Emergency Response Team
BH	Behavioral Health

C

CAP	Civil Air Patrol
CAR	Capability Assessment Report
CBO	Community-based Organization
CBRNE	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or Explosive
CBVS	Community-based Victim Services
CCRT	Coordinated Community Response Team
CEMP	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CEOC	County Emergency Operations Center
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CIP	Critical Infrastructure Protection
CIS	Community Impact Statement
CISD	Critical Incident Stress Debriefing
CJS	Criminal Justice System
CMT	Consequence Management Team
COG	Continuity of Government
CoM	Consequence Management
Comms	Communications
COMP	Crime Victim Compensation
CONOPS	Concept of Operations
COO	Chief Operating Officer
COOP	Continuity of Operations Plan
CP	Command Post
CPHU	County Public Health Unit
CrM	Crisis Management
CRT	Crisis Response Team (also called "Crisis Action Team")
CSI	Crime Scene Investigation
CST	Civil Support Team

D

DA	District Attorney (also called "Prosecutor")
DBH	Department of Behavioral Health
DBH	Disaster Behavioral Health
DECON	Decontamination (including Area/Process)
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DMA	Disaster Management Area
DMAT	Disaster Medical Assistance Team

DMH	Department of Mental Health
DMHS	Disaster Mental Health Services
DMHT	Disaster Mental Health Team
DMORT	Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team
DOH	Department of Health
DOT	Department of Transportation
DPMU	Disaster Portable Morgue Unit
DRG	Disaster Readiness Group
DSF	Disaster Staging Facility
DULL SWORD	Nuclear Safety Incident

E

EA	Emergency Assistance
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EBS	Emergency Broadcast System
ECC	Emergency Communications Center
ED	Emergency Department
EDIS	Emergency Digital Information System
EHR	Electronic Health Records
EHS	Extremely Hazardous Substance (environmental health and safety)
EM	Emergency Management
EMA	Emergency Medical Agency
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EMG	Emergency Management Group
EMIS	Emergency Management Information System
EMP	Emergency Management Program
EMS	Emergency Medical Services (or “System”)
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician
EO	Executive Order (from Governor or regional/county/city leadership)
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOD	Explosive Ordnance
EOF	Emergency Operations Facility
EOG	Executive Officer of the Governor
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan (also “Emergency Operating Procedures”)
EPI	Emergency Public Information
ER	Emergency Room
ERT-A	Emergency Response Team – Advance
ERT-N	Emergency Response Team – National
ESF	Emergency Support Function

F

FAC	Family Assistance Center
FADED GIANT	Nuclear reactor radiological incident/accident
FRF	Federal Response Framework

G

GAR	Governor's Authorized Representative
GIS	Geographic Information System

H

HA	Housing Assistance
HAN	Health Alert Network
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials
HCO	Healthcare Organization
HICS	Hospital Incident Command Center
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HM	Hazardous Mitigation
HRT	Hostage Rescue Team
HSEMA	Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency
HVA	Hazard Vulnerability Analysis

I

IAP	Incident Action Plan
IC	Incident Commander
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
ID	Identification
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IEMA	Integrated Emergency Management System
IMPT	Incident Management Planning Team
IMS	Incident Management System
IMT	Incident Management Team
IRCT	Incident Response Coordination Team
IT	Information Technology

J

JEOC	Joint Emergency Operations Center
JFO	Joint Field Office
JIC	Joint Information Center
JOC	Joint Operations Center

K

KSA	Knowledge, Skills and Abilities
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L

LA	Legal Aid (also called “Legal Assistance”)
LAN	Local Area Network
LEA	Law Enforcement Agency
LEMARS	Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Radio System
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
LFA	Lead Federal Agency
LHA	Local Health Authority
LHMO	Local Hazard Mitigation Officer
LOGS	Logistics

M

MA	Mission Assignment
MAA	Mutual Aid Agreement
MACC	Multi-Agency Coordination Center
MACS	Multi-Agency Coordination System
MCI	Multiple Casualty Incident (also called “Mass Casualty Incident”)
ME	Medical Examiner
MERL	Mobile Emergency Radiological Laboratory
MERS	Mobile Emergency Response System
MFC	Multi-Faith Community
MH	Mental Health
MHRT	Mental Health Response Team (also called “Mental Health Team”)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding (also called “Memorandum of Agreement”)
MRC	Medical Reserve Corp
MSCC	Medical Surge Capacity and Capability

MSU Medical Support Unit
MVI Mass Violence Incident

N

NA Needs Assessment (also called "Victim or Client Needs Assessment")
NBC Nuclear, Biological, Chemical
NG National Guard
NGO Non-Governmental Organization (also called "Non-profit Organization")

O

OCTO Office of Chief Technology Officer
OEM Office of Emergency Management (state/regional/local)
OEP Office of Emergency Preparedness
OME Office of the Medical Examiner
OPCOM Operational Command
OPDIV Operating Division
OSC On-Scene Commander

P

PA Public Assistance/Public Affairs/Public Address System
PCL Position Checklist
PD Police Department (usually preceded by *name of police department*)
PFA Psychological First Aid
PH Public Health
PI Public Information
PIO Public Information Officer
POC Point of Contact
POD Point of Distribution
PPE Personal Protective Equipment
PSA Public Service Announcement
PSN People with Special Needs
PTSD Post-traumatic Stress Disorder

R

RACES Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services
RC Response Center (also called "Reception Center," "Reunification Center," or "Recovery Center")
RDF Rapid Deployment Force

REC	Regional Emergency Coordinator
RHA	Regional Health Administrator
RP	Response Plan
ResC	Resiliency Center
RoP	Return of Property
RRCC	Regional Response Coordination Center

S

S&R	Search and Rescue
SART	State Animal Response Team
SBVS	System-based Victim Services
SEMS	Standardized Emergency Management System
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SHMART	State Hazard Mitigation and Recovery Team
SITREP	Situation Report
SLA	State and Local Assistance
SM	Social Media
SMART	Strategic Metropolitan Assistance and Recovery Teams
SME	Subject Matter Expert
SMHA	State Mental Health Authority
SO	Safety Officer
SOC	State Operations Center
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SOU	Statement of Understanding
SP	Service Provider
SPA	Service Provider Area
SPR	Skills for Psychological Recovery
STARC	State Area Command
SUA	Shared Use Agreement

T

TRANSCAER	Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response
TSA	Trauma Service Area

U

UC	Unified Command
UCC	Unified Command Center
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue

V

VAL	Volunteer Agency Liaison
VAP	Victim Assistance Professional (also called “Victim Advocate”)
VIP	Victim Identification Profile
VIS	Victim Impact Statement
VMAT	Veterinary Medical Assistance Team
VN	Victim Notification
VOAD	Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
VOAD	Volunteer Organizations & Donations
VOCA	<i>Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)</i> (provides funding for victim/survivor assistance)
VOLAGS	Voluntary Agencies
VS	Victim/Survivor Services
VT	Vicarious Trauma (also referred to as “Secondary Trauma Stress”)

National Nongovernmental Organizations

ARC	American Red Cross
CHEMTREC	Chemical Transportation Emergency Center
IACP	International Association of Chiefs of Police
IAFF	International Association of Fire Fighters
NAAG	National Association of Attorneys General
NACVCB	National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards
NAVAA	National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators
NCVC	National Center for Victims of Crime
NCF	National Compassion Fund (NCVC)
NGA	National Governors Association
NMVVRC	National Mass Violence Victimization Resource Center
NEMA	National Emergency Management Association
NOVA	National Organization for Victim Assistance
NSA	National Sheriffs Association
SA	Salvation Army
USCM	U.S. Conference of Mayors
VOAD	Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
VOLAGS	Voluntary Agencies

Federal Agencies and Relevant Laws

Many Federal agencies have substantial roles in providing leadership and support in all readiness, response and resilience efforts related to mass violence incidents (MVIs) and many national nongovernmental organizations also coordinate crisis response efforts following a MVI. This list features acronyms for federal agencies, federal leadership for MVI responses, relevant federal laws, and policies and procedures.

A

ADA	<i>Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990</i>
ACF	Administration for Children and Families (HHS)
AoA	Administration on Aging (HHS)
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (HHS)
AG	Attorney General (USDOJ)
AEAP	Anti-terrorism Emergency Assistance Program (OVC)
AFRCC	Air Force Rescue Coordination Center
ANG	Air National Guard
ARNG	Army National Guard
ATF	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (USDOJ)
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (HHS)

B

BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs (DOI)
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C

CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CEPPO	Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (EPA)
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team (FEMA)
CG	Coast Guard
CMHS	Center for Mental Health Services
CVRA	<i>Crime Victims' Rights Act (Federal)</i>

D

DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration (USDOJ)
DDH	Disaster Distress Helpline (HHS)
DOC	Department of Commerce)
DoD	Department of Defense
DOE	Department of Energy
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DOI	Department of the Interior
DOJ	Department of Justice
DOL	Department of Labor
DOT	Department of Transportation

DSCA Defense Support to Civil Authority

E

EADB Emergency Authorities Database (DoD)

ED Department of Education

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

F

FAA Federal Aviation Administration

FasT Federal Assessment Team

FCC Federal Communications Commission

FBI Federal Bureau of Investigation (USDOJ)

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS)

FERT Federal Emergency Response Team

FDA Food and Drug Administration

FMHO Federal Hazard Mitigation Officer

FNARS Federal National Radio System

FRERP Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan

FRMAC Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center (DOE)

FRP Federal Response Framework

G

GMS Grants Management System (across all Federal agencies)

GSA General Services Administration

H

HHS Health and Human Services

HIPAA *Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act*

HSEEP Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program

HSPO Homeland Security Presidential Directive

HUD Department of Housing and Urban Development

I

ICE Immigration and Customs Enforcement

IHS Indian Health Service

L

LFA Lead Federal Agency

M

MACDIS Military Assistance for Civil Disturbances (DoD)

N

NAWAS National Warning System (FEMA)
NDMS National Disaster Medical System (DoD, HHS, DHS & VA)
NECC National Emergency Coordination Center (FEMA)
NG National Guard
NIH National Institutes of Health
NIMS National Incident Management System (FEMA)
NIIMS National Interagency Incident Management System
NIOSH National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (CDC)
NIPP National Infrastructure Protection Plan (DHS)
NIC National Integration Center (NIMS/FEMA)
NJTTF National Joint Terrorism Task Force (FBI)
NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (DOC)
NOC National Operations Center
NRCC National Response Coordination Center (FEMA)
NRP National Response Plan (also called "National Response Framework")
NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

O

OSHA Occupational Health and Safety Administration (DOL)
OVC Office for Victims of Crime (USDOJ)
OVW Office on Violence Against Women (USDOJ)
OVCTTAC OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center

P

PHMSA Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (DOT)
PFO Principal Federal Officer

R

RRCC Regional Response Coordination Center (FEMA)
RRT Radiological Response Team

S

SNS Strategic National Stockpile
SAMHSA Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (HHS)

T

TOPOFF Top Officials

U

USA U.S. Attorney
USAO U.S. Attorney's Office
USDA United States Department of Agriculture
USDOJ U.S. Department of Justice (also "DOJ")
USPHS U.S. Public Health Service (HHS)

V

VA Department of Veterans Affairs
VNS (Federal) Victim Notification System (USDOJ)
VRC U.S. Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus
VOCA *Victims of Crime Act* (provides funding for victim/survivor assistance) (OVC)