



Developing Community Wide Drills

2005 ERCM Grantee Meeting: *Atlanta, Georgia*



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OHS-GEMA School Safety Unit Services

- **Training:**
 - Weapons Screening/Bus Security and Safety
 - Bomb Threat Management/Drug Trends
 - Internet Safety/Gangs/Bullying/Terrorism
- **Technical Assistance**
 - Site Surveys/EOP Evaluations/Exercises
- **Incident Response and Support**



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Why Conduct Community Drills?

- **Good Opportunity to Coordinate with other Local, State and Federal Agencies**
- **Demonstrates Desire for Strong Community Emergency Planning and Preparedness**
- **Reveals Strengths and Weaknesses in Planning and Operations for all Agencies Involved**

Many Emergency Management Agencies and Other Accredited Public Safety Agencies Must Conduct Community Exercises on a Yearly Basis.



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“Fear Management”



Alarmist

Complacency

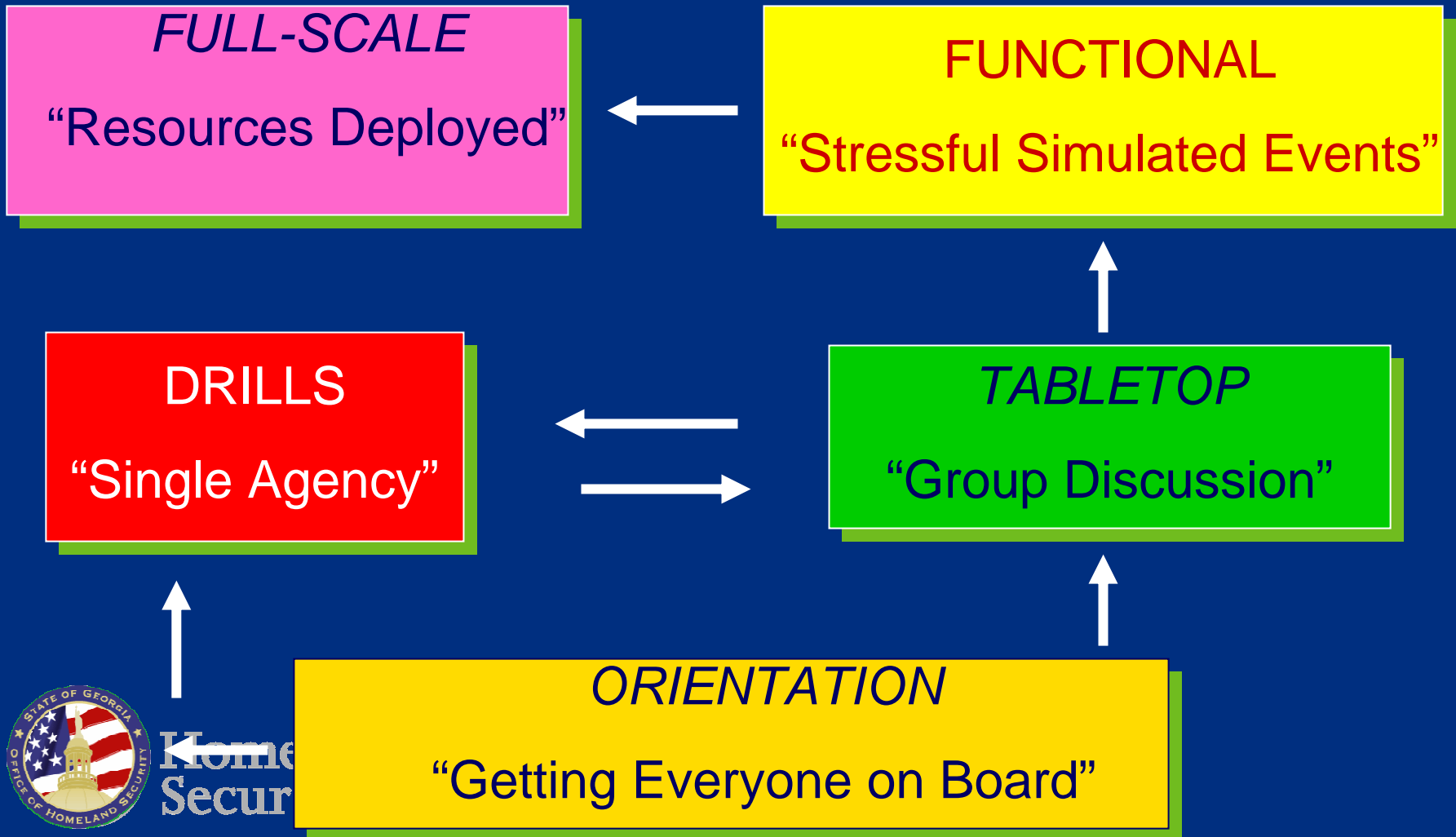
We Should be Here

Proactive Liability Management



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Review of Exercise Types



Sample Community Drill: Columbia County, Georgia

To view the movie, click [Sample Exercise](http://www.ercm.org/views/documents/HazMatExercise.mpg)
at <http://www.ercm.org/views/documents/HazMatExercise.mpg>



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Who Can Assist with this Task?

- **Local Emergency Management Agency**
 - Local Public Safety Agencies
 - LEPC Coordination
 - State and Local Homeland Security

A Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is a committee that is comprised of members from government, industry and elected officials who are involved in emergency planning activities in a community.



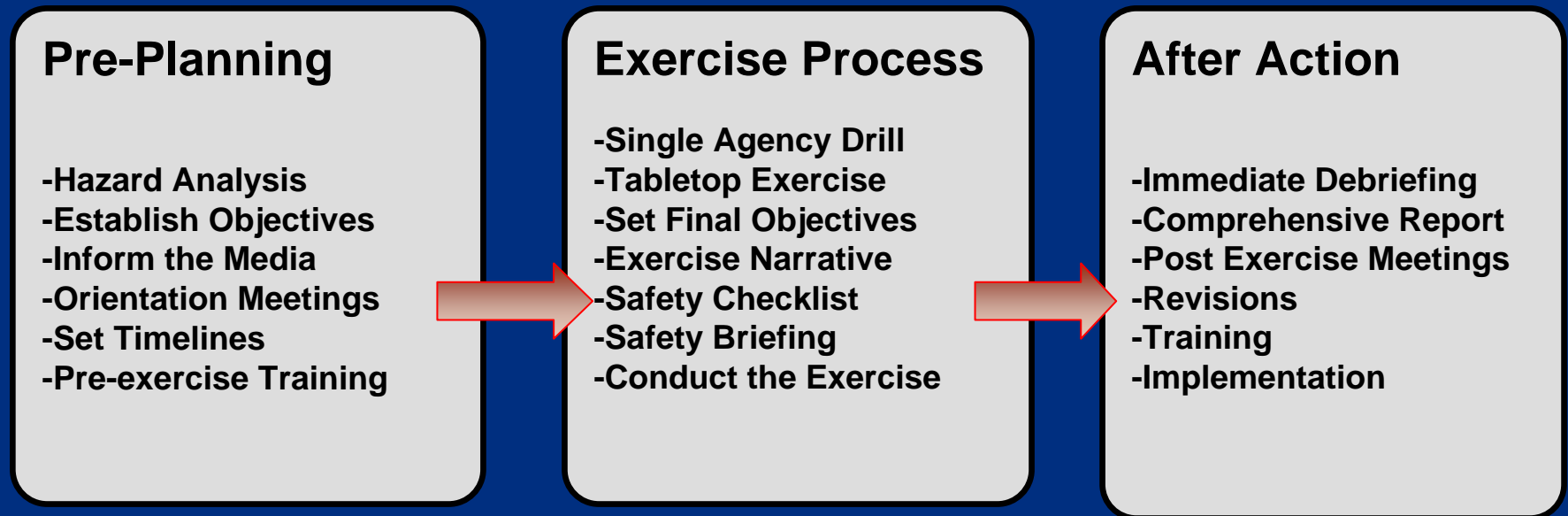
Who Should be Included in this Process?

- **Law Enforcement (Police, Sheriff, DNR, State, Military Police, Tribal)**
- **Fire Agencies (City, County, Correctional Facility)**
- **Emergency Management**
- **Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Air Medical Units**
- **911 Dispatch**
- **Hospitals**
- **Public Health**
- **Volunteer Agencies (Red Cross, Salvation Army)**
- **Local Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)**
- **Media, Parents, Student Drama Club, College or University students**



Developing a Community Wide Drill:

Steps for Success



Developing a community wide exercise normally evolves over a 4-month to 12-month period if conducted properly.



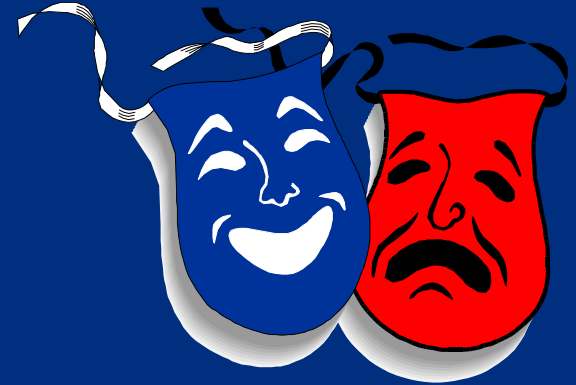
Exercise Pre-Planning

- **Conduct a site survey of facilities and survey staff and/or students to capture their concerns.**
- **Initiate pre-exercise meetings.**
- **Establish scenario, goals and objectives (single agency and overall).**
- **Choose the site or sites where exercise activities will occur.**
- **Establish timelines for pre-exercise activities, meetings, tabletop and full-scale exercise.**
- **Orient and train the staff (exercise process and the EOP).**
- **Establish Controllers, Evaluators, Safety Officer and Players.**



Exercise Terminology

- **Controller-Need 2**
- **Director-Victims/Bad Guys**
- **Evaluators-Agency, ICS and Overall**
- **Safety Officer-Overall Exercise Safety**
- **Observers-Not Involved**
- **Participants or Players**



Threat/Hazard Analysis

What should you *prepare for*?

What are your school or community *vulnerabilities or Hazards*?

What are several of your *past threats*?

Which *functions* need to be tested in the plan?

Which *school or schools* should participate?



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Sample Contemporary Scenarios

- Active Shooter
- Bomb Threat or Explosion
- Shelter in Place
- Suspicious Item
- Bus Incident
- After School Incident



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Focus: ICS and NIMS

Exercise Process

- Each Agency Involved may want to Pre-Drill
- A Tabletop Should Always be Conducted
- Develop an Exercise Narrative (Script)
- Establish Safety Measures
- Exercise Perimeter Security
- Safety Briefing prior to Initiation
- Conduct a Player/Participant Briefing



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Exercise Safety Procedures

- **Conduct a Safety Briefing**
- **Establish a Code Word to Cease the Exercise**
- **Have “Non-Players” Identified**
- **Establish a Check in Area**
- **Mark Observer/Evaluator Areas**
- **Vests for Observer/Evaluators**
- **Cleared Weapons Identifier**
- **Utilize “Exercise in Progress” Signs**
- **Radios for Exercise Control Team**
- **Provide the Media with Information**



Exercise Props and Special Effects

- Moulage
- Realism-Creating Chaos
- Old Clothes-Injuries
- Contamination-Smoke
- Blanks/Paintball/Air Soft
- Explosions
- Surprise Element
- Parents/Media/Federal Agencies



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Sample Best Practice:

Mock Media Interview

Conduct a mock media interview at the conclusion of the exercise to test the ability of your Incident Commanders, Public Information Officers and School Media Representatives to conduct a media interview during a “live” briefing about the incident.



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The After Action Process

- **Immediate Debriefing**
- **Evaluator and Participant Comments**
- **Written Comments from Evaluators**
- **Comprehensive Report**
- **After Action Meeting (Weeks Later)**
- **Improvement Ideas and Implementation**
- **Training**



Universal Challenges

- **Notification**
- **Communication**
- **Roles and Responsibilities**
- **Training**
- **Safety**



Remember: Teamwork Always Works Best!



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For More Information

- OHS-GEMA Exercise Development Guide:
www.ohs.state.ga.us
- Emergency Management Institute (FEMA) Online Training:
<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/> (IS-120)
- *Copy of Video: Columbia County Disaster Exercise:*
ptucker@columbiacountyga.gov
- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP):
<http://www.hseep.dhs.gov/>





Questions or Comments?



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Thank You!

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