



TX-NENA Members and Coastal Bend Agencies,

The Telecommunicator Emergency Response Taskforce (TERT) is available to deploy into disaster areas. If Hurricane Ike affects your agency, you can request assistance.

Earlier this morning I was engaged in assessing TERT readiness at the national level, and now it is time to focus on our capabilities here in Texas as Ike threatens our coastline.

The national EMAC Coordinator is fully aware of the TERT program and our capabilities. TERT is available nationally through EMAC—Mission Resource Category #39, so we have crossed several major hurdles since Katrina,

While we have not officially been put on alert for deployment, it would be useful to know how many (if any) trained TERT team members (Basic Awareness Training at a minimum) your agency might reasonably be prepared to deploy in a first wave. Please do not volunteer anyone who has not completed the Basic Training course.

Though Texas has not begun training for the new TERT Team Leader course (just released), we would attempt to identify individuals to serve as Team Leaders if they have the following qualifications:

Basic TERT Awareness Course, plus

ICS-800, ICS-200, EMD certified, and preferred requirements include having experience as a supervisor/manager of 911 telecommunicators and having been deployed to a disaster area.

Also, please do not over-estimate the number of personnel you could reasonably contribute for a two-week absence from your center. We need to be realistic, and we are making the same inquiry to all of the other states that have TERT programs in place.

Please have potential team members review their Awareness course material as to the supplies list.

I would appreciate hearing back from each of you as soon as possible.

For agencies who responded with TERT Trained volunteers for Gustav who can remain on the current deployment list I have your information.

Thank you and please forward to your PSAP's. Attached is a list of TX-TERT qualified dispatchers. In addition, remember there are qualified TERT Teams from out of state who are ready to assist us as well.

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