

Incident Response Training

North Central Texas Council of Governments
Incident Response Training

**Part 1 –
Incident Response – The Big Picture**



Agenda



1. Incident, Incident Response and Life Cycle
2. NIMS Overview and Incident Command System (ICS)
3. Incident Response, ICS and Escalations
4. Incident Response Preparation and Administration
5. IR Roles and Responsibilities
6. Testing and Training



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What is an Incident?

An incident is . . .

. . . an occurrence, caused by either human or natural phenomena, that requires response actions to prevent or minimize loss of life, or damage to property and/or the environment.

A Cyber Security incident is . . .

. . . an adverse event (or threat of an adverse event) in a computer system in the following general categories:

- Compromise of Confidentiality
- Compromise of Integrity
- Denial of Resources
- Intrusions
- Misuse
- Damage
- Hoaxes

Preparation matters: Hint - The key word in an incident plan is not 'incident'; preparation is everything.

Incident Management Life Cycle

Incident response (IR) is the effort to quickly identify an attack, minimize its effects, contain damage, and remediate the cause to reduce the risk of future incidents.

Plan, Prepare, Manage, Mitigate and Remediate

- **Plan** – Have a plan and test it
- **Prepare** – Create a CIRT and practice scenarios
- **Manage** – Have a program for managing an incident
- **Mitigate** – Plans of Action to mitigate common scenarios
- **Remediate** – Action plan for addressing gaps and issues



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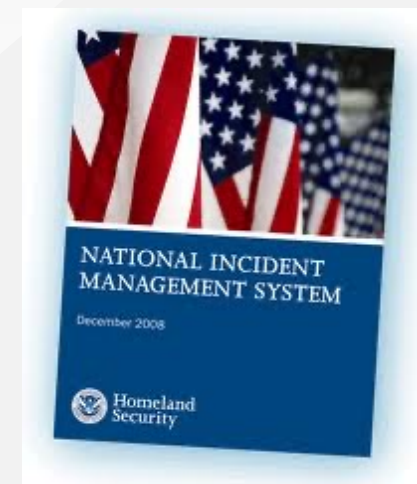
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National Incident Management System - NIMS Overview

- **What ? . . .** NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template . . .
- **Who? . . .** to enable Federal, State, tribal, and local governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together . . .
- **How? . . .** to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity . . .
- **Why? . . .** in order to reduce the loss of life and property, and harm to the environment.





NIMS: What it is and What it is not

NIMS Is...

- Comprehensive, nationwide, systematic approach to incident management
- Set of preparedness concepts and principles for all hazards
- Essential principles for a common operating picture and interoperability of communications and information management
- Standardized resource management procedures for coordination among different jurisdictions/ organizations
- Scalable and applicable for all incidents

NIMS Is Not...

- A response plan
- A communication plan
- Something that is used only during large incidents
- Only applicable to certain emergency responders
- Only the Incident Command System or an organizational chart
- A static system



NIMS Components

Preparedness

Communications and Information Management

Resource Management

Command and Management

Ongoing Management and Maintenance

Incident Command System

Multiagency Coordination Systems

Public Information



Incident Command System (ICS) and its usage

What is ICS:

- Is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazards incident management concept.
- Enables a coordinated response among various jurisdictions and agencies.
- Establishes common processes for planning and management of resources.
- Allows for integration within a common organizational structure.

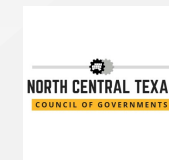
When Is ICS Used?

ICS can be used to manage:

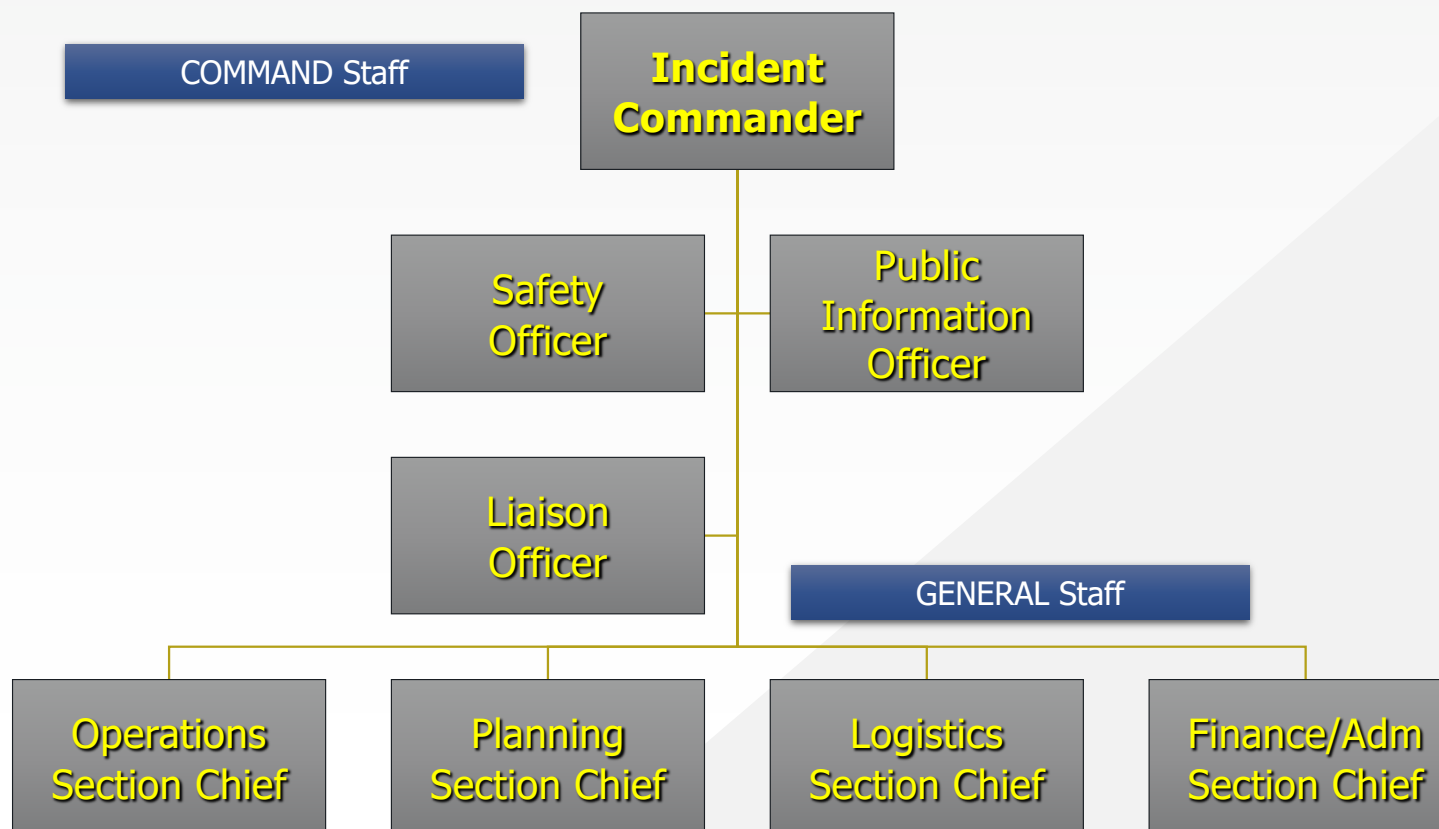
- Natural hazards
- Technological hazards
- Human-caused hazards
- Planned events

Without ICS, incident responses typically:

- Lack accountability
- Have poor communications
- Use unsystematic planning processes
- Are unable to efficiently integrate responders



ICS Command and General Staff



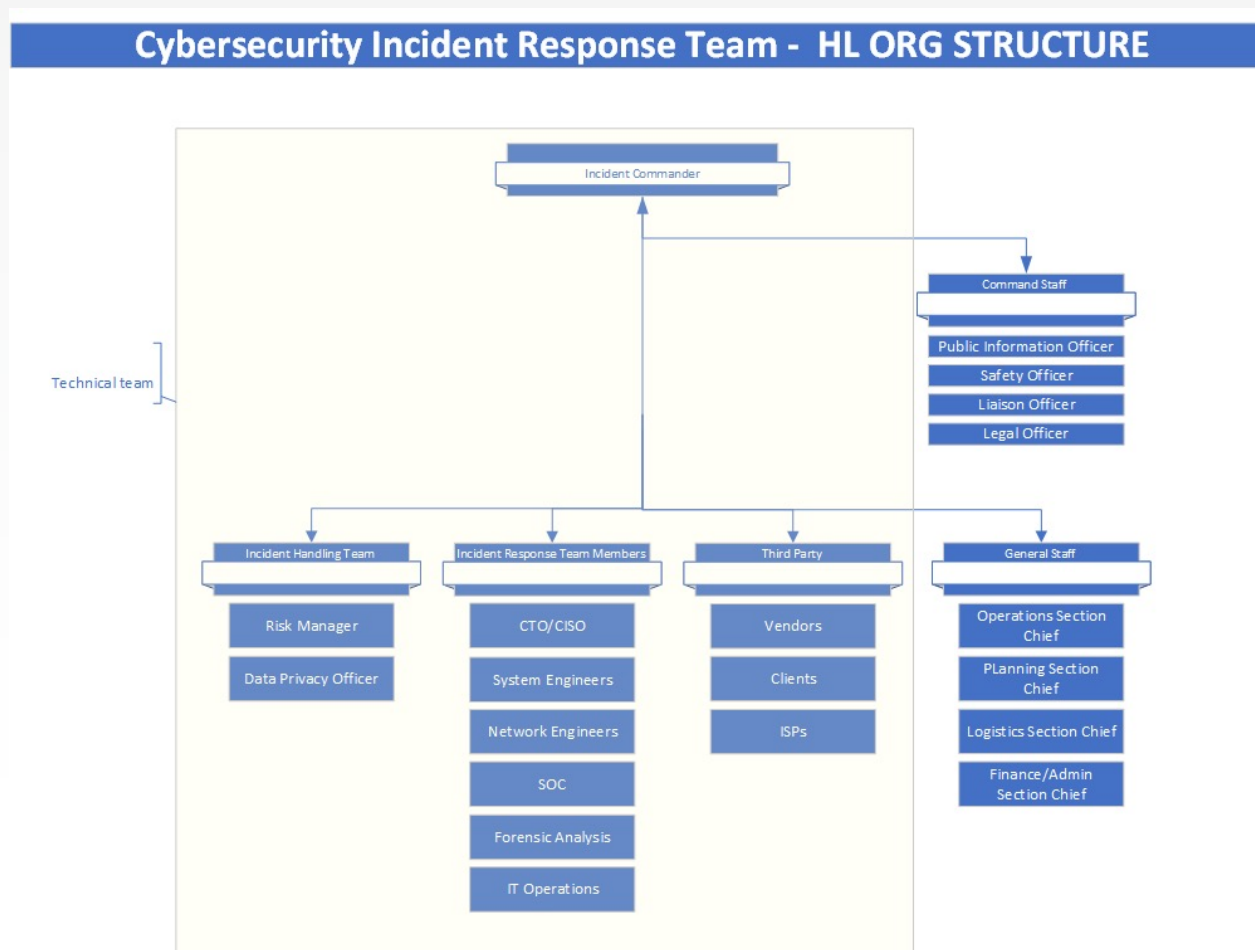
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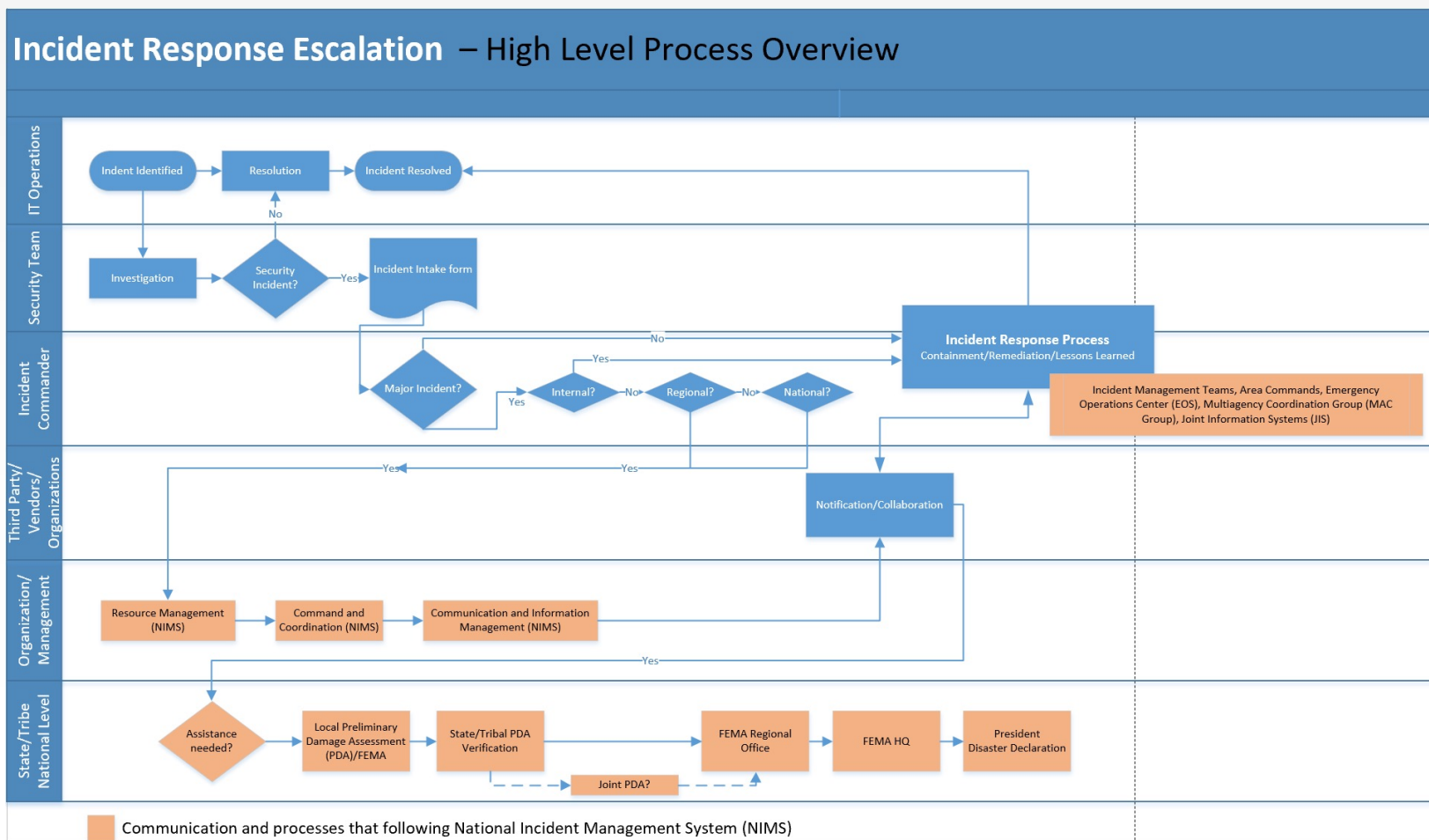
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Incident Response and ICS Command



Incident Response Escalations



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Incident Response Preparation

Effective incident management requires preparation which includes:

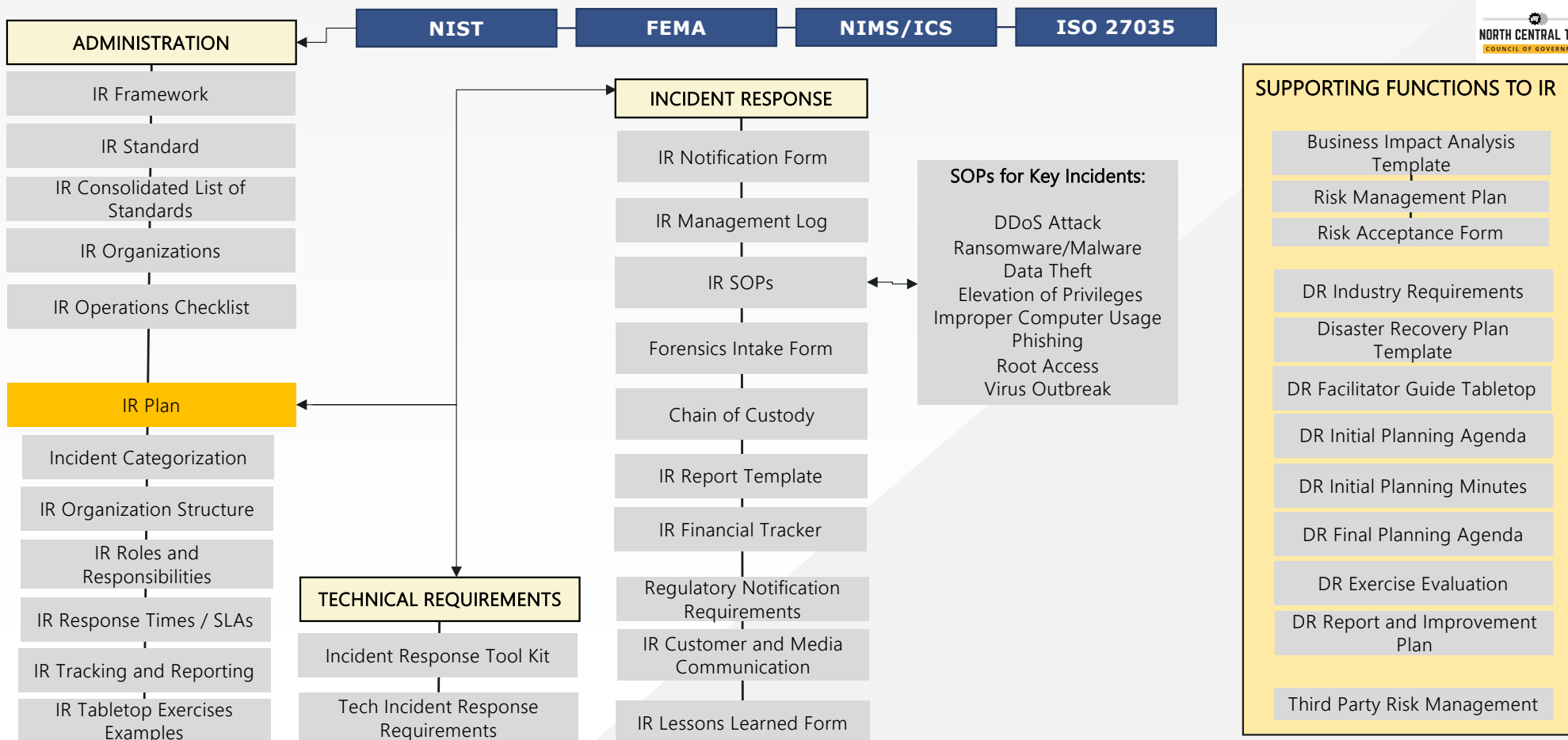
- Planning, training, and exercises
- Personnel qualification and certification standards
- Equipment acquisition and certification standards
- Publication management processes and activities
- Mutual Aid Agreements/Emergency Management Assistance Compacts



NIMS Note:

- Preparedness is the responsibility of individual jurisdictions
- NIMS provides tools to help ensure and enhance preparedness

IR Aligned with Standards



Incident Response Administration



IR Framework

- Importance of Incident Response
- Incident Response Life Cycle
- Coordination and Information Sharing (internal and external)

IR Standard

- Aids organizations/units/locations to create IR Plans
 - Notifications
 - Assessments
 - Incident Management

IR Consolidated List of Standards

- Official websites related to IR standards, best practices and guidelines

IR Organizations

- List of various IR organizations that support or provide guidance for IR

IR Organization Structure

- Positions and structure within an IR Team

IR Operations Check list

- Checklist to validate key areas of IR are addressed and in place

The Incident Response Plan



An incident response plan:

- Is the most important document in Incident Response
- Defines the mission
- Outlines procedures, steps, and responsibilities
- Defines the approach to incident response and activities required in each phase of incident response
- Assigns roles and responsibilities for completing
- Maintains a contact and escalation list (internal and external)

May include several documents:

- **Organization, Roles and Responsibilities**
- **IR Table-Top Exercises**
- Incident Categorization
- IR Reponses Times and SLAs
- Contact lists

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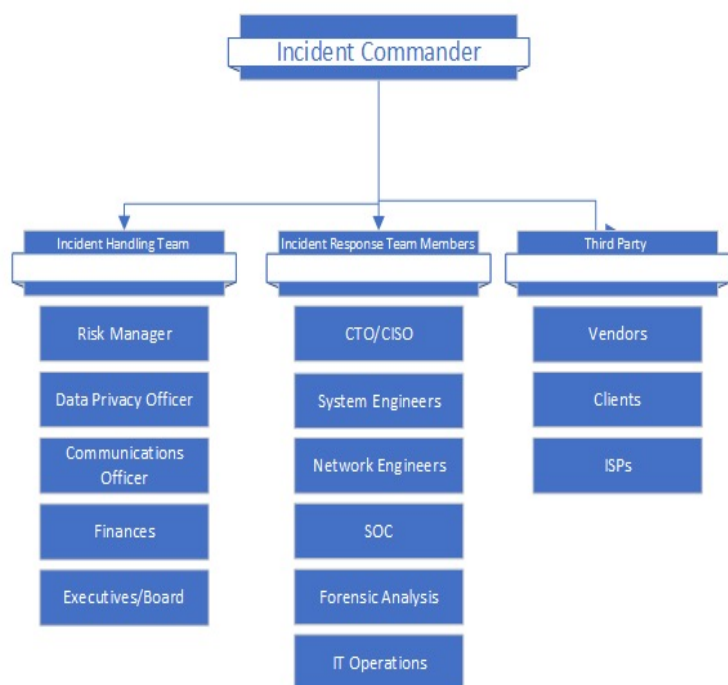


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Key Components: Resources

Cybersecurity Incident Response Team - HL ORG STRUCTURE



- Cross Functional Team
- Organized and Coordinated
- Various Skills
- Usually responds only to major incidents
 - minor incidents are part of normal operations



Microsoft Word
Document

Key Components: Roles and Responsibilities

Incident Commander

- Responsible for declaring a cyber security incident and managing team response activities
- Oversees and prioritizes actions
- Aligns and collaborates with other agencies/teams

Chief Security Information/Technology Officer (CISO/CIO/CTO)

- Coordinate response activities with auxiliary departments and external resources
- Review the Plan to ensure that it meets objectives

Cybersecurity Incident Response Team (CIRT)

- Assist in incident response e.g., review logs, analyze network traffic
- Monitor business applications
- Collect pertinent information

Incident Handling Team

- Collecting and recording incident cost
- Overseeing the maintenance of accurate, complete, up-to-date incident files
- Maintaining Incident Log and documentation
- Responsible to communicate with public and clients
- Responsible for recording key information about the incident and its response effort
- Providing context and updates to the incident team, notifying additional subject matter experts

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Key Components: Testing and Training

Tabletop Exercise – What?

- Effective way to evaluate your incident response plans through practice using example incidents/scenarios
- Choose (most relevant) and address various scenarios
- Test validate processes to be used following and emergency event
- IR Team familiarity and advance collaboration - Incident Commander (IC), Cybersecurity Incident Response Team (CIRT), Incident Handling Team (IHT), Human Resources function, and Business Continuity Members



Key Components: Testing and Training

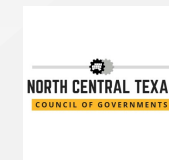
Tabletop Exercise – Why?

Reduce time to restore business operations in the event of a breach

- Help your people understand their roles and responsibilities
- Develop a better understanding of breaches and how to deal with, even prevent them
- Cost-effective way of ramping up your security defenses
- Assess and promote communication and collaboration within teams and departments, identify gaps
- List out the strengths and weaknesses of the IR processes, improve the processes
- Identify any training gaps
- Potentially Identify loopholes or defects in the Plan
- Regulatory requirement: mandatory for critical national infrastructure and banking

Questions?





Where to find documents and information?

www.stealth-iss.com

The screenshot shows the website for the North Central Texas Council of Governments. The header includes the organization's name, a navigation menu with categories like Agency Administration, Aging Services, Economic Development, Emergency Preparedness, Environment & Development, Executive Director, NCT 9-1-1, Public Safety, Regional Data, Workforce Solutions, and Transportation. There are also search filters for 'I WANT TO...', 'I'M LOOKING FOR...', and 'I NEED TO CONTACT...'. A search bar is present below the navigation. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: Home > Emergency Preparedness > Resources > Cyber Security Incident Response Planning System. The title 'Cyber Security Incident Response Planning System' is prominently displayed. Below the title, the workshop date is listed as December 14, 2021. The workshop schedule is as follows:

- 9:00 - 9:20 - Introduction
- 9:20 - 10:15 - Incident Response - The Big Picture
- 10:30 - 11:30 - "The Plan", in detail
- 11:45 - 12:45 - Communication & Reporting
- Lunch Break
- 1:30 - 2:30 - Risk Management & Disaster Recovery
- 2:45 - 4:00 - Tabletop Exercise

To the right of the text is an image of a computer screen displaying a 'System HACKED' warning with a yellow triangle and exclamation mark, set against a background of blue code and data visualizations.

<https://nctcog.org/ep/resources/cyber-security-incident-response-planning-system>

THANK YOU

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