




FEMA

US&R GENERAL MEMORANDUM – 2019-009

February 8, 2019

FOR: National Urban Search & Rescue Response System
Task Force Representatives and Program Managers

FROM: Buddy Ey, Chief 
Finance/Admin Section
Urban Search and Rescue Branch

SUBJECT: US&R General Memorandum 2019–009 – FEMA US&R After Action Review
and Improvement Planning Guidance

In 2014, following response to the Oso, Washington Mudslide, the National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System (the System) established an After Action Ad Hoc Group. One of the Ad Hoc Group's task was to develop a formal After-Action Report (AAR) process for the System to more effectively capture lessons learned during responses. As a result, the Ad Hoc Group developed and recommended adoption and implementation of the *FEMA US&R After Action and Improvement Planning Guidance*. The process established by the Ad Hoc Group has been utilized for System AARs for incidents that have occurred since 2014, however the process has never been formalized.

Following discussion and consensus of the Advisory Group during the December 2018 meetings, the *FEMA US&R After Action and Improvement Planning Guidance* process established by the 2014 After Action Ad Hoc Group will become the official process for System AARs. All documents developed by the Ad Hoc Group will be posted to the responsesystem.org website, to ensure that System task forces have access to these materials. The process developed by the Ad Hoc Group will be utilized for all future System AARs and System task forces may use the resources for their task force AARs if desired. As the materials are already four years old, when it is established the 2018 AAR Ad Hoc Group will have the additional task to review and revise them as required.

Any questions regarding this General Memorandum should be directed to Buddy Ey at buddy.ey@fema.dhs.gov or (202) 702-8854; Marty Nevil at NevilMR@patfl.org or (717) 554-7312; or Kevin Fetterman at kevinfetterman@ocfa.org or (714) 719-1462.

cc:

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