



# Virginia Task Force 2

## Urban Search and Rescue

Administrative Manual

1.13 Family Support  
For Deployments  
March 2019

## Family Support for Deployments

### **ISSUE STATEMENT**

The leadership of VA-TF2 recognizes the importance of maintaining a clear line of communications between team members and family members during a deployment. Depending on the event, normal means of communications may be limited and/or information may not be readily available on the location of the team especially for safety and security purposes. In an effort to keep family members informed and to provide assistance in times of need when loved ones are deployed, the following policy has been developed to:

- Recognize that VA-TF2 leadership will provide family Support Services for team members while on deployment.
- Identify the available resources to obtain information about task force members while away from home.
- Establish a point of contact for family members to call in the event family support or assistance is needed.

### **REQUIRED ACTIONS**

- When the Task Force, IST team member(s) or any member of VA-TF2 is placed in Alert status or activated the Process Officer shall locate and assign the responsibilities of the Family Communications Officer in coordination with the Task Force Leader.
- The assigned Family Communications Officer shall initiate their duties and responsibilities as outlines in the VA-TF2 Mobilization Manual
- The Liaison Officer in conjunction with the Family Communications Officer shall maintain communications with the senior Task Force Leader to obtain situational reports on the team. Daily reports shall be scheduled, prepared and communicated on the VA-TF2 website at [www.vatf2.com](http://www.vatf2.com). ( Family Support Services Log-On) and the VA-TF2 Facebook page.
- Task Force members on the roster to deploy will provide the Family Communications Officer at least one family point of contact prior to their departure. This will insure contact can be made in the event an emergency. Members shall be briefed on available Family Services and contacts prior to departure.
- The Participating Agencies will provide one point of contact so the Family Communications Officer can disseminate information to their Agency.
- Family service needs shall be coordinated through the Family Communications Officer to insure all needs are addressed.