

Chapter I Organization & Authority

Chapter I Organization & Authority

Under Chapter 24 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, the Division of Emergency Management, is the state agency responsible for coordinating preparedness for, response to, recovery of, and reduction of the vulnerability of people and communities of this state during disasters. The Division of Emergency Management operates under the direction of the Governor who "is responsible for meeting the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters." (CRS 24-32-2104). Each political subdivision within the state is responsible for disaster preparedness and coordination of response to local disasters. In those jurisdictions having Building Inspection Departments, the Department provides support to the local coordinator of emergency preparedness. In jurisdictions not having a Building Inspection Department, the local authority shall designate a coordinator to perform those Building Department related functions. Each local Building Department should designate an individual to serve as its coordinator. This person should be responsible for all record keeping carried out under this plan, for maintaining a local duty roster, for coordinating the Building Department's disaster response with the local emergency management office, and for ensuring that the standards of the codes are being enforced.

See Chapter II for qualified immunity legislation for damage assessment response personnel.

If requested by the Division of Emergency Management, the Chapter will provide disaster assessment team(s) for a given disaster in jurisdictions that have not previously adopted a model building code. The extent of damage assessments will be limited to MINIMUM life safety standards for damaged structures.