Title	Evacuation/Shelter in Place SOG
Scope	El Cerrito/Kensington Fire
Purpose	This document is intended to establish basic Standard Operating Guidelines and procedures for evacuation warnings, evacuation orders, avoid the area, shelter in place, lockdown for law enforcement activity, and Hazmat releases.
Version	1.0
Date published	11/01//2023
Date in effect	11/01/2023
Date of last update	11/01/2023

## 1. References

- 1. Contra County Community Warning System (CWS)
- 2. Cal OES Emergency Support Function 13 Law Enforcement
  - ESF-13 helps maintain situational awareness, manage evacuation procedures, and ensure the safety and security of residents and communities throughout California during crises.
- 3. Cal OES Emergency Support Function 4 Fire Department
- 4. Cal Penal Code 409.5 (c)
  - Any unauthorized person who willfully and knowingly enters an area closed pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) and who willfully remains within the area after receiving notice to evacuate or leave shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

## 2. Definitions

- 1. Avoid the area
  - An alert to avoid the area due to heavy law enforcement/EMS/ or fire activity with potential road closures and specific directions for individuals who elect to visit the scene.

## 2. Evacuation warning

- An evacuation warning means an impending danger to your life or property. If a warning is given, assume an evacuation order will follow. It is a time to start gathering important items for your family and pets. Individuals needing extra time to evacuate, or anyone with large animals, should pack up and leave when a warning is issued.
- 3. Evacuation orders

- An evacuation order means there's an immediate threat to your life, and you need to leave right now! It's critical to follow all directions from law enforcement to ensure you and your family evacuate safely.
- 4. Lockdown for law enforcement activity
  - An order is issued due to the condition where a particular human threat exists, and buildings need to have exterior doors/entrances locked to prevent an unauthorized person or persons from entering the building.
- 5. Hazmat releases
  - Chemical, biological, or radiological contaminants are released into the environment.
- 6. Nixle
  - Software used by law enforcement to provide information. Nixle enables real-time, two-way communication through text, email, voice messages, social media, and the Nixle mobile app.
    Organizations use Nixle for critical situations such as Severe Weather Events, Evacuations, Safety Hazards, and Security Threats.
- 7. Shelter in place
  - Describes a condition where the recommended action is for all people in a building to stay in or seek a room/area that can be locked or secured. If a threat is from a person or persons during the shelter-in-place recommendation, the most secure room or area should be used. If the threat is from a weather condition, interior rooms or spaces are recommended, avoiding exterior windows or glass walls, if possible. If a room or space is chosen during a shelter-in-place, and the room cannot be locked, consider furniture or other items that can be used to discourage or prevent access to the room.

## 3. Procedures

- 1. Fire must enter into a unified command with the Law Enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the affected area.
- 2. The Incident commander requests CWS activation from the Contra County Sheriff's Dispatch at (925) 228-8280
- 3. The follow information is provided:
  - What
    - What is the hazard,
    - What are risks
    - What are the protective actions needed
  - When
    - When does the public need to take action
  - Where
    - Zonehaven zone or
    - Streets to streets

- Who is the alerting authority (Law enforcement agency), and who can the public call with questions
- The incident command may consider notifying neighboring agencies of evacuations if they may be affected.
  - Berkeley Fire
  - Albany FireRichmond Fire