

Digest of State Laws – Updated/Revised Title 63 – July 2007

63 O.S. 2001, Section 681. School Buildings.

School authorities of the State of Oklahoma, its political subdivisions, and its school districts are authorized to plan, design, and construct new school buildings and make additions to existing school buildings that afford protection for anticipated school body, faculty, and visitors against tornadoes and severe weather. Each school, administration building and institution of higher learning shall have written plans and procedures in place for protecting students, faculty, administrators and visitors from natural and man-made disasters and emergencies. Plans shall be placed on file at each school district and each local emergency management organization within the district. Each school district and institution of higher learning shall make annual reports to the local school board or Board of Regents detailing the status of emergency preparedness and identified safety needs for each school or institution.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 682. Federal assistance programs – Participation

Each state institution, agency, board, and department, each political subdivision of the state, and each school district of the state is authorized to participate in such federal assistance programs as may be available or may become available to assist in providing tornado and severe weather protection.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683 Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.1

This act may be cited as the “Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003”.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 683.2 Findings and declarations

- A. Because of the existing and increasing possibility of the occurrence of disasters of unprecedented size and destructiveness resulting from natural and man-made causes, in order to ensure that preparations of this state will adequately deal with such disasters and emergencies, to generally provide for the common defense and to protect the public peace, health, and safety, to preserve the lives and property of the people of this state, and to carry out the objectives of state and national survival and recovery in the event of a disaster or emergency, it is hereby found and declared to be necessary to:
1. Create the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM);
 2. Authorize the creation of local organizations for emergency management in the counties and incorporated municipalities of this state;
 3. Provide for the formulation and execution of an emergency operations plan for the state;
 4. Confer upon the Governor and upon the executive heads or governing bodies of the political subdivisions of the state the emergency powers provided by the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003;

5. Provide for the rendering of mutual aid among the political subdivisions of this state and with other states to cooperate with the federal government with respect to carrying out emergency management functions and hazard mitigation; and
 6. Provide sufficient organization to meet, prevent or reduce emergencies in the general interest and welfare of the public and this state.
- B. It is further declared to be the purpose of the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003 and the policy of this state that all emergency management and hazard mitigation functions of this state that all emergency management and hazard mitigation functions of this state be coordinated to the maximum extent with the comparable functions of the federal government, including its various departments and agencies, of other states and localities, and of private agencies of every type, to the end that the most effective preparation and use may be made of available workforce, resources and facilities for dealing with disaster and hazard mitigation.
- C. It is also directed that each state agency, board, commission, department or other state entity having responsibilities either indicated in the state Emergency Operations Plan or by the nature of the service it provides to the citizens of Oklahoma shall have written plans and procedures in place to protect individual employees, administrators and visitors from natural and man-made disasters and emergencies occurring at the work place. Plans and procedures shall be in concurrence with the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management Guidebook titled "Emergency Standard Operating Procedures" for state departments, agencies, offices and employees. Each state agency, board, commission, department or other state entity shall provide a calendar year annual report on the status of their emergency management program to the OEM. OEM shall compile and integrate all reports into a report to the Governor and Legislature on the status of state emergency preparedness.
- D. Each state agency, board, commission, department or other state entity shall have written plans and procedures in place to support the responsibilities stated in the state Emergency Operations Plan.
- E. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) shall be the standard for incident management in the State of Oklahoma. All on-scene management of disasters and emergencies shall be conducted using the Incident Command System (ICS).

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.3 Definitions:

As used in the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003:

1. "Emergency management" means the preparation for and the of all emergency functions by organized and trained persons, who will extend existent governmental functions and provide other necessary nongovernmental functions, to prevent, minimize and repair injury and damage resulting from natural or man-made disasters developing to such an extent to cause an extreme emergency situation to arise which by declaration of the Governor jeopardizes the welfare of the citizens of this state. These emergency functions include, but are not limited to, fire fighting

law enforcement, medical and health, search and rescue, public works, warnings, communications, hazardous materials and other special response functions, evacuations of persons from affected areas, emergency assistance services, emergency transportation, and other functions related to preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation;

2. "Emergency Operations Plan" means that plan which sets forth the organization, administration and functions for emergency management by the state or local government;
3. "Emergency" means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President of the United States or the Governor of the State of Oklahoma, federal or state assistance is needed to supplement state and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert threat of a catastrophe in any part of the state;
4. "Significant events" means all hazardous material releases of any size and type, earthquakes, fires involving large buildings or facilities and large grass or wild fires, explosions, bomb threats, terrorist/civil disturbance, aircraft crash, natural disaster, utility disruption, dam breach, technological/man-made incident, search and rescue, structural collapse, and any other incident that poses significant consequences to the jurisdiction;
5. "Hazard mitigation" means any cost-effective measure which will reduce or eliminate the effects of a natural or man-made disaster;
6. "Local organization for emergency management" means an organization created in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003 by state or local authority to perform local emergency management functions;
7. "Man-made disaster" means a disaster caused by acts of man including, but not limited to, an act of war, terrorism, chemical spill or release, or power shortages that require assistance from outside the local political subdivision;
8. "Natural disaster" means any natural catastrophe, including, but not limited to, a tornado, severe storm, high water, flood waters, wind-driven water, earthquake, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought which causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant hazard mitigation or the use of resources of the federal government, or the state and political subdivisions thereof to alleviate the damage, loss, hardship or suffering caused thereby; and
9. "Political subdivision" shall mean any county, city, town or municipal corporation of the State of Oklahoma represented by an elected governing body.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.4 Creation of Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management

- A. There is hereby created the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM). The Governor shall appoint a Director of the Department, with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall be the head of the Department. The Governor shall fix the salary of the Director, in cooperation with standards promulgated by the Office of Personnel Management.

- B. The Director may employ personnel and fix their compensation in cooperation with standards promulgated by the Office of Personnel Management, and may make such expenditures within the appropriation therefor, or from such other available funds as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003 and other programs specified by law.
- C. The Director and other personnel of the Department shall be provided with appropriate office space, furniture, equipment, supplies, stationery, and printing in the same manner as provided for personnel of other state agencies.
- D. The Director, subject to the direction and control of the Governor, shall be the executive head of the Department and shall serve as the chief advisor to the Governor on emergency management and shall:
 - 1. Be responsible to the Governor for carrying out the programs as required by law;
 - 2. Coordinate the activities of all organizations for emergency management within the state;
 - 3. Maintain liaison with and cooperate with the emergency management agencies and organizations of other states and of the federal government;
 - 4. Develop and maintain a comprehensive all-hazards mitigation plan for this state;
 - 5. Implement the Oklahoma Hazard Mitigation Program;
 - 6. Have such additional authority, duties, and responsibilities authorized by the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003 and as may be prescribed by the Governor; and
 - 7. Supervise the Office of Volunteerism in accordance with Section 683.26 of this title.
- E. The Director shall supervise the formulation, execution, review and revisions of the state Emergency Operations Plan as provided for by Section 683.2 of this title. The plan shall be reviewed annually and revised as necessary.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.5 Repealed

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.6 Advisory Council-Membership

- A. There is hereby created an Emergency Management Advisory Council. The members of the Council shall be composed of the Governor, who shall serve as chair of the Council, and the following department heads:
 - 1. The Director of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management;
 - 2. The Commissioner of Public Safety;
 - 3. The Adjutant General;
 - 4. The Commissioner of Health;
 - 5. The Commissioner of the State Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry;

6. The Director of the Department of Human Services;
7. The Director of the Department of Transportation;
8. The Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board;
9. The State Fire Marshal;
10. The Department of Environmental Quality; and
11. The Oklahoma Sheriff's Association,

who shall serve without additional compensation.

- B. The Council shall advise the Governor and the Director on all matters pertaining to emergency management.
- C. 1. There is hereby created the State Hazard Mitigation Team, composed of the administrative heads of the following agencies or their designees:
 - a. Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, who shall serve as the Team Coordinator,
 - b. Oklahoma Water Resources Board,
 - c. Oklahoma Climatological Survey,
 - d. Oklahoma Conservation Commission,
 - e. Oklahoma Corporation Commission,
 - f. Oklahoma Department of Commerce,
 - g. Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality,
 - h. Oklahoma Department of Human Services,
 - i. Oklahoma Department of Health,
 - j. Oklahoma Department of Transportation
 - k. Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry or Secretary of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry
 - l. Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
 - m. Oklahoma Historical Society
 - n. Oklahoma Insurance Commission
 - o. Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma
 - p. Oklahoma Municipal League
 - q. State Fire Marshal, and

- r. Oklahoma Department of Labor.
- 2. Depending on the circumstances, the Team Coordinator may request participation of the heads of any other state agencies as deemed appropriate.
- 3. The Team Coordinator shall also request that a representative of the United States Army Corps of Engineers be appointed by the administrative head of the Tulsa District to participate on the Team.
- 4. The Team Coordinator shall also request a representative of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development be appointed by the administrative head of the Oklahoma City office to participate on the team.
- 5. The State Hazard Mitigation Team will meet as determined by the Team Coordinator to review and recommend updates to the State Comprehensive All-hazard Mitigation Plan, and shall have those additional responsibilities as provided by the Team Coordinator, including, but not limited to, the review and recommendation for loan and grant application under the Oklahoma Flood Hazard Mitigation Program.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.8 Powers and duties of Governor

- A. The Governor shall have general direction and control of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and shall be responsible for carrying out the provisions of the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003. In the event of an emergency that exceeds local capability, the Governor may assume direct operational control over all or any part of the emergency management functions within this state.
- B. The Governor shall have general direction and control of emergency management within the state and all officers, boards, agencies, individual or groups established under the Emergency Operations Plan. The Governor shall have the authority pursuant to the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003 to establish such offices, boards, agencies, or positions as may be necessary to carry into effect the Emergency Operations Plan.
- C. The Governor is authorized to cooperate with the federal government, with other states, and with private agencies in all matters pertaining to the emergency management of this state and of the nation.
- D. To effect the policy and purpose of the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003, the Governor is further authorized and empowered to:
 - 1. Make, amend, and rescind the necessary orders and rules to carry out the provisions of the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003 within the limits of authority conferred upon the Governor herein, with due consideration of the emergency management plans of the federal government;
 - 2. Cause to be prepared and updated annually a comprehensive plan and program for emergency management of this state, such plans and programs to be integrated into and

- coordinated with the plans of the federal government and of other states to the fullest possible extent, and to coordinate the preparation of plans and programs for emergency management by the political subdivisions of this state;
3. Procure supplies and equipment in accordance with such plans and programs, institute training programs and public information programs, take all other preparatory steps, including the partial or full activation of emergency management organizations in advance of actual disaster, and to ensure the furnishing of adequately trained and equipped personnel in time of need, during periods of national emergency, or natural disasters that might occur in this state, or which develop into emergency situations;
 4. On behalf of this state, enter into mutual aid arrangements with other states and coordinate mutual aid plans between political subdivisions of this state;
 5. Delegate any administrative authority vested in the Governor pursuant to the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003, and provide for subdelegation of any such authority;
 6. Confirm the appointment of qualified emergency managers upon recommendations of local authorities as provided in Section 683.11 of this title;
 7. Cooperate with the President of the United States and the heads of the Armed Forces, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and other appropriate federal officers and agencies, with the officers and agencies of other states in matters pertaining to the emergency management of the state and nation, including the direction and control of:
 - a. state emergency management activations and exercises,
 - b. warnings for actual or exercise events and equipment to be used in connection therewith,
 - c. the conduct of civilians and the movement of and cessation of movement of pedestrians and vehicular traffic during, prior and subsequent to natural and man-made disasters and emergencies,
 - d. public meetings or gatherings, and
 - e. the evacuation and reception of the civil population; and
 8. Prescribe uniform signals, warnings, alerts, credentials and insignia.
- E. In addition to prevention measures included in the state and local comprehensive plans and programs for emergency management, the Governor shall consider on a continuing basis steps that could be taken to mitigate the harmful consequences of emergencies and natural disasters. At the Governor's direction and pursuant to any other authority specified by law, state agencies, including but not limited to those charged with responsibilities in connection with floodplain management, stream encroachment and flow regulation, weather modification, fire prevention and control, air quality, public works, land use and land use planning, and construction

standards, shall make studies of matters related to potential to mitigate emergency and natural disasters. The Governor, from time to time, shall make such recommendations to the Legislature, to political subdivisions and to other appropriate public and private entities as may facilitate measures for mitigation of the harmful consequences of emergencies and natural disasters.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.9. Emergency – Additional powers of Governor.

The provisions of this section shall be operative only during the existence of a natural or man-made emergency. The existence of such emergency may be proclaimed by the Governor or by concurrent resolution of the Legislature if the Governor in such proclamation, or the Legislature in such resolution, finds that an emergency or disaster has occurred or is anticipated in the immediate future. Any such emergency, whether proclaimed by the Governor or by the Legislature, shall terminate upon the proclamation of the termination thereof by the Governor, or by passage by the Legislature of a concurrent resolution terminating such emergency. During such period as such state of emergency exists or continues, the Governor shall have and may exercise the following additional emergency powers:

1. To activate the Emergency Operations Plan, and to assume regulatory control over all essential resources of this state, directly or through the boards, agencies, offices and officers established by said Emergency Operations Plan, to determine priorities of such resources and allocate such resources as the Governor may deem necessary in cooperation with the political subdivisions of this state, the federal government, or other states. "Resources" shall mean all economic resources within this state including but not limited to food, manpower, health and health manpower, water, transportation, economic stabilization, electric power, petroleum, gas, and solid fuel, industrial production, construction and housing.
2. To enforce all laws, rules and regulations relating to emergency management and to assume direct operational control of any or all emergency management forces and helpers in this state.
3. To provide for the evacuation of all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area or areas within this state and to take such steps as are necessary for the receipt and care of such evacuees.
4. Subject to the provisions of the State Constitution, to remove from office any public officer having administrative responsibilities under this act for willful failure to obey any order, rule or regulation adopted pursuant to this act. Such removal shall be upon charges after service upon such person of a copy of such charges and after giving such person an opportunity to be heard in the defense of such person. Pending the preparation and disposition of charges, the Governor may suspend such person for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days. A vacancy resulting from removal or suspension pursuant to this section shall be filled by the Governor until it is filled as otherwise provided by law.

5. To perform and exercise such other functions, powers, and duties as are necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population and to carry out the provisions of the Emergency Operations Plan in a national or state emergency.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 683.10 Repealed

63 O.S. 2006, Section 683.11 Local emergency management organization – Functions – Contracts

- A. All incorporated jurisdictions of this state are required to develop an emergency management program in accordance with the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003. County jurisdictions are required to have a qualified emergency management director as outlined in this section. Incorporated municipalities are required to either have an emergency management director or create an agreement with the county for emergency management services. Each local organization for emergency management shall have a director who shall be appointed by the executive officer or governing body of the political subdivision, who shall report directly to the chief executive officer or chief operating officer and who shall have direct responsibility for the organization, administration, and operation of such local organization for emergency management, subject to the direction and control of such executive officer or governing body. Each local organization for emergency management shall perform emergency management functions within the territorial limits of the political subdivisions within which it is organized, and, in addition, shall conduct such functions outside of such territorial limits as may be required pursuant to this act. Each local emergency management organization shall develop, maintain and revise, as necessary, an emergency operations plan for the jurisdiction. Each plan shall address the emergency management system functions of preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. Such plan shall be based upon a hazard and risk assessment for the jurisdiction and shall include provisions for evacuation of all or a portion of the jurisdiction based upon such risk in the event any disaster, as defined in Section 683.3 of this title, necessitates the evacuation of its citizens. Every political subdivision shall ensure that there is widespread dissemination of the plan and information to citizens as to how and when such plan is activated and how citizens are to participate in evacuating their communities in the event of a disaster. The plan shall be reviewed annually. Such plan shall be coordinated with the state.
- B. Emergency Management Directors (EMD) shall meet the qualifications promulgated by the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM). The minimum qualifications include:
- C. Prior to employment, the employing agency shall obtain a name-based background search by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation to determine if the EMD has been convicted of a felony.
- D. Each Emergency Management Director shall be responsible for all aspects of emergency management in their jurisdiction including: conducting a hazard analysis detailing risks and vulnerabilities, annually updating the existing all-hazard Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), conducting and arranging for necessary training of all relevant personnel, conducting annual exercises to evaluate the plan, managing resources, determining shortfalls in equipment,

personnel and training, revising the EOP as necessary, establishing and maintaining an office of emergency management, communications, warnings, conducting or supervising damage assessment and other pre-and post-disaster-related duties.

- E. Local fire departments, law enforcement and other first response agencies shall notify the Emergency Management Director of all significant events occurring in the jurisdiction. Emergency Management Directors shall promptly report significant events to the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management.
- F. In carrying out the provisions of this act, each political subdivision, in which any disaster as described in Section 683.3 of this title occurs, shall have the authority to declare a local emergency and the power to enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat such disaster, protecting the health and safety of persons and property, and providing emergency assistance to the victims of such disaster. Each political subdivision is authorized to exercise the powers vested under this section in the light of the exigencies of the extreme emergency situation without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements) pertaining to the performance of public work, entering into contracts, the incurring of obligations, the employment of temporary workers, the rental of equipment, the purchase of supplies and materials, and the appropriation and expenditure of public funds.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.12 Mutual aid arrangements

- A. The Director of each local organization for emergency management may, in collaboration with other public and private agencies within this state, develop or cause to be developed mutual aid arrangements for reciprocal emergency management aid and assistance in case of disaster too great to be dealt with unassisted. Such arrangements shall be consistent with the state emergency management plan and program, and in time of emergency it shall be the duty of each local organization for emergency management to render assistance in accordance with the provisions of such mutual aid arrangements.
- B. The Director of each local organization for emergency management may, subject to the approval of the Governor, enter into mutual aid arrangements with emergency management agencies or organizations in other border states for reciprocal emergency management aid and assistance in case of disaster too great to be dealt with unassisted.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.13 Functions as governmental – Workers' compensation or pension rights – License requirements

- A. All functions hereunder and all other activities relating to emergency management are hereby declared to be governmental functions. The provisions of this section shall not affect the right of any person to receive benefits to which the person would otherwise be entitled under this act, or under the workers' compensation law, or under any pension law, nor the right of any such person to receive any benefits or compensation under any Act of Congress. Any municipal

fireman or policeman engaged in any emergency management activities, while complying with or attempting to comply with this act or any rule or regulation pursuant thereto, shall be considered as serving in his or her regular line of duty and shall be entitled to all benefits of any applicable pension fund.

- B. Any requirement for a license to practice any professional, mechanical, or other skill shall not apply to any authorized emergency management worker from any state rendering mutual aid and who holds a comparable license in that state, who shall practice such professional, mechanical, or other skill during an emergency declared under the provisions of this act, when such professional, mechanical or other skill is exercised in accordance with the provisions of this act.
- C. As used in this section, the term “emergency management worker” shall include any full or part-time paid, volunteer, or auxiliary employee of this state, or other states, territories, possession or the District of Columbia, of the federal government, or any neighboring country, or of any political subdivision thereof, or of any agency or organization, performing emergency management services under state supervision, and who has been properly trained in the performance of emergency management functions, at any place in this state subject to the order or control of, or pursuant to a request of, the state government or any political subdivision thereof.
- D. Any emergency management worker, as defined in this section, performing emergency management services at any place in this state pursuant to agreements, compacts, or arrangements for mutual aid and assistance, to which the state or a political subdivision thereof is a party, shall possess the same powers, duties, immunities, and privileges the person would ordinarily possess if performing the same duties in the state, province, or political subdivision thereof in which normally employed or rendering services.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 683.14 Exemption from civil liability

- A. Any person owning or controlling real estate or other premises who voluntarily and without compensation grants a license or privilege or otherwise permits the designation or use of the whole or any part or parts of such real estate or premises for the purpose of sheltering persons, mass immunization and prophylaxis site or Strategic National Stockpile storage site during an actual or impending emergency or exercise shall, together with any successors in interest, if any, not be civilly liable for negligently causing the death of, or injury to, any person on or about such real estate or premises for loss of, or damage to, the property of such person; provided, that the injury or death was caused by or incidental to the actual use of such premises for such real, actual or impending emergency or exercise, and further provided that nothing herein contained shall grant immunity from gross, willful or wanton acts of negligence.
- B. Neither the State of Oklahoma nor any political subdivision thereof nor any officer or employee of the State of Oklahoma or of any political subdivision thereof nor volunteer whose services have been accepted and utilized by an officer or employee of the State of Oklahoma or of any

political subdivision thereof for carrying out the functions of this act shall be civilly liable for any loss or injury resulting to any person's company, corporation or other legal entity as a result of any decision, determination, order or action of such employee in the performance of his assigned duties and responsibilities under this act during a stated emergency unless such loss or injury was caused by the gross negligence, or willfully and unnecessarily or by the wanton act of such state officer or employee or volunteer. Nothing in this act shall be construed to waive the sovereignty or immunity of the State of Oklahoma, or any political subdivision thereof, from being sued.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.15 Limitation on political activity

No organization for emergency management established under the authority of this act shall participate in any form of political activity, nor shall it be employed directly or indirectly for political purposes.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.16 Restriction on employment – Loyalty oath

No person shall be employed in any capacity in any emergency management organization who advocates or has advocated a change by force or violence in the constitutional form of the government of the United States or in this state or the overthrow of any government in the United States by force or violence, or who has been convicted of or is under indictment or information charging any subversive act against the United States. Each person who is appointed to serve in an organization of emergency management shall, before entering upon employment duties, take the Oklahoma Loyalty Oath, in writing, before a person authorized to administer oaths in this state.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.17 Appropriation powers – Gifts, grants and loans

- A. Each political subdivision shall have the power to make appropriations in the manner provided by law for making appropriations for the ordinary expenses of such political subdivision for the payment of expenses of its local organizations for emergency management.
- B. Whenever the federal government or any agency or officer thereof shall offer to the state, or through the state to any political subdivision thereof, services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds by way of gift, grant, or loan, for purposes of emergency management, the state acting through the Governor, or such political subdivision acting with the consent of the Governor and through its executive officer or governing body, may accept such offer and upon such acceptance the Governor of the state or executive officer or governing body of such political subdivision may authorize any officer of the state or of the political subdivision, as the case may be, to receive such services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds on behalf of the state or such political subdivision, and subject to the terms of the offer and the rules and regulations, if any, of the agency making the offer.
- C. Whenever any person, firm, or corporation shall offer to the state, or to any political subdivision thereof, services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds by way of gift, grant, or loan, for purposes of emergency management, the state acting through the Governor, or such political

subdivision acting through its executive officer or governing body, may accept such offer and upon such acceptance the Governor of the state or executive officer or governing body of such political subdivision may authorize any officer of the state or the political subdivision, as the case may be, to receive such services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds on behalf of the state or such political subdivision, and subject to the terms of the offer.

- D. Each political subdivision shall have the power to provide, by ordinances or otherwise, for a local emergency management organization, and said subdivisions shall have power to make appropriations for emergency management and disaster relief in the manner provided by law for making appropriations for ordinary expenses of such political subdivisions and shall have power to enter into agreements for the purpose of organizing civil defense units; to provide for a mutual method of financing the organization of such units on a basis approved by the State Emergency Management Director and satisfactory to said political subdivisions, but in which case the funds appropriated by said political subdivisions and any other funds provided for civil defense for such mutual purpose shall be nonfiscal funds and shall be placed on deposit with the county treasurer as custodian of such emergency management funds, and from which expenditures may be made on forms prescribed by the State Auditor and Inspector, in accordance with procedures approved by the State Emergency Management Director; and shall have power to render aid to other political subdivisions under mutual aid agreements, provided that the functioning of said units shall be coordinated by the State Emergency Management Director and the Director's staff according to plans promulgated for that purpose.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.18 Utilization of services, equipment, etc

In carrying out the provisions of this act, the Governor and the executive officers or governing bodies of the political subdivisions of the state are directed to utilize the services, equipment, supplies and facilities of existing departments, offices and agencies of the state and of the political subdivisions thereof to the maximum extent practicable, and the officers and personnel of all such departments, offices, and agencies are directed to cooperate with and extend such services and facilities to the Governor and to the emergency management organizations of the state upon request.

63 O.S. 2006, § 683.xx (to be determined (SB 399, 2006)

- A. The benefits, powers, immunities and protections afforded to political subdivisions under the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003 shall inure to county and city-county health departments within this state.

63 O.S. 1991, § 683.21, 22 Repealed

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.23 Violations – Civil actions – Jurisdiction – Penalties – Enforcement

- A. The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management (OEM) may request the Attorney General to institute a civil action for relief, including a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order or any other appropriate order in the appropriate district court, whenever any person:

1. Violates or fails or refuses to comply with any order or decision issued by the OEM;
 2. Interferes with, hinders or delays the OEM in carrying out its duties and responsibilities;
 3. Refuses to admit authorized representatives of the OEM;
 4. Refuses to permit inspection by authorized representatives of the OEM;
 5. Refuses to furnish any information or report requested by the OEM to accomplish its duties and responsibilities;
 6. Refuses to permit access to, or copying of, such records as the OEM determines necessary to accomplish its duties and responsibilities.
- B. The court shall have jurisdiction to provide such relief as may be appropriate. Any relief granted by the court to enforce an order under subsection A of this section shall continue in effect until the completion or final termination of all proceedings for review of such order is made, unless the district court granting such relief sets it aside or modifies it.
- C. Any person willfully violating any rule, regulation or order of the OEM shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six (6) months, or by a fine of not more than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00), or both. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense.
- D. The Department of Public Safety, the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation, and the Oklahoma Tax Commission shall assist the OEM in the enforcement of any rule, regulation or order of the OEM.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.24 Emergency Management Disaster Relief Matching Fund

There is hereby created in the State Treasury a special fund for the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, to be designated the Emergency Management Disaster Relief Matching Fund. The fund shall be a continuing fund not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall be composed of monies that may be appropriated to or otherwise received by said fund. Said fund is to be utilized as the state's share of matching requirements for federal funds advanced under the provisions of Sections 402, 403 and 419, Public Law 93-288, Disaster Relief Act of 1974 and shall not be subject to legislative appropriation.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.26

Within the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, there is hereby created the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism for the purpose of developing, promoting and supporting emergency management volunteerism in the State of Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism shall support voluntary involvement in public and private emergency management programs to meet the needs of the citizens of the State of Oklahoma, to stimulate new voluntary emergency management initiatives and partnerships, and to serve as a resource and advocate within the State of Oklahoma for

volunteer agencies, volunteers and programs which utilize volunteers to support emergency response and disaster recovery operations.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.27

- A. Effective July 1, 1996, the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism and all of the powers, duties and responsibilities of the Secretary of State relating to the Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism are hereby transferred to the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, together with all unexpended funds, property, records, personnel and any outstanding financial obligations or encumbrances, exclusively or principally pertaining to such office.
- B. The Director of State Finance is hereby directed to coordinate the transfer of funds, allotments, purchase orders, outstanding financial obligations or encumbrances provided for in this section.
- C. Upon the transfer of the Office of Volunteerism, the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management shall provide for the adequate staffing of the Office to ensure the transfer may be effectuated with minimum interruption of its work heretofore carried on and within the mission of the agency. The transfer or division of resources provided herein, to be effected by an agreement between the Secretary of State and the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, shall not operate to prevent completion of any unconsummated legal contracts with corporations, individual parties, and other government units and other legal contracts previously entered into by the Office of Volunteerism.
- D. Any classified employee occupying the position of Director, Office of Volunteerism, on June 30, 1996, shall be transferred from the Office of Secretary of State to the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management effective July 1, 1996. Such employee shall remain subject to the provisions of the Merit System of Personnel Administration as provided for in the Oklahoma Personnel Act, and shall be transferred pursuant to OAC 530:10-11-74 without change in status, and without the need to pass further examination or meet additional qualifications. The employee shall retain any retirement and longevity benefits and seniority which have accrued prior to the transfer. The transfer shall be coordinated with the Office of Personnel Management.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.28

- A. The Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism shall be subject to the authority and direction of the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management.
- B. The Oklahoma Office of Volunteerism, in cooperation with governmental entities, individual volunteers and volunteer organizations throughout the State of Oklahoma, shall:
 - 1. Assist all state agencies in the development of emergency management volunteer programs;
 - 2. Operate as a statewide information center for volunteer programs and needed services that could be delivered by volunteer programs;

3. Provide or aid in the provision of technical assistance and training for directors and coordinators of volunteers, for staff, and for individual volunteers for state, local or private entities;
4. Assess and recognize the needs of communities throughout the State of Oklahoma and assist volunteer programs to meet emergency preparedness and disaster recovery programs;
5. Promote and coordinate efforts to expand and improve the statewide voluntary network;
6. Develop, implement and maintain a volunteer clearinghouse to disseminate information to support emergency management volunteer programs and to broaden voluntary involvement throughout the State of Oklahoma;
7. Promote communication and collaboration between public and private volunteer programs in the State of Oklahoma and between the public and private sector's initiatives in meeting emergency human needs;
8. Establish methods for supporting and promoting private sector leadership and responsibility for meeting emergency public needs;
9. Cooperate with federal, state, and local volunteer groups in collecting information on federal, state and private resources which may encourage and improve emergency management volunteer projects within the State of Oklahoma;
10. Develop a program to inform the public of the opportunities to volunteer and of the services emergency management volunteers provide within the State of Oklahoma; and
11. Cooperate with federal, state and local governments and voluntary groups in developing a plan and operational procedures for the receiving and disbursement of donated goods during times of disaster or emergency.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.32

The Director of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management may receive and expend funds, grants, and services from the United States Government and agencies and instrumentalities thereof and any other source for reasonable purposes necessary to carry out a coordinated plan of voluntary action throughout the State of Oklahoma. The monies remitted to the Director of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management pursuant to this section shall be credited to a separate account in the Revolving Fund for the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.33

The Director of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management may make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the provisions of the Oklahoma Volunteerism Act.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 683.34

The Director of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management shall promulgate rules necessary for the implementation of the provisions of the Oklahoma Volunteerism Act in accordance with Article 1 of the Administrative Procedures Act, Sections 250.3 through 308.2 and Article II, Sections 309 through 323 of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.1 Emergency Management Compact

The Emergency Management Compact is hereby entered into by this state with any and all other states legally joining therein in accordance with its terms, in the form substantially as follows:

63 O.S. 2001, Section 684.2 Purpose and Authorities

ARTICLE 1

Purpose and Authorities

This compact is made and entered into by and between the participating member states, hereinafter called party states, which enact this compact. For the purposes of this compact, the term "states" is taken to mean the several states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and all U.S. territorial possessions.

The purpose of this compact is to provide for mutual assistance between the states entering into this compact in managing any emergency or disaster that is duly declared by the governor of the affected state, whether arising from natural or man-made disasters or emergencies.

This compact shall also provide for mutual cooperation in emergency-related exercises, testing, or other training activities using equipment and personnel simulating performance of any aspect of the giving and receiving of aid by party states or subdivisions of party states during emergencies, such actions occurring outside actual declared emergency periods. Mutual assistance in this compact may include the use of the states' National Guard forces, either in accordance with the National Guard Mutual Assistance Compact or by mutual agreement between states.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.3 General Implementation

Each party state entering into this compact recognizes that many emergencies transcend political jurisdictional boundaries and that intergovernmental coordination is essential in managing these and other emergencies under this compact. Each state further recognizes that there will be emergencies which require immediate access and present procedures to apply outside resources to make prompt and effective response to such an emergency. This is because few, if any, individual states have all the resources they need in all types of emergencies or the capability of delivering resources to the area where emergencies occur.

The prompt, full and effective utilization of resources of the participating states, including any resources on hand or available from the federal government or any other source, that are essential to

the safety, care and welfare of the people in the event of any emergency or disaster declared by a party state, shall be the underlying principle on which all articles of this compact shall be understood.

On behalf of the governor of each state participating in the compact, the legally designated state official who is assigned responsibility for emergency management will be responsible for the formulation of the appropriate interstate mutual aid plans and procedures necessary to implement this compact.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 684.4 Party State Responsibilities

ARTICLE III

Party State Responsibilities

- A. It shall be the responsibility of each party state to formulate procedural plans and programs for interstate cooperation in the performance of the responsibilities listed in this article. In formulating such plans, and in carrying them out, the party states, insofar as practical, shall:
1. Review individual state hazards analyses and, to the extent reasonably possible, determine all those potential emergencies the party states might jointly suffer, whether due to natural or man-made disasters or emergencies;
 2. Review party states' individual emergency plans and develop a plan which will determine the mechanism for the interstate management and provision of assistance concerning any potential emergency;
 3. Develop interstate procedures to fill any identified gaps and to resolve any identified inconsistencies or overlaps in existing or developed plans;
 4. Assist in warning communities adjacent to or crossing the state boundaries;
 5. Protect and assure uninterrupted delivery of services, medicines, water, food, energy and fuel, search and rescue, and critical lifeline equipment, and resources, both human and material;
 6. Inventory and set procedures for the interstate loan and delivery of human and material resources, together with procedures for reimbursement or forgiveness; and
 7. Provide, to the extent authorized by law, for temporary suspension of any statutes or ordinances that restrict the implementation of the above responsibilities.
- B. The authorized representative of a party state may request assistance of another party state by contacting the authorized representative of that state. The provisions of this compact shall only apply to requests for assistance made by and to authorized representatives. Requests may be verbal or in writing. If verbal, the request shall be confirmed in writing within thirty (30) days of the verbal request. Requests shall provide the following information:
1. A description of the emergency service function for which assistance is needed, including, but not limited to, fire services, law enforcement, emergency medical, transportation,

- communications, public works and engineering, building inspection, planning and information assistance, mass care, resource support, health and medical services, and search and rescue;
2. The amount and type of personnel, equipment, materials and supplies needed and a reasonable estimate of the length of time they will be needed; and
 3. The specific place and time for staging of the assisting party's response and a point of contact at that location.
- C. There shall be frequent consultation between state officials who have assigned emergency management responsibilities and other appropriate representatives of the party states with affected jurisdictions and the United States Government, with free exchange of information, plans, and resource records relating to emergency capabilities.
- D. The Governor of the State of Oklahoma shall not be obligated under this compact to send the requested assistance, except in such Governor's sole and absolute discretion, and may be withdrawn at any time in the sole and absolute discretion of the Governor of Oklahoma.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.5 Limitations

Any party state requested to render mutual aid or conduct exercises and training for mutual aid shall take such action as is necessary to provide and make available the resources covered by this compact in accordance with the terms hereof; provided that it is understood that the state rendering aid may withhold resources to the extent necessary to provide reasonable protection for such state.

Each party state shall afford the emergency forces of any party state, while operating within its state limits under the terms and conditions of this compact, the same powers, except that of arrest unless specifically authorized by the receiving state, duties, rights, and privileges as are afforded forces of the state in which they are performing emergency services. Emergency forces will continue under the command and control of their regular leaders, but the organizational units will come under operational control of the emergency services authorities of the state receiving assistance. These conditions may be activated, as needed, only subsequent to a declaration of a state emergency or disaster by the governor of the party state that is to receive assistance or upon commencement of exercises or training for mutual aid and shall continue as long as the exercises or training for mutual aid are in progress, the state of emergency or disaster remains in effect, or loaned resources remain in the receiving state, whichever is longer.

63 O.S. 1991, § 684.6 Licenses and Permits

Whenever any person holds a license, certificate, or other permit issued by any state party evidencing the meeting of qualifications for professional, mechanical, or other skills, and when such assistance is requested by the receiving party state, such person shall be deemed licensed, certified, or permitted by the state requesting assistance to render aid involving such skill to meet a declared emergency or disaster, subject to such limitations and conditions as the governor of the requesting state may prescribe by executive order or otherwise.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.7 Liability

Officers or employees of a party state rendering aid in another state pursuant to this compact shall be considered agents of the requesting state for tort liability and immunity purposes. No party state or its officers or employees rendering aid in another state pursuant to this compact shall be liable on account of any act or omission in good faith on the part of such forces while so engaged or on account of the maintenance or use of any equipment or supplies in connection therewith. Good faith in this article shall not include willful misconduct, gross negligence, or recklessness.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.8 Supplementary Agreements

Inasmuch as it is probable that the pattern and detail of the machinery for mutual aid among two or more states may differ from that among the states that are party hereto, this compact contains elements of a broad base common to all states, and nothing herein shall preclude any state entering into supplementary agreements with another state or affect any other agreements already in force between states. Supplementary agreements may include, but shall not be limited to, provisions for evacuation and reception of injured and other persons and the exchange of medical, fire, police, public utility, reconnaissance, welfare, transportation and communications personnel, and equipment and supplies.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.9 Compensation

Each state shall provide for the payment of compensation and death benefits to injured members of the emergency forces of that state and representatives of deceased members of such forces who sustain injuries or are killed while rendering aid pursuant to this compact, in the same manner and on the same terms as if the injury or death were sustained within their own state.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.10 Reimbursement

Any party state rendering aid in another state pursuant to this compact shall be reimbursed by the party state receiving such aid for any loss or damage to or expense incurred in the operation of any equipment and the provision of any service in answering a request for aid and for the costs incurred in connection with such requests; provided, that any aiding party state may assume in whole or in part such loss, damage, expense, or other cost, or may loan such equipment or donate such services to the receiving party state without charge or cost; and provided further, that any two or more party states may enter into supplementary agreements establishing a different allocation of costs among those states. Section 684.9 expenses shall not be reimbursable under this section.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.11 Evacuation

Plans for the orderly evacuation and interstate reception of portions of the civilian population as the result of any emergency or disaster of sufficient proportions to so warrant, shall be worked out and maintained between the party states and the emergency management or services directors of the various jurisdictions where any type of incident requiring evacuations might occur. Such plans shall be put into effect by request of the state from which evacuees come and shall include the manner of transporting such evacuees, the number of evacuees to be received in different areas, the manner in which

food, clothing, housing, and medical care will be provided, the registration of evacuees, the providing of facilities for the notification of relatives or friends, and the forwarding of such evacuees to other areas or the bringing in of additional materials, supplies, and all other relevant factors. Such plans shall provide that the party state receiving evacuees and the party state from which the evacuees come shall mutually agree as to reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred in receiving and caring for such evacuees, for expenditures for transportation, food, clothing, medicines and medical care, and like items. Such expenditures shall be reimbursed as agreed by the party state from which the evacuees come. After the termination of the emergency or disaster, the party state from which the evacuees come shall assume the responsibility for the ultimate support of repatriation of such evacuees.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.12 Implementation

- A. This compact shall become effectively immediately upon its enactment into law by any two states. Thereafter, this compact shall become effective as to any other state upon enactment by that state.
- B. Any party state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a statute repealing the same, but no such withdrawal shall take effect until thirty (30) days after the governor of the withdrawing state has given notice in writing of such withdrawal to the governors of all other party states. Such action shall not relieve the withdrawing state from obligations assumed hereunder prior to the effective date of withdrawal.
- C. Duly authenticated copies of this compact and of such supplementary agreements as may be entered into shall, at the time of their approval, be deposited with each of the party states and with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other appropriate agencies of the United States Government.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 684.13 Validity

Nothing in this compact shall authorize or permit the use of military force by the National Guard of a state at any place outside that state in any emergency for which the President is authorized by law to call into federal service the militia, or for any purpose for which the use of the Army or the United States Air Force would in the absence of express statutory authorization be prohibited under Section 1385 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

Nothing in this compact shall limit or prohibit the Governor's authority to send troops out of state as specified in Section 229 of Title 44 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 685.1 Emergency Interim Executive and Judicial Succession Act

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Emergency Interim Executive and Judicial Succession Act", and shall be cumulative to the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 685.2 Findings and declarations

Because of the existing possibility of natural and man-made emergencies and disasters in the United States of unprecedented size and destructiveness, and in the event such an incident occurs: to assure

continuity of government through legally-constituted leadership, authority and responsibility in offices of the government of the state and its political subdivisions; to provide for the effective operation of governments during an emergency caused by an incident in the United States,; and to facilitate the early resumption of functions temporarily suspended, it is found and declared to be necessary: to provide for additional officers who can exercise the powers and discharge the duties of Governor; to provide for emergency interim succession to governmental offices of this state and its political subdivisions in the event incumbents thereof (and their deputies, assistants or other subordinate officers authorized, pursuant to law, to exercise all of the powers and discharge the duties of such offices hereinafter referred to as deputies) are unavailable to perform the duties and functions of such offices; and to provide for special emergency judges who can exercise the powers and discharge the duties of judicial offices in the event regular judges are unavailable,; the provisions of this act are adopted to meet emergency conditions, which result from natural and man-made emergencies and disasters in the United States.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 685.3 Definitions

As used in this act:

1. "Unavailable" means either that a vacancy in office exists and there is no deputy authorized to exercise all of the powers and discharge the duties of the office, or that the lawful incumbent of the office, including any deputy exercising the powers and discharging the duties of an office because of a vacancy, and the duly authorized deputy are absent or unable to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the offices;
2. "Emergency interim successor" means a person designated pursuant to this act, in the event the officer is unavailable, to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of an office until a successor is appointed or elected and qualified as may be provided by the Constitution, statutes, charters and ordinances or until the lawful incumbent is able to resume the exercise of the powers and discharge the duties of the office;
3. "Office" includes all state and local offices, the powers and duties of which are defined by the Constitution, statutes, charters and ordinances, except the office of Governor, and except those in the Legislature and the judiciary.;
4. "Emergency" means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President of the United States or the Governor of the State of Oklahoma, federal or state assistance is needed to supplement state and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert threat or catastrophe in any part of the state;
5. "Political subdivision" includes counties, cities, towns, districts, authorities and other public corporations and entities whether organized and existing under charter or general law;
6. "Deputy" means a person legally authorized by an officer to exercise the office or right which the official possesses, for and in place of the officer; and

7. “Man-made disaster” means a disaster caused by acts of man including, but not limited to, an act of war, terrorism, chemical spill or release, and power shortage that require assistance in addition to the assistance of the local political subdivision.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 685.4 Emergency interim succession to office of Governor

Whenever a natural or man-made disaster or emergency occurs in the United States, and in the event that the Governor, for any of the reasons specified in Article VI, Section 16 of the Oklahoma Constitution, is not able to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the Governor’s office, or is unavailable, and in the event the Lieutenant Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives be for any of the reasons specified in the Constitution not able to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office of Governor, or be unavailable, the State Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of Labor, and members of the Corporation Commission in the order of their election districts, shall each in the order named, if no officer higher in the enumerated order is available, exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office of Governor until a new Governor is elected and qualified; provided, however, that no emergency interim successor to the aforementioned offices may serve as Governor.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 685.5 Emergency Interim Succession to State Offices other than Governor

All state officers, other than the Governor, subject to such regulations as the Governor, or other official authorized under the Constitution and this act to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the Office of Governor, may issue, upon approval of this act, in addition to any deputy, shall designate, by the title of their office or position, emergency interim successors and specify their order of succession. The officer shall review and revise, as necessary, designations made pursuant to this act to ensure their current status. The officer shall designate a sufficient number of such emergency interim successors so that there will be not less than three nor more than seven deputies or emergency interim successors or any combination thereof, at any time. In the event that any state officer is unavailable following an emergency or disaster, and in the event a deputy, if any, is also unavailable, the said powers of the office shall be exercised and said duties of the office shall be discharged by the designated emergency interim successors in the order specified. The authority of an emergency successor shall cease:

1. When the incumbent of the office, or a deputy or an interim successor higher in designation becomes available to exercise the powers and to perform the duties of the office; or
2. When a successor to the office has been duly elected or appointed and has qualified according to law.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 685.6 Interim succession to political subdivision offices

The respective officers of each city or incorporated town, and of all other political subdivisions of this state, shall designate interim successors, and shall specify the order of succession of deputies and interim successors, in the same manner, and with the same effect, as is provided for state officers.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 685.7 Special Emergency Judges

Whenever an emergency or disaster occurs in the United States, and in the event that any judge of any court is unavailable to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office, and no other judge authorized to act or no special judge appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution or statutes is available to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of such office, the duties of the office shall be discharged and the powers exercised by the special emergency judges, each of whom shall otherwise be qualified to serve as a judge, as hereinafter provided for:

1. The Governor shall designate for each member of the Supreme Court special emergency judges in the number of not less than three nor more than seven for each member of said court, and shall specify the order of their succession.
2. The Governor shall designate for each member of the Court of Criminal Appeals special emergency judges in the number of not less than three nor more than seven for each member of said court, and shall specify the order of their succession.
3. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in consultation with the other members of said court, shall designate for each court of record, except the Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals, special emergency judges in the number of not less than three nor more than seven for each judge of said courts and shall specify their order of succession.
4. The judge of the district court, or the senior judge of any such district, in consultation with the other district judges of that district, where there is more than one judge shall designate not less than three nor more than seven emergency judges for courts not of record within that district, and shall specify their order of succession.

Such special emergency judges shall, in the order specified, exercise the powers and discharge the duties of such office in case of the unavailability of the regular judge or judges or persons immediately preceding them in the designation. The designating authority shall review and revise, as necessary, designations made pursuant to this act to ensure their current status.

Said special emergency judges shall discharge the duties and exercise the powers of such office until such time as a vacancy which may exist shall be filled in accordance with the Constitution and statutes or until the regular judge or one preceding the designee in the order of succession becomes available to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 685.8 Oaths

At the time of their designation, emergency interim successors and special emergency judges shall take the oath as may be required for them to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office to which they may succeed. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person, as a prerequisite to the exercise of the powers or discharge of the duties of an office to which he succeeds, shall be required to comply with any other provision of law relative to taking office.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 685.9 Successors to act only after an emergency or disaster – Termination of authority

Officials authorized to act as Governor pursuant to this act, emergency interim successors and special emergency judges are empowered to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of an office as herein authorized only after an emergency or disaster occurs in the United States, as defined herein, has occurred. The Legislature by concurrent resolution may, at any time, terminate the authority of said emergency interim successors and special emergency judges to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of office as herein provided.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 685.10 Removal of successors

Until such time as the persons designated as emergency interim successors or special emergency judges are authorized to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of an office in accordance with this act, including Section 9 hereof, said persons may be removed or replaced by said designating authority at any time, with or without cause.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 685.11 Disputes

Any dispute concerning a question of fact arising under this Act with respect to an office in the executive branch of the State government (except a dispute of fact relative to the office of Governor) shall be adjudicated by the Governor (or other official authorized under the Constitution and this Act to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office of Governor) and his decision shall be final. Such disputes with respect to the office of Governor shall be determined by the Supreme Court.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 686.1 Emergency Interim Legislative Successions Act

This act shall be known as the "Emergency Interim Legislative Succession Act" and shall be cumulative to the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 686.2 Declarations

The Legislature declares:

1. Because of existing possibilities of natural or man-made disasters or emergencies of unprecedented destructiveness, which may result in the death or inability to act of a large proportion of the membership of the Legislature; and
2. Because to conform in time of emergency or disaster to existing legal requirements pertaining to the Legislature would be impracticable, and would jeopardize continuity of operation of a legally constituted Legislature; it is therefore necessary to adopt special provisions as hereinafter set out for the effective operation of the Legislature during natural or man-made disasters or emergencies.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 686.3 As used in this act: Definitions

1. "Emergency" means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President of the United States or the Governor of the State of Oklahoma, federal or state assistance is

needed to supplement state and local efforts and capabilities to save lives, protect property, public health and safety, or to lessen or avert threat of a catastrophe in any part of the state;

2. "Man-made disaster" means a disaster caused by acts of man including, but not limited to, an act of war, terrorism, chemical spill or release, or a power shortage that requires assistance from outside the local political subdivision; and
3. "Unavailable" means absent from the place of session, other than on official business of the Legislature, or unable, for physical, mental or legal reasons, to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of a legislator, whether or not such absence or inability would give rise to a vacancy under existing constitutional or statutory provisions.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 686.4 Designation of emergency interim successors

Each Legislator shall designate not fewer than three nor more than seven emergency interim successors to his powers and duties and specify their order of succession. Each Legislator shall review and, as necessary, promptly revise the designations of emergency interim successors to his powers and duties to insure that at all times there are at least three such qualified emergency interim successors.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 686.5 Emergency interim successor defined – Qualifications – Tenure

An emergency interim successor is one who is designated for possible temporary succession to the powers and duties, but not the office, of a Legislator. No person shall be designated or serve as an emergency interim successor unless he may, under the Constitution and statutes hold the office of the Legislator to whose powers and duties he is designated to succeed, but no constitutional or statutory provision prohibiting a Legislator from holding another office or prohibiting the holder of another office from being a Legislator shall be applicable to an emergency interim successor. An emergency interim successor shall serve at the pleasure of the Legislator designating him or of any subsequent incumbent of the Legislative office.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 686.6 Maintaining minimum number of successors

Prior to an emergency or disaster, if a legislator fails to designate the required minimum number of emergency interim successors within sixty (60) days following the effective date of this act or, after such period, if for any reason the number of emergency interim successors for any legislator falls below the required minimum and remains below such minimum for a period of sixty (60) days, then the floor leader of the same political party in the same house as such legislator shall, by and with the consent of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or President Pro Tempore of the Senate, promptly designate as many emergency interim successors as are required to achieve such minimum number, but the floor leader shall not assign to any designees a rank in order of succession higher than that of any remaining emergency interim successor previously designated by a legislator for succession to the legislator's own powers and duties. Each emergency interim successor designated by the floor leader shall serve at the pleasure of the designating person, but the legislator for whom the emergency successor is designated or any subsequent incumbent of the office may change the rank in order of

succession or replace at the pleasure of the designating person any emergency interim successor so designated.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 686.7 Effective date of designations and removals – Recording

Each designation of an emergency interim successor shall become effective when the legislator or party floor leader making the designation files with the Secretary of State the successor's name, address and rank in order of succession. The removal of an emergency interim successor or change in order of succession shall become effective when the legislator or party floor leader, so acting, files this information with the Secretary of State. All such data shall be open to public inspection. The Secretary of State shall inform the Governor, the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management, the journal clerk of the house concerned and all emergency interim successors, of all such designations, removals and changes in order of succession. The journal clerk of each house shall enter all information regarding emergency interim successors for the house in its public journal at the beginning of each legislative session and shall enter all changes in membership or order of succession as soon as possible after the occurrence.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 686.8 Oaths

Promptly after designation each emergency interim successor shall take the oaths required for the Legislator to whose powers and duties he is designated to succeed. No other oath shall be required. The oath shall be administered (by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the emergency interim successors designated for that House, and by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate for the emergency interim successors designated to serve for the Senate.)

63 O.S. 1991, Section 686.9 Successors to keep informed

Each emergency interim successor shall keep himself generally informed as to the duties, procedures, practices and current business of the Legislature, and each Legislator shall assist his emergency interim successors to keep themselves so informed.

63 O.S. 1991, Section 686.10 Changing place of session

Whenever, in the event of an emergency or disaster or upon finding that an emergency or disaster may be imminent, the Governor deems the place of session then prescribed to be unsafe, the Governor may change it to any place within the state which the Governor deems safer and more convenient.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 686.11 Calling of session – Limitations suspended

In the event of an emergency or disaster, the Governor shall call the Legislature into session as soon as practicable, and in any case within thirty (30) days following the inception of the emergency or disaster. Each legislator and each emergency interim successor, unless the Governor is certain that the legislator to whose powers and duties the legislator is designated to succeed or any emergency interim successor higher in order of succession will not be unavailable, shall proceed to the place of session as expeditiously as practicable. At such session or at any session in operation at the inception of the

emergency or disaster, and at any subsequent session, limitations on the length of session and on the subjects which may be acted upon shall be suspended.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 686.12 Exercise of powers and duties by successors – Ouster provisions applicable

If, in the event of an emergency or disaster a legislator is unavailable, the emergency interim successor highest in order of succession who is not unavailable shall, except for the power and duty to appoint emergency interim successors, exercise the powers and assume the duties of such legislator. An emergency interim successor shall exercise these powers and assume these duties until the incumbent legislator, an emergency interim successor higher in order of succession, or a legislator appointed or elected and legally qualified can act. Each house of the Legislature shall, in accordance with its own rules, determine who is entitled under the provisions of this act to exercise the powers and assume the duties of its members. All constitutional and statutory provisions pertaining to ouster of a legislator shall be applicable to an emergency interim successor who is exercising the powers and assuming the duties of a legislator.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 686.13 Privileges and immunities – Compensation and allowances

When an emergency interim successor exercises the powers and assumes the duties of a legislator, the emergency interim successor shall be accorded the privileges and immunities, compensation, allowances and other perquisites of office to which a legislator is entitled. In the event of an emergency or disaster, each emergency interim successor, whether or not called upon to exercise the powers and assume the duties of a legislator, shall be accorded the privileges and immunities of a legislator while traveling to and from a place of session and shall be compensated for travel in the same manner and amount as a legislator. This section shall not in any way affect the privileges, immunities, compensation, allowances or other perquisites of office of an incumbent legislator.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 686.14 Termination of authority

The authority of emergency interim successors to succeed to the powers and duties of legislators, the operation of the provisions of this act relating to quorum, the number of affirmative votes required for legislative action, and limitations on the length of sessions and the subjects which may be acted upon, shall expire two (2) years following the inception of an emergency or disaster, but nothing herein shall prevent the resumption before such time of the filling of legislative vacancies and the calling of elections for the Legislature in accordance with applicable constitutional and statutory provisions. The Governor, acting by proclamation, or the Legislature, acting by concurrent resolution, may from time to time extend or restore such authority or the operation of any of such provisions upon a finding that events render the extension or restoration necessary, but no extension or restoration shall be for a period of more than one (1) year.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 687.1 Emergency Interim Relocation Act

This act shall be known as the "Emergency Interim Relocation Act", and shall be cumulative to the Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 687.2 Definitions

As used in this act:

1. "Emergency" means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President of the United States or the Governor of the State of Oklahoma, federal or state assistance is needed to supplement state and local efforts and capabilities to save lives, protect property, public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the state; and
2. "Man-made disaster" means a disaster caused by acts of man including, but not limited to, an act of war, terrorism, chemical spill or release, or power shortage that requires assistance from outside the local political subdivision.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 687.3

- A. Whenever a disaster makes it imprudent or impossible to conduct the affairs of state government at its seat in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the Governor may proclaim temporary locations for the seat of state government at any place he deems advisable, either inside or outside of the state. The Governor may issue necessary orders for orderly transition of the affairs of government to any temporary emergency or man-made disaster location, which remains the seat of state government until the Legislature establishes a new location, or until the emergency or man-made disaster is declared ended by the Legislature and the seat is returned to its normal location in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- B. Any official act or meeting required to be performed at the seat of state government is valid when performed at a temporary emergency or man-made disaster location under this section.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 687.4

- A. Whenever an emergency or man-made disaster makes it imprudent or impossible to conduct the affairs of any local government at its regular location, the governing body may meet at any place, inside or outside the limits of the political subdivision, at the call of the presiding officer or any two members of the governing body, and designate by ordinance a temporary emergency or man-made disaster location of the local government, which remains the seat of the local government until the governing body establishes a new location or until the emergency or man-made disaster is declared ended by the Legislature and the seat is returned to its normal location.
- B. Any official act or meeting required to be performed at the seat of the local government is valid when performed at a temporary emergency or man-made disaster location under this section.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 690.2

For purposes of the Oklahoma Flood Hazard Mitigation Program:

1. "Board" means the Oklahoma Water Resources Board;

2. "Department" means the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management;
3. "Dwelling unit" means a place of residence and may be a single- or multiple-dwelling building;
4. "Flood" or "flooding" means general and temporary conditions of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from the overflow of lakes, streams, rivers, or any other inland waters and from surface run-off;
5. "Flood hazard mitigation" means any cost-effective measure which will reduce or eliminate the effects of a flood disaster;
6. "Flood hazard mitigation projects" means those projects designed to correct, alleviate or eliminate a condition or situation which poses a repetitive threat to life, property, or public safety from the effects of a flood disaster;
7. "Flood disaster" means any flood catastrophe, including but not limited to high water, flood waters, or wind-driven water which causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant flood hazard mitigation or the use of resources of the federal government, or the state and political subdivisions thereof to alleviate the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby;
8. "Political subdivision" means any county, city, town, or municipal corporation of the State of Oklahoma;
9. "Real property" includes all lands, including improvements and fixtures thereon, and property of any nature which is appurtenant thereto, or used in connection therewith, and every estate, interest and right, legal or equitable, therein including terms for years; and
10. "State Hazard Mitigation Team" means the entity created pursuant to Section 683.6 of this title.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 690.3

- A. In addition to other responsibilities and duties specified by law, the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management:
 1. Shall develop and maintain flood hazard mitigation measures for this state, as a component of the state's comprehensive hazard mitigation plan and consistent with the flood hazard mitigation plans of the federal government to the fullest possible extent. The Department shall coordinate and encourage the development and publication of flood hazard mitigation plans by political subdivisions to ensure that such political subdivision plans are consistent with the flood hazard mitigation measures in the comprehensive hazard mitigation plan of this state to the fullest possible extent;
 2. Shall provide guidance, information and training sufficient to allow political subdivisions to request state and federal natural disaster assistance;
 3. Shall coordinate the development and maintenance of flood hazard mitigation projects with other state and federal programs;

4. Shall set mitigation priorities based upon recommendations of the State Hazard Mitigation Team;
 5. May, after recommendation from the State Hazard Mitigation Team, approve applications for grants and loans to political subdivisions for flood hazard mitigation projects from any funds available for such purposes pursuant to the considerations specified by Section 690.4 of this title;
 6. Shall evaluate, after recommendation from the State Hazard Mitigation Team, and award grant or loan applications based upon minimum eligibility criteria and state priorities;
 7. Shall be the initial recipient of applications for loans and grants for flood hazard mitigation activities from political subdivisions; and
 8. Shall have the State Hazard Mitigation Team meet as needed to review loan and grant applications and provide recommendations thereon to the Department.
- B. The Department shall be the lead agency and shall compile and submit to the Federal Emergency Management Agency an application to receive funds pursuant to the Flood Hazard Mitigation Financial Assistance Program, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program or any other flood assistance programs, and other public or private planning or project grants to implement measures to reduce flood losses.
- C. The Department shall also have authority to:
1. Establish advisory councils with sufficient geographic balance to ensure statewide representation;
 2. Coordinate central files and clearinghouse procedures for flood hazard mitigation resource data information and encourage the use of compatible information and standards; and
 3. Provide to the extent practicable financial, technical, research, and other assistance to effectuate the purposes of the Oklahoma Flood Hazard Mitigation Program.
- D. The Department shall promulgate, by rule, procedures and criteria for the evaluation of grant and subgrant applications that seek to receive a portion of those funds made available to this state for flood hazard mitigation.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 690.4

- A. A political subdivision of this state may apply to the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management for a grant or loan for flood hazard mitigation projects on forms provided by the Department.
- B. Grants or loans for flood hazard mitigation shall be prioritized by the State Hazard Mitigation Team based on the following considerations:
1. The extent and effectiveness of flood mitigation measures already implemented by the political subdivision requesting the grant;

2. The feasibility, practicality, and effectiveness of the proposed flood mitigation measures and the associated benefits and detriments;
 3. The level of assistance that should be provided to the political subdivision, based on available facts regarding the nature, extent, and severity of the flood hazard problems;
 4. The frequency of occurrence of flooding disasters that has resulted in declaration of the area as a flood disaster area by the Governor of this state or by the President of the United States;
 5. The economic, social, and environmental benefits and detriments of the proposed flood mitigation measures;
 6. Whether the floodplain management ordinance or regulation adopted by the political subdivision meets the minimum standards established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the degree of enforcement of the ordinance or regulation, and whether the political subdivision is complying with the ordinance or regulation;
 7. The financial capability of the political subdivision to solve its flood hazard problems without financial assistance; and
 8. The estimated cost and method of financing of the proposed flood mitigation measures based on local money and federal and state financial assistance.
- C. A grant shall not exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of the total cost of the proposed mitigation project and a loan shall not exceed the total cost of the proposed mitigation project.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 690.5

In addition to other responsibilities designated or assigned to it by the Department, the State Hazard Mitigation Team shall have the power and duty to recommend priorities for flood hazard mitigation projects for purposes of providing grants or loans for such projects, based upon considerations specified by Section 690.4 of this title.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.1

The “Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact”.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.2

The purpose of this legislation is to create a system of intrastate mutual aid between participating jurisdictions in the state.

“Jurisdiction” means any county, city, town or municipal corporation of the State of Oklahoma represented by an elected governing body.

Sovereign Tribal Nations in the State of Oklahoma shall also be considered jurisdictions under the Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact and participating unless electing not to participate or later withdrawing from the system.

“Emergency” shall mean any occasion or instance for which assistance is needed to supplement local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe.

“Emergency Responder” shall mean anyone with special skills, qualifications, training, knowledge and experience in the public or private sectors that would be beneficial to a participating jurisdiction in response to a local emergency as defined in applicable law or ordinance or authorized drill or exercise.

Each participant of the system recognizes that emergencies transcend political jurisdictional boundaries and that intergovernmental coordination is essential for the protection of lives and property and for best use of available assets both public and private. The system shall provide for mutual assistance among the participating jurisdictions in the prevention of, response to, and recovery from, any disaster that results in a formal state of emergency in a participating jurisdiction subject to that participating jurisdiction’s criterion for declaration. The system shall provide for mutual cooperation among the participating jurisdictions in conducting disaster-related exercises, testing or other training activities outside actual declared emergency periods. This legislation provides no immunity, rights or privileges for any individual responding to a state of emergency that is not requested and/or authorized to respond by a participating jurisdiction. Participating jurisdictions will be ensured eligibility, to the fullest extent possible, for state and federal disaster funding.

All jurisdictions within the state, upon enactment of this legislation, are automatically a part of the statewide mutual aid system. A jurisdiction within the state may elect not to participate or to later withdraw from the system upon enacting an appropriate resolution by its governing body declaring that it elects not to participate in the statewide mutual aid system and providing a copy of the resolution to the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management. This legislation does not preclude participating jurisdictions from entering into supplementary agreements with another jurisdiction and does not affect any other agreement to which a jurisdiction may currently be a party or decide to be a party to.

Many disasters begin as emergencies where local jurisdictions require fire service and/or law enforcement assistance. These services would normally be requested and provided at the department level as normal day-to-day operations with no reimbursement. If an incident response expands beyond a normal day-to-day emergency into a disaster situation, reimbursement for mutual aid services may be necessary and will be in accordance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency reimbursement policy.

In support of the Emergency Management Compact, Section 684.1 et seq of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes, the Governor or the Governor’s representative may request mutual aid assistance from local jurisdictions for other states or their jurisdictions. In such situations, the assisting local jurisdiction shall be considered an agent of the State.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.3

Each jurisdiction recognizes that there will be emergencies which require immediate actions and implementation of procedures to apply outside resources to make prompt and effective response to

such an emergency. This is because few, if any, individual jurisdictions have all the resources they need in all types of emergencies and the capability of delivering resources to the area where emergencies occur.

The prompt, full and effective utilization of resources of the participating jurisdictions, including any resources on hand or available from any other source, that are essential to the safety, care and welfare of the people in the event of any emergency or disaster declared by a jurisdiction, shall be the underlying principle on which all articles of this Compact shall be understood.

On behalf of the chief elected officer of each jurisdiction participating in the Compact, the legally designated jurisdiction official who is assigned responsibility for emergency management will be responsible for the formulation of the appropriate plans and procedures necessary to implement the Compact.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.4

- A. It shall be the responsibility of each jurisdiction to formulate procedural plans and programs for interjurisdictional cooperation in the performance of the responsibilities listed in this section. In formulating such plans, and in carrying them out, the jurisdictions, insofar as practical, shall:
1. Review individual jurisdictional hazards analyses and, to the extent reasonably possible, determine all those potential emergencies the jurisdictions might jointly suffer, whether due to natural or man-made disasters or emergencies;
 2. Review jurisdictions' individual emergency plans and develop a plan that will determine the mechanism for the interjurisdictional management and provision of assistance concerning any potential emergency;
 3. Develop interjurisdictional procedures to fill any identified gaps and to resolve any identified inconsistencies or overlaps in existing or developed plans;
 4. Assist in warning communities adjacent to or crossing the jurisdictional boundaries;
 5. Protect and assure uninterrupted delivery of services, medicines, water, food, energy and fuel, search and rescue, and critical lifeline equipment, and resources, both human and material;
 6. Inventory and set procedures for the interjurisdictional loan and delivery of human and material resources, together with procedures for reimbursement or forgiveness; and
 7. Provide, to the extent authorized by law, for temporary suspension of any statutes or ordinances that restrict the implementation of the above responsibilities.
 8. All jurisdictions should use and conform to the current national standard for on-scene management and command systems.
- B. The authorized representative of a jurisdiction may request assistance of another jurisdiction by contacting the authorized representative of that jurisdiction. The provisions of the Oklahoma

Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact shall apply only to requests for assistance made by and to authorized representatives. Requests may be verbal or in writing. If verbal, the request shall be confirmed in writing within thirty (30) days of the verbal request. Requests shall provide the following information:

1. A description of the emergency service function for which assistance is needed, including, but not limited to, fire services, law enforcement, emergency medical, transportation, communications, public works and engineering, building inspection, planning and information assistance, mass care, resource support, health and medical services, and search and rescue;
 2. The amount and type of personnel, equipment, materials and supplies needed and a reasonable estimate of the length of time they will be needed; and
 3. The specific place and time for staging of the assisting party's response and a point of contact at that location.
- C. There shall be frequent consultation between jurisdiction officials who have assigned emergency management responsibilities and other appropriate representatives of the jurisdictions with affected jurisdictions, with free exchange of information, plans, and resource records relating to emergency capabilities.
- D. Jurisdictions shall not be obligated under the Compact to send the requested assistance, and assistance may be withdrawn at any time in the sole and absolute discretion of the jurisdiction.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.5

Any jurisdiction requested to render mutual aid or conduct exercises and training for mutual aid shall take such action as is necessary to provide and make available the resources covered by the Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact in accordance with the terms hereof; provided that it is understood that the jurisdiction rendering aid may withhold resources to the extent necessary to provide reasonable protection for its own jurisdiction.

Each jurisdiction shall afford the emergency forces of any jurisdiction, while operating within its jurisdictional limits under the terms and conditions of the Compact, the same powers, duties, rights, and privileges as are afforded forces of the jurisdiction in which they are performing emergency services. Emergency forces will continue under the command and control of their regular leaders, but the organizational units will come under operational control of the emergency services authorities of the jurisdiction receiving assistance and must report to the incident check-in location for assignment.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.6

Whenever any person holds a license, certificate, or other permit issued by any jurisdiction evidencing the meeting of qualifications for professional, mechanical, or other skills, and when such assistance is requested by the receiving jurisdiction, such person shall be deemed licensed, certified, or permitted by the jurisdiction requesting assistance to render aid involving such skill to meet a declared

emergency or disaster, subject to such limitations and conditions as the requesting jurisdiction may prescribe by executive order or otherwise.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.7

Officers or employees of a jurisdiction rendering aid in another jurisdiction pursuant to the Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact shall be considered within the scope of employment of the requesting jurisdiction for tort liability and immunity purposes. No jurisdiction or its officers or employees rendering aid in another jurisdiction pursuant to the Compact shall be liable on account of any act or omission in good faith on the jurisdiction of such forces while so engaged or on account of the maintenance or use of any equipment or supplies in connection therewith. Good faith shall not include willful misconduct, gross negligence, or recklessness.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.8

Each jurisdiction shall provide for the payment of compensation and death benefits to injured members of the emergency forces of that jurisdiction and representatives of deceased members of such forces who sustain injuries or are killed while rendering aid pursuant to the Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact, in the same manner and on the same terms as if the injury or death were sustained within its own jurisdiction.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.9

Any jurisdiction rendering aid in another jurisdiction pursuant to the Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact shall be reimbursed by the jurisdiction receiving such aid for any loss or damage to or expense incurred in the operation of any equipment and the provision of any service in answering a request for aid and for the costs incurred in connection with such requests; provided, that any aiding jurisdiction may assume in whole or in part such loss, damage, expense, or other cost, or may loan such equipment or donate such services to the receiving jurisdiction without charge or cost; and provided further, that any two or more jurisdictions may enter into supplementary agreements establishing a different allocation of costs among those jurisdictions. Compensation expenses shall not be reimbursable under this section.

63 O.S. 2006, Section 695.10

Plans for the orderly evacuation and interjurisdiction reception of portions of the civilian population as the result of any emergency or disaster of sufficient proportions to so warrant, shall be worked out and maintained between the jurisdictions of the Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact and the emergency management or services directors of the various jurisdictions where any type of incident requiring evacuations might occur. Such plans shall be put into effect by request of the jurisdiction from which evacuees come and shall include the manner of transporting such evacuees, the number of evacuees to be received in different areas, the manner in which food, clothing, housing, and medical care will be provided, the registration of evacuees, the providing of facilities for the notification of relatives or friends, and the forwarding of such evacuees to other areas or the bringing in of additional materials, supplies, and all other relevant factors.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 2804

Every system may include police, fire fighting and emergency medical and ambulance services, and may include other emergency services, in the discretion of the affected public agency, such as poison control services, suicide prevention services and emergency management services. The system may incorporate a private ambulance service. In those areas in which a public safety agency of the state provides such emergency services, the system may include such public safety agencies.

63 O.S. 2001, Section 2805

In order to insure that proper preparation and implementation of such systems can be accomplished as provided in Section 2803 of this title, the Department of Public Safety may develop an overall plan prior to development of any system and shall coordinate the implementation of systems to be established pursuant to the provisions of this act. Any such plan shall contain an estimate of the costs of installing alternate 911 systems and an estimate of the first year's additional operating expenses, if any. The Department may formulate a plan by which it and the public agencies and public safety agencies involved may share proportionately the costs of any system and method from their current funds. The Department may aid such agencies in the formulation of concepts, methods and procedures which will improve the operation of systems and which will increase cooperation between public safety agencies. The Department may consult at regular intervals with the Oklahoma Highway Safety Coordinating Committee, the State Fire Marshal, the Oklahoma Crime Commission, the State Department of Health, the Department of Emergency Management and the public utilities in this state providing telephone service.

62 O.S. 2001, Section 139.47

Where the written findings of fact required by Section 139.46 of this title include one of the following emergencies, and the Governor finds that such emergency exists, and was not foreseen or reasonably foreseeable by the Legislature, the Governor may allocate and authorize the expenditure of monies from the State Emergency Fund to provide for such emergency without any action by the Contingency Review Board:

1. Destruction of or damage to public property caused by fire, hail, tornado, explosion, windstorm, flood, or other catastrophe;
2. Maintenance and operation of the National Guard when called to active state service in cases of emergency;
3. Allocation or expenditures necessary to provide matching funds for participation in any federal disaster relief program, emergency equipment purchase, or otherwise expedite receipt of disaster funds;
4. Allocations or expenditures deemed necessary to remove asbestos from public buildings or facilities;

5. Emergency response action necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare or livestock, wild animals, birds, fish or other aquatic life from the discharge of any hazardous waste, deleterious substance or any such other waste or substance as will or is likely to be detrimental or cause injury to the public or such livestock, wild animals, birds, fish or other aquatic life;
6. Funding for funeral expenses not to exceed Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.00) for state employees who are killed in the line of their duty and funding for premiums for six (6) months of insurance coverage already in force for spouse and dependents who are eligible for survivor coverage of those employees pursuant to rules of the Oklahoma State and Education Employees Group Insurance Board, provided, that if funds in the State Emergency Fund are insufficient to cover these expenses, the employing agency of the employees shall pay the expenses; and
7. Allocation or expenditures necessary to provide funds for disaster relief programs to political subdivisions for damage caused by fire, hail, tornado, explosion, windstorm, flood or other catastrophe for which federal disaster relief funds have been requested by the Governor and rejected by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Provided, that no political subdivision shall be deemed eligible for an allocation or expenditure of funds from the State Emergency Fund under this paragraph unless such area has first been deemed a disaster area by an executive declaration by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma.

Expenditures made to political subdivisions under this section shall be audited and processed by the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management. No application for an allocation or expenditure of funds shall be made until it is certified by the political subdivision that no other monies are available to reimburse the requesting entity for expenditures made as a result of the catastrophe. No geographical area which has been declared a disaster area by the Governor may receive an allocation of funds under this section in excess of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) in a calendar year.

Provided further, that the Governor shall allocate, without any action by the Contingency Review Board, monies from the State Emergency Fund to pay expenses for the Court on the Judiciary approved pursuant to Section 16.6 of Title 20 of the Oklahoma Statutes and not otherwise funded by other legislative appropriations.

85 O.S. 2001, Section 3

As used in the Workers' Compensation Act:

1. "Administrator" means the Administrator of workers' compensation as provided for in the Workers' Compensation Act;
2. "Case management" means the ongoing coordination, by a case manager, of health care services provided to an injured or disabled worker, including, but not limited to:
 - a. systematically monitoring the treatment rendered and the medical progress of the injured or disabled worker,

- b. ensuring that any treatment plan follows all appropriate treatment protocols, utilization controls and practice parameters,
 - c. assessing whether alternative health care services are appropriate and delivered in a cost-effective manner based upon acceptable medical standards, and
 - d. ensuring that the injured or disabled worker is following the prescribed health care plan;
3. "Case manager" means a person who:
- a. is a registered nurse with a current, active unencumbered license from the Oklahoma Board of Nursing, or
 - b. possesses one or more of the following certifications which indicate the individual has a minimum number of years of case management experience, has passed a national competency test and regularly obtains continuing education hours to maintain certification:
 - (1) Certified Disability Management Specialist (CDMS),
 - (2) Certified Case Manager (CCM),
 - (3) Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse (CRRN),
 - (4) Case Manager – Certified (CMC),
 - (5) Certified Occupational Health Nurse (COHN), or
 - (6) Certified Occupational Health Nurse Specialist (COHN-S);
4. "Claimant" means a person who claims benefits for an injury pursuant to the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act;
5. "Court" means the Workers' Compensation Court;
6. "Cumulative trauma" means an injury resulting from employment activities which are repetitive in nature and engaged in over a period of time;
7. "Employer", except when otherwise expressly stated, means a person, partnership, association, limited liability company, corporation, and the legal representatives of a deceased employer, or the receiver or trustee of a person, partnership, association, corporation, or limited liability company, departments, instrumentalities and institutions of this state and divisions thereof, counties and divisions thereof, public trusts, boards of education and incorporated cities or towns and divisions thereof, employing a person included within the term "employee" as herein defined;
8. "Employee" means any person engaged in the employment of any person, firm, limited liability company or corporation covered by the terms of the Workers' Compensation Act, and shall include workers associating themselves together under an agreement for the performance of a particular piece of work, in which event such persons so associating themselves together shall be deemed employees of the person having the work executed; provided, that if such associated

workers shall employ a worker in the execution of such contract, then as to such employed worker, both the associated employees and the principal employer shall at once become subject to the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act relating to independent contractors. Sole proprietors, members of a partnership, members of a limited liability company who own at least ten percent (10%) of the capital of the limited liability company or any stockholder-employees of a corporation who own ten percent (10%) or more stock in the corporation are specifically excluded from the foregoing definition of "employee", and shall not be deemed to be employees as respects the benefits of the Workers' Compensation Act. Provided, a sole proprietor, member of a partnership, member of a limited liability company who owns at least ten percent (10%) of the capital of the limited liability company or any stockholder-employee of a corporation who owns ten percent (10%) or more stock in the corporation who does not so elect to be covered by a policy of insurance covering benefits under the Workers' Compensation Act, when acting as a subcontractor, shall not be eligible to be covered under the prime contractor's policy of workers' compensation insurance; however, nothing herein shall relieve the entities enumerated from providing workers' compensation insurance coverage for their employees. Sole proprietors, members of a partnership, members of a limited liability company who own at least ten percent (10%) of the capital of the limited liability company or any stockholder-employees of a corporation who own ten percent (10%) or more stock in the corporation may elect to include the sole proprietors, any or all of the partnership members, any or all of the limited liability company members or any or all stockholder-employees as employees, if otherwise qualified, by endorsement to the policy specifically including them under any policy of insurance covering benefits under the Workers' Compensation Act. When so included, the sole proprietors, members of a partnership, members of a limited liability company or any or all stockholder employees shall be deemed to be employees as respects the benefits of the Workers' Compensation Act. "Employee" shall also include any person who is employed by the departments, instrumentalities and institutions of this state and divisions thereof, counties and divisions thereof, public trusts, boards of education and incorporated cities or towns and divisions thereof. "Employee" shall also include a member of the Oklahoma National Guard while in the performance of duties only while in response to state orders and any authorized voluntary or uncompensated worker, rendering services as a firefighter, peace officer or emergency management worker. Provided, "employee" shall not include any other person providing or performing voluntary service who receives no wages for the services other than meals, drug or alcohol rehabilitative therapy, transportation, lodging or reimbursement for incidental expenses. "Employee" shall also include a participant in a sheltered workshop program which is certified by the United States Department of Labor. "Employee" shall not include a person, commonly referred to as an owner-operator, who owns or leases a truck-tractor or truck for hire, if the owner-operator actually operates the truck-tractor or truck and if the person contracting with the owner-operator is not the lessor of the truck-tractor or truck. Provided, however, an owner-operator shall not be precluded from workers' compensation coverage under the Workers' Compensation Act if the owner-operator elects to participate as a

sole proprietor. "Employee" shall not include a person referred to as a drive-away owner operator who privately owns and utilizes a tow vehicle in drive-away operations and operates independently for hire, if the drive-away owner-operator actually utilizes the tow vehicle and if the person contracting with the drive-away owner-operator is not the lessor of the tow vehicle. Provided, however, a drive-away owner-operator shall not be precluded from workers' compensation coverage under the Workers' Compensation Act if the drive-away owner-operator elects to participate as a sole proprietor;

9. "Drive-away operations" include every person engaged in the business of transporting and delivering new or used vehicles by driving, either singly or by towbar, saddle mount or full mount method, or any combination thereof, with or without towing a privately owned vehicle;
10. "Employment" includes work or labor in a trade, business, occupation or activity carried on by an employer or any authorized voluntary or uncompensated worker rendering services as a firefighter, peace officer or emergency management worker;
11. "Compensation" means the money allowance payable to an employee as provided for in the Workers' Compensation Act;
12.
 - a. "Injury" or "personal injury" means only accidental injuries arising out of and in the course of employment and such disease or infection as may naturally result therefrom and occupational disease arising out of and in the course of employment as herein defined. Only injuries having as their source a risk not purely personal but one that is causally connected with the conditions of employment shall be deemed to arise out of the employment.
 - b. "Injury" or "personal injury" includes heart-related or vascular injury, illness or death only if resultant from stress in excess of that experienced by a person in the conduct of everyday living. Such stress must arise out of and in the course of a claimant's employment.
 - c. "Injury" or "personal injury" shall not include mental injury that is unaccompanied by physical injury, except in the case of rape which arises out of and in the course of employment;
13. "Wages" means the money rate at which the service rendered is recompensed under the contract of hiring in force at the time of the injury, including the reasonable value of board, rent, housing, lodging, or similar advantage received from the employer;
14. "Insurance carrier" shall include stock corporations, reciprocal or interinsurance associations, or mutual associations with which employers have insured, and employers permitted to pay compensation, directly under the provisions of paragraph 4 of subsection A of Section 61 of this title;
15. "Occupational disease" means only that disease or illness which is due to causes and conditions characteristic of or peculiar to the particular trade, occupation, process or employment in which the employee is exposed to such disease. An occupational disease arises out of the employment

only if there is a direct causal connection between the occupational disease and the conditions under which the work is performed;

16. "Permanent impairment" means any anatomical or functional abnormality or loss after maximum medical improvement has been achieved, which abnormality or loss the physician considers to be capable of being evaluated at the time the rating is made. Except as otherwise provided herein, any examining physician shall only evaluate impairment in accordance with the latest publication of the American Medical Association's "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment" in effect at the time of the injury. The Physician Advisory Committee may, pursuant to Section 201.1 of this title, recommend the adoption of a method or system to evaluate permanent impairment that shall be used in place of or in combination with the American Medical Association's "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment". Such recommendation shall be made to the Administrator of the Workers' Compensation Court who may adopt the recommendation in part or in whole. The adopted method or system shall be submitted by the Administrator to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate within the first ten (10) legislative days of a regular session of the Legislature. Such method or system to evaluate permanent impairment that shall be used in place of or in combination with the American Medical Association's "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment" shall be subject to disapproval in whole or in part by joint or concurrent resolution of the Legislature during the legislative session in which submitted. Such method or system shall be operative one hundred twenty (120) days after the last day of the month in which the Administrator submits the adopted method or system to the Legislature if the Legislature takes no action or one hundred twenty (120) days after the last day of the month in which the Legislature disapproves it in part. If adopted, permanent impairment shall be evaluated only in accordance with the latest version of the alternative method or system in effect at the time of injury. Except as otherwise provided in Section 11 of this title, all evaluations shall include an apportionment of injury causation. However, revisions to the guides made by the American Medical Association which are published after January 1, 1989, and before January 1, 1995, shall be operative one hundred twenty (120) days after the last day of the month of publication. Revisions to the guides made by the American Medical Association which are published after December 31, 1994, may be adopted in whole or in part by the Administrator following recommendation by the Physician Advisory Committee. Revisions adopted by the Administrator shall be submitted by the Administrator to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate within the first ten (10) legislative days of a regular session of the Legislature. Such revisions shall be subject to disapproval in whole or in part by joint or concurrent resolution of the Legislature during the legislative session in which submitted. Revisions shall be operative one hundred twenty (120) days after the last day of the month in which the Administrator submits the revisions to the Governor and the Legislature if the Legislature takes no action or one hundred twenty (120) days after the last day of the month in which the Legislature disapproves them in part. The examining physician shall not follow the guides based on race or ethnic origin. The

examining physician shall not deviate from said guides or any alternative thereto except as may be specifically provided for in the guides or modifications to the guides or except as may be specifically provided for in any alternative or modifications thereto, adopted by the Administrator of the Workers' Compensation Court as provided for in Section 201.1 of this title. These officially adopted guides or modifications thereto or alternative system or method of evaluating permanent impairment or modifications thereto shall be the exclusive basis for testimony and conclusions with regard to permanent impairment with the exception of paragraph 3 of Section 22 of this title, relating to scheduled member injury or loss; and impairment, including pain or loss of strength, may be awarded with respect to those injuries or areas of the body not specifically covered by said guides or alternative to said guides;

17. "Permanent total disability" means incapacity because of accidental injury or occupational disease to earn any wages in any employment for which the employee may become physically suited and reasonably fitted by education, training or experience, including vocational rehabilitation; loss of both hands, or both feet, or both legs, or both eyes, or any two thereof, shall constitute permanent total disability;
18. "Permanent partial disability" means permanent disability which is less than total and shall be equal to or the same as permanent impairment;
19. "Maximum medical improvement" means that no further material improvement would reasonably be expected from medical treatment or the passage of time;
20. "Independent medical examiner" means a licensed physician authorized to serve as a medical examiner pursuant to Section 17 of this title;
21. a. "Certified workplace medical plan" means an organization of health care providers or any other entity, certified by the State Commissioner of Health pursuant to Section 14.3 of this title, that is authorized to enter into a contractual agreement with a self-insured employer, group self-insurance association plan, an employer's workers' compensation insurance carrier or an insured, which shall include any member of an approved group self-insured association, policyholder or public entity, regardless of whether such entity is insured by CompSource Oklahoma, to provide medical care under the Workers' Compensation Act. Certified plans shall only include such plans which provide medical services and payment for services on a fee-for-service basis to medical providers and shall not include other plans which contract in some other manner, such as capitated or pre-paid plans.
 - b. If any insurer, except CompSource Oklahoma, fails to contract with or provide access to a certified workplace medical plan, an insured, after sixty (60) days' written notice to its insurance carrier, shall be authorized to contract independently with a plan of his or her choice for a period of one (1) year, to provide medical care under the Workers' Compensation Act. The insured shall be authorized to contract, after sixty (60) days' written notice to its insurance carrier, for additional one-year periods if his or her insurer has not contracted with or provided access to a certified workplace medical plan.

- c. If CompSource Oklahoma fails to contract with at least three certified workplace medical plans, each covering at least fifty counties, then the insured, after sixty (60) days' written notice to CompSource Oklahoma, shall be authorized to contract independently with a plan of his or her choice for a period of one (1) year to provide medical care under the Workers' Compensation Act. The insured shall be authorized to contract, after sixty (60) days' written notice to CompSource Oklahoma, for additional one-year periods if CompSource Oklahoma has not contracted with or fails to continue contracts with at least three certified workplace medical plans covering at least fifty counties; and

22. "Treating physician" or "attending physician" means the licensed physician who has provided or is providing medical care to the injured employee.

REPEALER 63 O.S. 2001, Sections 663, 680, 683.5a, 683.10, 683.19, 683.21 and 683.22, are hereby repealed.

It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval. Governor Brad Henry signed May 29, 2003.