

ASRC course proposal – AR training

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Purpose: To develop a brief (2-day) course that will provide enough background for an ASRC FTM to serve as AR at a search, including organizing the first 8 hours of a mission using methods compatible with the potential for escalation of the mission.

Course competencies:

At the completion of this course, a student should be able to:

- A. Serve as conference AR for a mission with effective outside SAR management
 - a. Coordinating ASRC personnel on-scene
 - b. Tracking ASRC personnel to and from a mission
 - c. Coordinating deployment of ASRC personnel with the SAR management team
- B. Serve as conference AR for a mission without effective SAR management
 - a. Effective tracking of resources, field teams, tasks, and clues
 - b. Task SAR and non-SAR resources for hasty tasks
 - c. Appropriate tasking of field resources
 - d. Appropriate and rapid hasty tasking
- C. Utilize telephonic ACA and IC backup
- D. Initiate mission management using ASRC methodology and forms

Prerequisites

- A. ASRC FTM certification or higher
- B. 40 Hour Basic Search management class (one of the following or equivalent)
 - a. Managing Search Operations
 - b. Managing the Search Function
 - c. Managing the Lost Person Incident
 - d. USAF Inland SAR school
- C. ICS/NIMS training
 - a. Required: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700
 - b. Recommended: IS-300

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Define the role of the AR, compared with that of a search manager and IC
- B. Describe the role and mission of the ASRC at a search
 - a. In states with state dispatch of resources
 - b. In states without state dispatch of resources
- C. Role and responsibility of an AR at a mission (if outside management in place)
- D. Role and responsibility of an AR if there is no effective SAR management
- E. Operate as part of a Incident Command System
- F. Define Hasty tasks and rapid methods for their development

- G. Using your team's equipment, prepare maps of an area on-scene
- H. Starting with a map, develop hasty tasks
- I. Register mission personnel
- J. Track Clues (On paper)
- K. Track Teams (On paper)
- L. Use TAF with ease
- M. Brief teams
- N. Debrief teams
- O. Establish a basic communications system
 - a. On-scene
 - b. With conference dispatch and ACA/Search Manager backup
 - c. Log Communications
- P. Request additional resources
 - a. Obtaining Permission from the RA
 - b. In a state with a state coordination of resources
 - c. In a state without state coordination of resources

Basic Course Outline

Day 1 (Usually Saturday)

Managing a mission – The ASRC Way

- A. Brief overview of SAR management, focusing on cumulative POD and POS
- B. Introduction to ASRC forms and resource tracking
 - a. The Logs
 - i. Task
 - ii. Clue
 - iii. Personnel Sign in/out
 - b. The Maps
 - i. Overview
 - ii. Task tracking
 - iii. Clue
 - c. The Folders
 - i. General
 - ii. Tasks to be done
 - iii. Tasks in Progress
 - iv. Tasks Complete
 - v. Investigation
 - vi. Masters
 - d. The duties
 - i. Search Manager
 - ii. Plans
 - 1. Next Operational period
 - 2. Requesting resources
 - 3. Tracking resources
 - iii. Ops – this operational period
 - e. The TAF
 - i. Generation

- ii. Briefing – Audience specific (trained vs untrained)
 - iii. Debriefing – Audience specific (trained vs untrained)
 - f. When and how to accelerate the ASRC system (for initial tasking)
- C. Group exercise during the day to organize mission paperwork
- D. What to do about tasks completed prior to our arrival
- E. After Dinner:**
 - a. Individual practical exercise for organizing mission paperwork after dinner

Day2 (Usually Sunday)

- A. Overview of NIMS, focusing on the role of the AR
- B. Review of Roles
 - a. Responsible Agency (RA)
 - b. Incident Commander
 - c. Agency Representative (AR)
 - d. Search Manager
 - e. Operations Section Chief
 - f. Plans Section Chief
 - g. Ground Search Operations Section Chief
 - h. Ground Search Plans Section Chief
- C. The AR Role
 - a. ASRC expectations of on-scene AR
 - b. RA expectations of the on-scene AR
- D. The first 4 hours – what do WE need to make sure gets done
 - a. Info on missing person (part 1)
 - i. Briefing Sheet
 - b. Initial “reflex” hasty tasks
 - i. Tasking SAR personnel
 - ii. Tasking non-SAR personnel
 - c. Effective Commo
 - i. On scene
 - ii. With outside world
 - d. Info on the missing person (part 2)
 - i. LPQ
 - e. Plan for likely outcomes (who responds and how if there is a find?)
- E. Requesting SAR Resources
 - a. Virginia (VDEM)
 - b. Pennsylvania (PEMA & PSARC)
 - c. Maryland (MD NRCP)
 - d. Rest of the World
- F. Securing Non-SAR resources
 - a. Food
 - b. Sleep
 - c. Potties
- G. The art of schmoozing on-scene
 - a. Introducing yourself
 - b. Humility of the AR
 - c. Determining our role

- i. What the RA thinks they want
 - ii. What they really need
 - iii. How to progress the RA between these two
 - iv. Not offering anything beyond our capabilities
 - v. How to ensure that we have enough resources to fulfill our commitments
 - d. Transition to other individuals in the AR role
 - e. Ground rules for searchers
 - i. Civilians
 - ii. Youthful searchers
 - iii. Firearms
- H. Practical exercises in on-scene schmoozing
 - a. Restricted spaces
 - b. IC doesn't want help
 - c. Restricted information (i.e. police information)
 - d. Being asked to pull out of a mission
 - e. Asking permission to call for additional resources

Note: This class outline and learning objectives are lists of content areas, NOT teaching methodologies. Since two days of PowerPoint lectures can be less pleasant than colonoscopy, I would hope that as the didactic methodology for the class is developed there will be a variety of other teaching techniques employed.