

**BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY  
OF THE AIR FORCE**

**AIR FORCE POLICY DIRECTIVE 10-8**

**15 FEBRUARY 2012**



**Operations**

**DEFENSE SUPPORT OF  
CIVIL AUTHORITIES (DSCA)**

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This publication implements *Defense Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer (EPLO) Program*; DODD 3025.18, *Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA)*; and DODD 5525.5, *DOD Cooperation with Civilian Law Enforcement Officials* and establishes policy to ensure the Air Force plans, organizes, and trains forces to conduct Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) operations within the United States and its territories and protectorates consistent with the Air Force mission. Doctrine in support of this Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) is found in Air Force Doctrine Document (AFDD) 3-27, *Homeland Operations*; AFDD 3-40, *Counter-Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Operations*; AFDD 4-02, *Health Services*; Joint Publication (JP) 3-28, *Civil Support*; and JP 3-41, *Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High-Yield Explosives Consequence Management* which provide official doctrine on Air Force support to federal, state, or local civil authorities in cases of natural or man-made domestic emergencies, civil disturbances, or authorized law enforcement activities. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AF Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the *Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS)* located at <https://www.my.af.mil/afirms/afirms/afirms/rims.cfm>. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to AF/A3O-AH using AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Form 847s from the field through the appropriate functional authority's chain of command. This directive applies to all active duty; Air National Guard (ANG) operating in federal status; and AF Reserve Command (AFRC) units, civilians and contract personnel; and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) assets performing AF-assigned missions.

## ***SUMMARY OF CHANGES***

This revision changes the title from *Homeland Defense and Civil Support* to *Defense Support of Civil Authorities* and clarifies doctrine, policy, organizational roles and responsibilities to coordinate and organize efforts to manage, prepare for, and respond to natural or man-made disasters. This document does not duplicate the requirements of AFPD 10-25, *Emergency Management* or AFPD 10-26, *Counter-Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Operations*.

### **1. Overview**

1.1. Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA), often referred to as civil support, is Department of Defense (DOD) support provided during and in the aftermath of domestic emergencies—such as terrorist events or major disasters—and for designated law enforcement and other activities. DSCA missions include, but are not limited to supporting the Department of Justice (DOJ) in preventing or defeating terrorist attacks; response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or high-yield explosive (CBRNE) incidents; response to natural disasters (e.g., earthquakes, fires, and hurricanes); support to civilian law enforcement agencies for designated activities, including supporting counterdrug activities and border protection; and response to civil disturbances or insurrection when properly directed.

1.2. This policy directive assigns responsibilities and establishes policy for Air Force elements providing DSCA in coordination with lead Federal agencies and law enforcement officials, in accordance with Public Law, Executive Orders (EO), and DOD policy and doctrine. Air Force warfighting capabilities constitute the basis for support to designated domestic civil authorities as outlined in the *National Response Framework* and the *National Strategy for Homeland Security*.

**2. Policy.** To ensure readiness to conduct DSCA planning and response operations, the Air Force will:

2.1. Establish measurable operational and enabling standards and requirements derived from warfighting capabilities in order to determine the equipment, training, manpower, and ancillary resources needed to conduct and sustain DSCA planning activities and response operations.

2.2. Develop and incorporate DSCA planning and response concepts into appropriate Air Force doctrine, policy, guidance, and instructions; and appropriate training and education courses.

2.3. Develop DSCA concepts, policies, and guidance as necessary to assist with national efforts to synchronize national (federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial) preparedness.

2.4. Ensure appropriate Air Force inspections and assessments include an evaluation of a unit's compliance with DSCA-related policy, guidance, and instructions.

2.5. Plan, program, and budget for warfighting capabilities that may be used to support DSCA operations.

2.6. Seek reimbursement for support provided to civil authorities, when authorized or mandated by Public Law, EOs, and DOD policy.

2.7. Sustain an Air Force Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer (EPLO) program.

2.8. Establish policy, guidance, and instruction for Air Force support of law enforcement activities consistent with military preparedness, national security requirements and applicable law.

### 3. Responsibilities.

3.1. Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services (AF/A1) will:

3.1.1. Provide incident response capability to recover chemical, biological, or radiological contaminated human remains and their associated personal effects; and transfer fatalities to designated collection points within the incident site.

3.1.2. Provide mortuary affairs support as directed.

3.1.3. Implement policy and provide guidance for integrating and vetting DSCA education and training requirements or learning outcomes into professional military education (PME) and ancillary training.

3.2. Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (AF/A2) will implement policy and provide guidance for planning, programming, training, and budgeting resources necessary to ensure the Air Force has the capability to collect, analyze, produce, and disseminate all-source intelligence information to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural or man-made disasters in accordance with EO 12333, *United States Intelligence Activities*, as amended and applicable federal statutes.

3.3. Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Requirements (AF/A3/5) will:

3.3.1. Serve as the Air Force focal point for DSCA planning and operational issues with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Joint Staff, Services, Combatant Commanders, National Guard Bureau, and other Federal and State offices and agencies.

3.3.2. Oversee the development, coordination, and implementation of DSCA planning and response operations doctrine, policy, guidance, instructions, and operational standards.

3.3.3. Coordinate with AF/A1 to integrate institutional education and training requirements (e.g., accessions, ancillary, and PME) into the appropriate venues prior to levying on the Total Force.

3.3.4. Oversee the development, coordination, and implementation of the Air Force EPLO program.

3.3.5. Oversee the development, coordination, and implementation of the Continuity of Operations (COOP) program.

3.3.6. Coordinate with the Office of the Inspector General (SAF/IG) to ensure DSCA inspection requirements are in accordance with AFI 90-201, *Inspector General Activities*, as applicable.

3.3.7. Coordinate with the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support (AF/A4/7) to integrate DSCA planning and response operations doctrine, policy, guidance, and instructions with emergency management, chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear response, and force protection-related doctrine, policy, guidance, and instruction.

3.4. Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations, and Mission Support (AF/A4/7) will:

3.4.1. Plan, program, organize, train, and exercise AF/A4/7 forces in support of DSCA planning and response operations.

3.4.2. Oversee the aspects of CBRN consequence management and DSCA planning and response operations.

3.4.3. Manage Air Force Incident Management System (AFIMS) to integrate policy, procedures and oversight relative to Air Force DSCA policies and procedures, the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and installation support requested under the National Response Framework (NRF).

3.5. Office of Information Dominance and Chief Information Officer (SAF/CIO A6) will oversee the development and sustainment of integrated, interoperable and network-centric communications infrastructure that is survivable in 'all hazard' environments.

3.6. Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Plans and Programs (AF/A8) will ensure Air Force strategic plans and fiscal guidance incorporate plans, programs, manpower, and equipment requirements to support DSCA activities.

3.7. Director for Studies and Analyses, Assessments and Lessons Learned (AF/A9) will provide senior leadership with independent and objective analyses and lessons learned to enhance DSCA plans, programs, operational concepts, education, training, and exercises.

3.8. Office of the Judge Advocate General (AF/JA) will ensure that Air Force DSCA doctrine, strategy, policy, guidance, and instructions comply with applicable law, Presidential Directives, EOs, and DOD policy and guidance. AF/JA will also provide advice on the legality of proposed DSCA operations to Air Force commanders and others involved in planning and executing DSCA operations.

3.9. Office of the Surgeon General (AF/SG) will:

3.9.1. Provide medical expertise to support the development of Air Force policies and procedures and associated medical response capabilities.

3.9.2. Provide functional expertise to integrate medical response capabilities into DSCA planning activities and response operations to ensure medical forces are properly organized and trained to support DSCA operations.

3.10. Office of the Inspector General (SAF/IG) will review DSCA inspection criteria and establish special interest items to assess a unit's compliance with doctrine, policy, and guidance or gather information on known or suspect problems/deficiencies as warranted.

3.11. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller (SAF/FM) will publish policy and guidance pertaining to reimbursement and accountability of Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command appropriations expended in DSCA planning thru response phases of operations.

3.12. Office of the Air Force General Counsel (SAF/GC) will advise the Secretary of the Air Force and Secretariat on DSCA doctrine, strategy, policy, guidance, and instructions ensuring their compliance with applicable law, Presidential Directives, EOs, and DOD policy and guidance.

3.13. Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (SAF/MR) provides guidance, direction, and oversight for Defense Support of Civil Authorities policy in accordance with Public Law, Executive Orders, and DOD policy and doctrine.

3.14. Director of the Air National Guard (NGB/CF) will:

3.14.1. Provide guidance and staff coordination for DSCA issues related to ANG.

3.14.2. Receive guidance and provides oversight relative to federal employment of the ANG in DSCA planning and response operations from NGB-JA.

3.14.3. Supports State Adjutant Generals (TAGs) in efforts to maintain mission readiness to perform Federal duties under Title 10, USC while also preparing to perform responsibilities under Title 32 USC or State Active Duty (SAD).

3.15. Air Force MAJCOM, DRU, and FOA commanders will develop plans, guidance, and procedures to organize and train forces to execute assigned DSCA operations consistent with military preparedness, and coordinate DSCA-related activities, initiatives, and information through AF/A3O-AH.

3.16. Commanders and civilian leaders at all levels will:

3.16.1. Develop plans, guidance, and procedures to support assigned DSCA planning and response operations.

3.16.2. Organize and train personnel to conduct assigned DSCA planning and response operations.

**4. See attachment 1 for glossary of DSCA-related documents and an explanation of terms used in this directive.**

MICHAEL B. DONLEY  
Secretary of the Air Force

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

PPD-8, *National Preparedness*, 30 Mar 11

HSPD-5, *Management of Domestic Incidents*, 28 Feb 03

HSPD-10, *Biodefense for the 21st Century*, 28 Apr 04

HSPD-18, *Medical Countermeasures against Weapons of Mass Destruction*, 31 Jan 07

*National Security Strategy*, May 10

*National Strategy for Homeland Security*, Oct 07

*Federal Strategic Guidance Statement for Chemical Attacks in the United States*, 26 Jun 09

*DOD Strategy for Homeland Defense and Civil Support*, Jun 05

DoDI 3003.01, *DoD Support to Civil Search and Rescue (SAR)*, 26 Sep 11

DODD 3025.12, *Military Assistance for Civil Disturbances (MACDIS)*, 4 Feb 94

DODI 3025.16, *Defense Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer (EPLO) Programs*, 08 Sep 11

DODD 3025.18, *Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA)*, 29 Dec 10

DODD 3160.01 *Homeland Defense Activities Conducted by the National Guard*, 25 Aug 08

DODD 5030.46, *Assistance to the DC Government in Combating Crime*, 26 Mar 71 (IC 15 Jul 74)

DODD 5105.83, *National Guard Joint Force Headquarters-State (NGJFHQs-State)*, 05 Jan 11

DODD 5111.13, *Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs (ASD (HD&ASA))*, 16 Jan 09

DODD 5525.5, *DOD Cooperation with Civilian Law Enforcement Officials*, 15 Jan 86 (IC 20 Dec 89)

DODD 6010.22, *National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)*, 21 Jan 03

CJCSI 3125.01B, *Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) for Domestic Consequence Management (CM) Operations in Response to a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or High-Yield Explosive (CBRNE) Incident*, 19 Aug 09

Joint Pub 1-02, *DOD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms*, 8 Nov 10 (Amended, 15 Aug 11)

Joint Pub 3-28, *Civil Support*, 14 Sep 07

Joint Pub 3-41, *Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High Yield Explosive Consequence Management*, 02 Oct 06

AFDD 3-27, *Homeland Operations*, 21 Mar 06 (IC 28 Jul 11)

AFDD 3-40, *Counter-Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Operations*, 26 Jan 07 (IC 28 Jul 11)

AFDD 4-02, *Health Services*, 11 Dec 02

AFPD 10-25, *Emergency Management*, 26 Sep 07

AFPD 10-26, *Counter-Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Operations*, 26 Sep 07

AFPD 10-27, *Civil Air Patrol*, 29 July 05

AFPD 10-29, *Worldwide Aeromedical Evacuation Operations*, 06 Aug 07

AFPD 31-1, *Integrated Defense*, 07 Jul 07 (IC 22 Apr 09)

AFI 10-801, *Assistance to Civilian Law Enforcement Agencies*, 15 Apr 94

AFI 10-802, *Military Support to Civil Authorities*, 19 Apr 02

AFI 14-104, *Oversight of Intelligence Activities*, 16 Apr 07

Air Force Guidance Memorandum to AFI 10-2501, *Air Force Emergency Management Program Planning and Operations*, 01 May 11

AFI 90-201, *Inspector General Activities*, 17 Jun 09

AFMAN 33-363, *Management of Records*, 01 Mar 08

### ***Adopted Forms***

Air Force Form 847, *Recommend for Change of Publication*, 22 Sep 09

### ***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AF**—Air Force

**AF/A1**—AF Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services

**AF/A2**—AF Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance

**AF/A3/5**—AF Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Requirements

**AF/A4/7**—AF Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support

**AF/A7C**—AF Civil Engineer

**AF/A8**—AF Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Plans and Programs

**AF/A9**—AF Director for Studies & Analyses, Assessments and Lessons Learned

**AF/SG**—AF Surgeon General

**AF/JA**—AF Judge Advocate

**AFDD**—AF Doctrine Document

**AFI**—AF Instruction

**AFIMS**—AF Incident Management System

**AFMAN**—AF Manual

**AFPD**—AF Policy Directive

**AFRC**—Air Force Reserve Command

**ANG**—Air National Guard

**ASD (HD&ASA)**—Assistant Secretary of Defense, Homeland Defense and America's Security Affairs

**CBRN**—Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear

**CBRNE**—Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High-Yield Explosive

**CJCS**—Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

**CAP**—Civil Air Patrol

**CONOPS**—Concept of Operations

**COOP**—Continuity of Operations

**DHS**—Department of Homeland Security

**DOD**—Department of Defense

**DODD**—DOD Directive

**DODI**—DOD Instruction

**DRU**—Direct Reporting Unit

**DSCA**—Defense Support of Civil Authorities

**EM**—Emergency Management

**EO**—Executive Order

**EP**—Emergency Preparedness

**EPLO**—Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer

**FEMA**—Federal Emergency Management Agency

**FOA**—Field Operating Agency

**HAF**—Headquarters Department of United States Air Force

**HSPD**—Homeland Security Presidential Directive

**ISR**—Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance

**JS**—Joint Staff

**MA**—Mission Assignment

**MAJCOM**—Major Command

**NDMS**—National Disaster Medical System

**NGB**—National Guard Bureau

**NGB/CF**—Director Air National Guard

**NGB/JA**—National Guard Bureau Judge Advocate

**NIMS**—National Incident Management System



**NRF**—National Response Framework

**OPR**—Office of Primary Responsibility  
**OASD (HD&ASA)** —Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Homeland Defense and America’s Security Affairs

**PME**—Professional Military Education

**RDS**—Records Disposition Schedule

**RFA**—Request for Assistance

**SAD**—State Active Duty

**SAF**—Secretary of the Air Force

**SAF/CIO A6**—Office of Information Dominance and Chief Information Officer

**SAF/FM**—Assistant Secretary for Financial Management and Comptroller

**SAF/GC**—General Counsel

**SAF/IG**—Secretary of the Air Force Inspector General

**SECAF**—Secretary of the Air Force

**SECDEF**—Secretary of Defense

**US**—United States

**U.S.C.**—United States Code

### *Terms*

**Civil Support**— Department of Defense support to US civil authorities for domestic emergencies, and for designated law enforcement and other activities. (JP 1-02)

**Consequence Management**— Actions taken to maintain or restore essential services and manage and mitigate problems resulting from disasters and catastrophes, including natural, man-made, or terrorist incidents. (JP 1-02)

**Continuity of Operations**— The degree or state of being continuous in the conduct of functions, tasks, or duties necessary to accomplish a military action or mission in carrying out the national military strategy. It includes the functions and duties of the commander, as well as the supporting functions and duties performed by the staff and others acting under the authority and direction of the commander. (JP 1-02)

**Emergency Management**—The single, integrated Air Force program to coordinate and organize efforts to manage, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the direct and indirect consequences of CBRN and conventional weapon attacks, major accidents and natural disasters. The primary missions of the Air Force EM Program are to 1) save lives, 2) minimize the loss or degradation of resources and 3) continue, sustain, and restore combat and combat support operational capability in an “all hazards” physical threat environment at Air Force installations worldwide. The ancillary missions of the EM Program are to support homeland defense and civil support and to provide support to civil and host-nation authorities in accordance with DOD directives and through the appropriate Combatant Command. The Office of The Civil Engineer, HQ AF/A7C, manages the EM Program. (AFPD 10-25)

**Emergency Preparedness**— Measures taken in advance of an emergency to reduce the loss of life and property and to protect a nation's institutions from all types of hazards through a comprehensive emergency management program of preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. (JP 1-02)

**Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer**— A senior reserve officer who represents their Service at the appropriate joint field office conducting planning and coordination responsibilities in support of civil authorities. (JP 1-02)

**Homeland Defense**— The protection of United States sovereignty, territory, domestic population, and critical defense infrastructure against external threats and aggression or other threats as directed by the President. (JP 1-02)

**Homeland Operations**—Incorporates all applications of air and space power designed to detect, preempt, respond to, mitigate, and recover from the full spectrum of incidents and threats to the homeland, whether man-made or natural. This includes homeland defense, defense support of civil authorities, and emergency preparedness. This construct for homeland defense and civil support establishes the Air Force's responsibilities in direct support of homeland security. (AFDD 3-27)