

## Incident Commander Checklist

- Develop incident objectives based upon the Fire Chiefs determination of funeral category
- Determine needed Incident Management Team positions and make appointments
- Approve all Incident Action Plans, expenditures and special considerations
- Report activities to the Fire Chief

### TEAM CONSIDERATIONS:

The appointment of an IC and the formation of an IMT are critical to the success of the incident and to provide the best environment possible for the healing of all involved. Patience, communications and coordination are the key to the effectiveness of the team. There is no right or wrong choice when it comes to selecting an IC or command and general staff positions within the department. However, consideration needs to be given to assessing the stability of the personnel available and call upon regional incident management staffing resources when appropriate. The process of managing an incident of this nature is in general, a good outlet for processing the emotions of grief, and allows a method to honor the deceased. This type of incident can also create additional stresses that maybe overwhelming for department staff. A constant assessment of team member mental status is important.

- It is recommended that the IC and Section Chiefs appoint deputies to assist.
- The span of control for these types of incidents can quickly exceed management capabilities; the request for additional overhead resources should be done as early as possible, including the assignment of task force leaders.
- The team should plan for greater attendance than initial estimates; as the incident gains public recognition the numbers of attendees has a tendency to expand dramatically.
- Consider forming a Chaplain Group to float through the various planned events to offer support.
- Jackson County Search and Rescue is an outstanding resource for traffic control and scene security. They also have a cache of communications and incident management equipment available.

- Assigning a Staging Area Manager can help greatly with coordinating the arrival and departure of resources.