

# ***National Incident Management System***

## **Communications and Incident Management - 2026**

### Part 1

#### **NIMS Overview Presentation**

**Goal:** Understand what NIMS is, its 5 core components, and its role in emergency management.

#### **I. Introduction to NIMS**

- **What is NIMS?** A comprehensive, national, standardized approach to incident management.
- **Purpose:** To enable the whole community (government, NGOs, private sector) to work together seamlessly to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from incidents.
- **Applicability:** Applies to all incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity.
- **Key Concept:** NIMS is **not** just the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS is a *component* of NIMS.
- **Benefits:**
  - Standardized organizational structures.
  - Improved interoperability (communication, equipment).
  - Consistency across all levels of government.

#### **II. The Three Pillars of NIMS Framework**

*According to the 2017 NIMS update, the system is primarily built on three key structures:*

1. **Resource Management:** Systems to identify, order, track, and pay for resources before and during incidents.
2. **Command and Coordination:** Leadership structures, such as Incident Command System (ICS), Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), and Multiagency Coordination Groups (MAC Groups).
3. **Communications and Information Management:** Systems to ensure timely, accurate, and actionable information exchange.

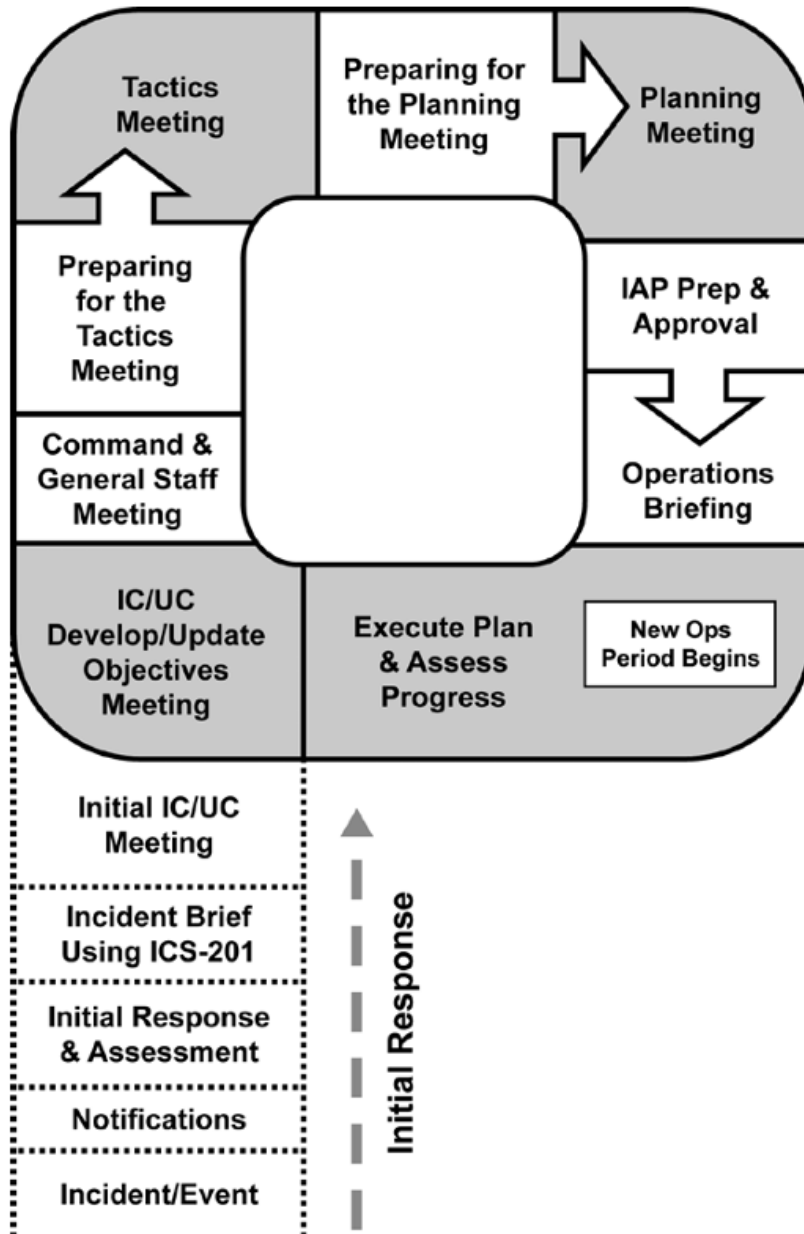
### III. The Five Components of NIMS

- **1. Preparedness:** Actions taken *before* an incident.
  - Planning, training, and exercising.
  - Personnel qualifications and certification standards.
  - Resource typing (standardizing equipment/teams).
- **2. Communications and Information Management:**
  - **Common Terminology:** Using plain English (no codes).
  - **Interoperability:** Systems that work together.
  - **Joint Information System (JIS):** Ensures public information is accurate and consistent.
- **3. Resource Management:**
  - Managing resources (personnel, equipment, facilities) effectively.
  - The 6-step process: Identify, Order, Mobilize, Track, Reimburse, Demobilize.
- **4. Command and Management:** The core operational structure.
  - **Incident Command System (ICS):** Standardized, on-scene, functional management.
  - **Unified Command (UC):** Used when multiple agencies or jurisdictions are involved.
  - **Emergency Operations Center (EOC):** Off-scene support and coordination.
  - **Management by Objectives:** Setting goals, selecting strategies, and monitoring progress.
- **5. Ongoing Management and Maintenance:**
  - FEMA manages NIMS to ensure it stays relevant based on lessons learned.

**IV. Key Concepts: The "Planning P" & Scalability**

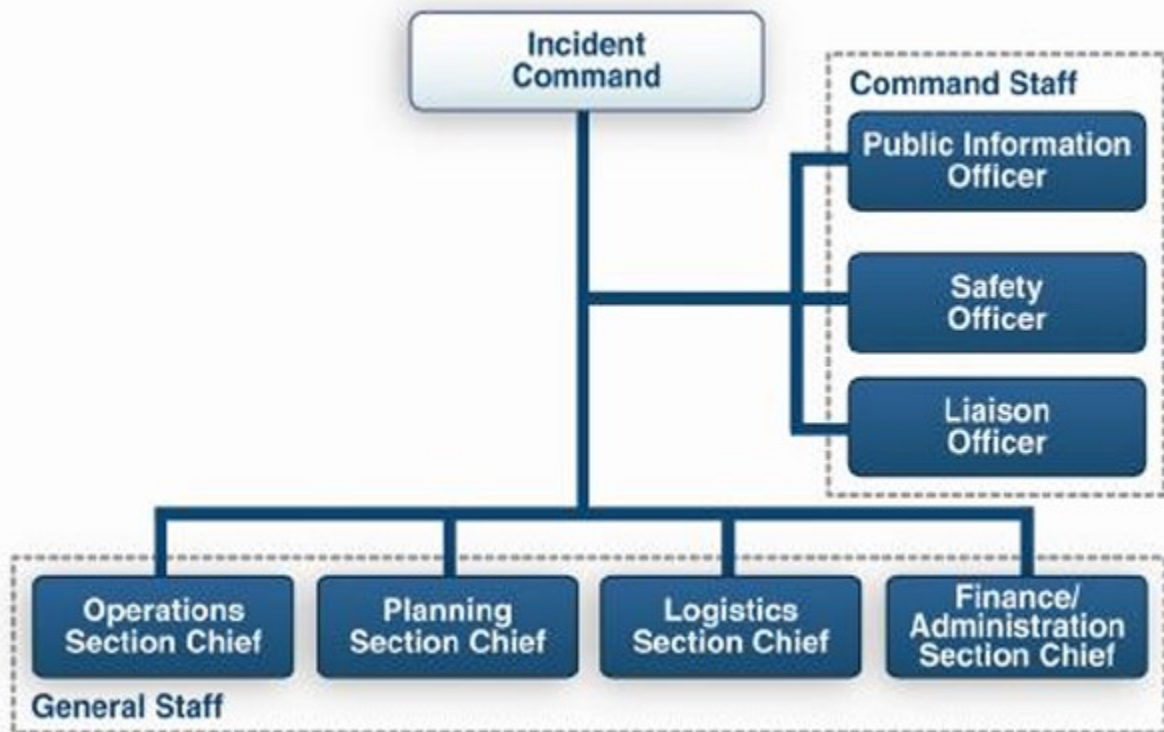
- **Scalability:** NIMS applies to a small car crash just as well as a large hurricane.
- **The Planning "P":** A visual representation of the incident planning process.  
Initial response -> **Initial Incident Briefing (ICS 201)** -> Action Plan Development
- **Unity of Effort:** Coordinating activities to achieve common objectives while maintaining agency authority.

**The Planning "P"**



### V. NIMS Review

- **Summary:** NIMS is the "how" of incident response, providing a common language and structure.
- **Mandate:** Compliance is necessary to receive federal preparedness grants.
- **Radio Communications are normally under Logistics:** Logistics is the detailed coordination of a complex operation involving many people, facilities, or supplies.



- **Final Thought:** NIMS saves lives through better organization and faster, more efficient resource sharing.