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- b. Executive Director, Administrator, Assistant Administrator, Director of Nursing
 - c. Director of Maintenance/Environmental Services
 - d. Other key individuals within the organization, Ownership, and Corporate
 - f. Insurance Agent, if applicable
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4. Guidance provided in the plan for the specific crisis or disaster situation shall be followed.

3. National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS)

_____ (*facility name*) shall utilize elements of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS) in crisis and disaster situations to help manage the events in an organized and efficient manner.

While long term care facilities are not required to implement this approach, _____ (*facility name*) has made the decision to utilize elements of the Incident Command System to handle emergencies.

National Incident Management System & Incident Command System

In Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5), the President of the United States ordered the Department of Homeland Security to institute a **national incident management system** to provide a comprehensive and nationwide approach for federal, state, tribal, and local governments “to align command, control, organization structure, terminology, communication protocols, resources, and resource-typing for synchronization of response efforts at all echelons of government.” This has been accomplished. While it is required for federal, state, tribal, and local governments to use the **Incident Command System (ICS)** in a nationally declared emergency, there is a great benefit of ensuring more rapid external response and consistency when all agencies, including healthcare facilities, incorporate and support this system.

Incident Command System (ICS) is:

- A proven management system based on successful business practices
- The result of decades of lessons learned in the organization and management of emergency incidents

This system represents organizational “best practices,” and as a component of the **National Incident Management System (NIMS)**, has become the standard for incident management across the country.

NIMS Components: Each facility should have a basic understanding of NIMS including the following key components:

Command and Management: NIMS standard incident command structures are based on three key organizational systems:

- The Incident Command System (ICS)
- Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS)
- Public Information Systems