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## **Unit 1: Course Overview**

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## Unit 1. Course Overview

### Unit Objectives

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the Incident Command System (ICS) organization appropriate to the complexity of the incident or event.
  - Use ICS to manage an incident or event.
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### Scope

- Course Welcome and Course Objectives
  - Student Introductions and Expectations
  - Instructor Expectations
  - Incident Command System: Review
  - ICS Features: Review
    - Activity
    - Features
  - Course Structure
  - Course Logistics
  - Successful Course Completion
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### COURSE WELCOME

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#### Visual 1.1

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#### Key Points:

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Welcome to the IS-0200.b – ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents (ICS-200) course. This course focuses on single resources and initial action incidents and builds on the ICS-100 course.

IS-0200.b follows NIMS guidelines and meets the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Baseline Training requirements for ICS-200.

This is the second in a series of ICS courses designed to meet the all-hazards, all-agency NIMS ICS requirement for operational personnel. Descriptions and details about the other ICS courses in the series may be found on our Web site: <http://training.fema.gov>.

Introduce yourself and provide information about your background and experience with the Incident Command System (ICS).

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## COURSE OBJECTIVES

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### Visual 1.2

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**Course Objectives**

- Describe the Incident Command System (ICS) organization appropriate to the complexity of the incident or event.
- Use ICS to manage an incident or event.



 **FEMA** Visual 1.2  
Course Overview

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### Key Points:

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Review the course objectives. By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the Incident Command System (ICS) organization appropriate to the complexity of the incident or event.
- Use ICS to manage an incident or event.

This course is designed to provide overall incident management skills rather than tactical expertise. Additional courses are available on developing and implementing incident tactics.

**STUDENT INTRODUCTIONS AND EXPECTATIONS**

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**Visual 1.3**

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**Student Introductions**



**Please provide your:**

- **Name, job title, and organization.**
- **Overall experience with emergency or incident response.**
- **ICS qualifications and most recent ICS experience.**

 **FEMA** Visual 1.3  
Course Overview

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**Key Points:**

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You should introduce yourself by providing the following information:

- Name, job title, and organization.
- Overall experience with emergency or incident response.
- ICS qualifications and most recent ICS experience.

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## STUDENT INTRODUCTIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

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### Visual 1.4

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### Key Points:

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Identify what you hope to gain from attending this course.

**INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS**

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**Visual 1.5**

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**Instructor Expectations**

- **Cooperate with the group.**
- **Be open to new ideas.**
- **Participate actively in all of the training activities and exercises.**
- **Return to class at the stated time.**
- **Use what you learn in the course to perform effectively within an ICS organization.**



The slide features a decorative banner at the bottom with the FEMA logo on the left, the text 'FEMA' in the center, and 'Visual 1.5 Course Overview' on the right. The banner has a red and blue wavy background with a white star.

**Key Points:**

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Instructors expect you will:

- Cooperate with the group.
- Be open minded to new ideas.
- Participate actively in all of the training activities and exercises.
- Return to class at the stated time.
- Use what you learn in the course to perform effectively within an ICS organization.

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## INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM: REVIEW

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### Visual 1.6

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### What Is ICS?

**ICS:**

- Is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazard incident management concept.
- Enables a coordinated response among various jurisdictions and agencies.
- Established common processes for planning and management of resources.
- Allows for integration within a common organizational structure.



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Visual 1.6  
Course Overview

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### Key Points:

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Remember in the ICS-100 course you learned that ICS is used to ensure the effective management of incidents and events.

ICS was developed in the 1970s following a series of catastrophic fires in California's urban interface. Property damage ran into the millions, and many people died or were injured. The personnel assigned to determine the causes of these outcomes studied the case histories and discovered that response problems could rarely be attributed to lack of resources or failure of tactics. Surprisingly, studies found that response problems were far more likely to result from inadequate management than from any other single reason.

ICS:

- Is a standardized management tool for meeting the demands of small or large emergency or nonemergency situations.
- Represents "best practices," and has become the standard for emergency management across the country.
- May be used for planned events, natural disasters, and acts of terrorism.
- Is a key feature of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

ICS is not just a standardized organizational chart, but an entire management system.

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM: REVIEW

Visual 1.7

**When Is ICS Used?**

ICS can be used to manage:

- Natural hazards.
- Technological hazards.
- Human-caused hazards.
- Planned events.



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Visual 1.7  
Course Overview

**Key Points:**

- All levels of government, the private sector, and nongovernmental agencies must be prepared to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from a wide spectrum of major events and natural disasters that exceed the capabilities of any single entity.
- Threats from natural disasters and human-caused events, such as terrorism, require a unified and coordinated national approach to planning and to domestic incident management.

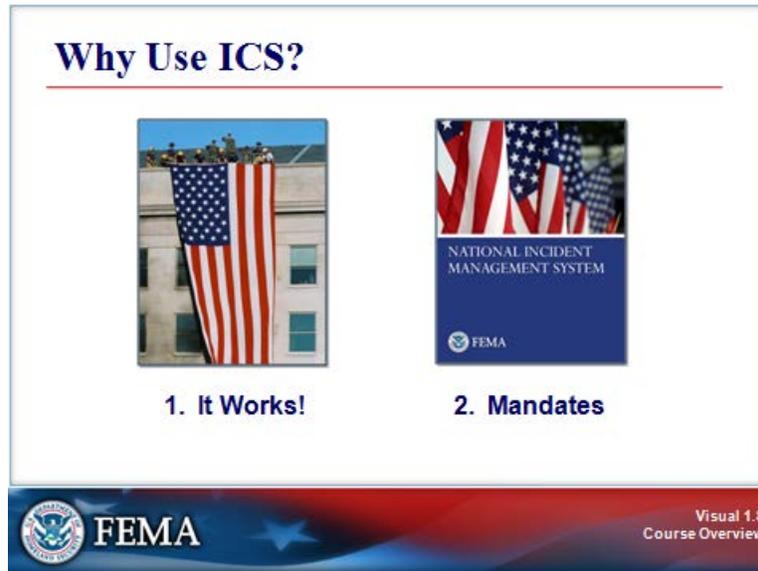
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## INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM: REVIEW

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### Visual 1.8

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### Key Points:

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- ICS works! It saves lives! Life safety is the top priority for ICS response.
- The use of ICS is mandated by Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5 and Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) 8 and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

The following page includes more information about HSPD-5 and PPD-8. The next part of this unit includes a brief review of NIMS.

### INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM: REVIEW

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#### Visual 1.8 (Continued)

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HSPD-5, Management of Domestic Incidents, identified steps for improved coordination in response to incidents. It required the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to coordinate with other Federal departments and agencies and State, local, and tribal governments to establish a National Response Framework (NRF) and a National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) describes the Nation's approach to preparedness—one that involves the whole community, including individuals, businesses, community- and faith-based organizations, schools, tribes, and all levels of government (Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial).

PPD-8 links together national preparedness efforts using the following key elements:

- National Preparedness System: How We Get There
- National Planning System: What We Deliver
- Annual National Preparedness: How Well We Are Doing
- Whole Community Initiative: Who We Engage

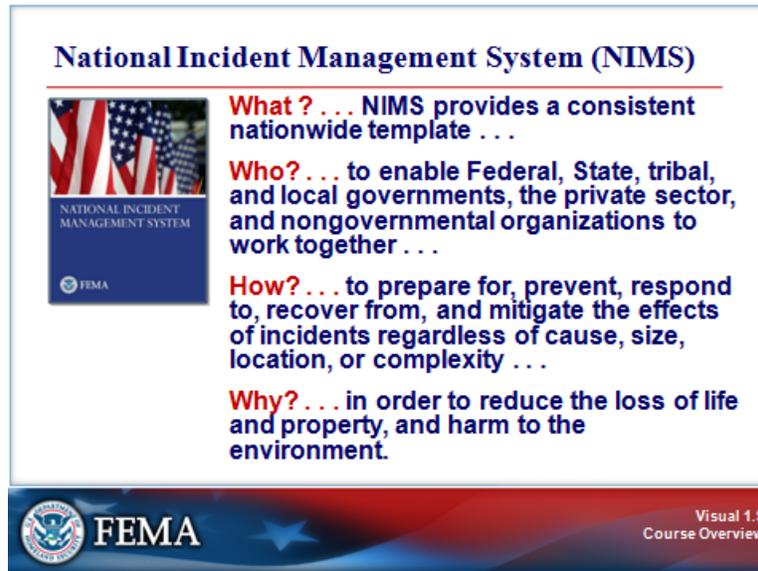
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## INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM: REVIEW

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### Visual 1.9

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**National Incident Management System (NIMS)**

**What? . . . NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template . . .**

**Who? . . . to enable Federal, State, tribal, and local governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together . . .**

**How? . . . to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity . . .**

**Why? . . . in order to reduce the loss of life and property, and harm to the environment.**

Visual 1.9  
Course Overview

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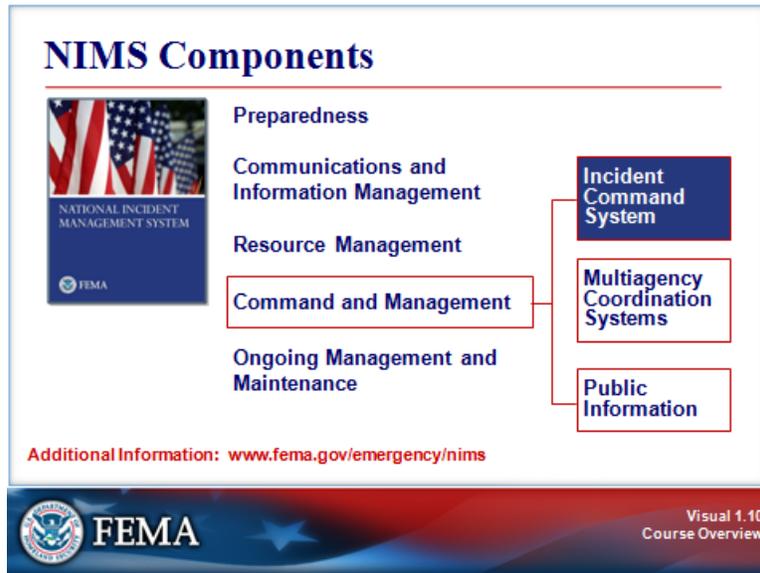
### Key Points:

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- The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a consistent nationwide template to enable Federal, State, tribal, and local governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life and property, and harm to the environment.
- Building upon the Incident Command System (ICS), NIMS provides the Nation's first responders and authorities with the same foundation for incident management for terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and other emergencies. NIMS requires that ICS be institutionalized.

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM: REVIEW

Visual 1.10



Key Points:

NIMS represents a core set of doctrine, concepts, principles, terminology, and organizational processes that enables effective, efficient, and collaborative incident management.

- **Preparedness:** Effective emergency management and incident response activities begin with a host of preparedness activities conducted on an ongoing basis, in advance of any potential incident. Preparedness involves an integrated combination of planning, procedures and protocols, training and exercises, personnel qualifications and certification, and equipment certification.
- **Communications and Information Management:** Emergency management and incident response activities rely upon communications and information systems that provide a common operating picture to all command and coordination sites. NIMS describes the requirements necessary for a standardized framework for communications and emphasizes the need for a common operating picture. NIMS is based upon the concepts of interoperability, reliability, scalability, portability, and the resiliency and redundancy of communications and information systems.
- **Resource Management:** Resources (such as personnel, equipment, and/or supplies) are needed to support critical incident objectives. The flow of resources must be fluid and adaptable to the requirements of the incident. NIMS defines standardized mechanisms and establishes the resource management process to: identify requirements, order and acquire, mobilize, track and report, recover and demobilize, reimburse, and inventory resources.

(Continued on the next page.)

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## INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM: REVIEW

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### Visual 1.10 (Continued)

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- **Command and Management:** The Command and Management component within NIMS is designed to enable effective and efficient incident management and coordination by providing flexible, standardized incident management structures. The structures are based on three key organizational constructs: **the Incident Command System, Multiagency Coordination Systems, and Public Information.**
- **Ongoing Management and Maintenance:** Within the auspices of Ongoing Management and Maintenance, there are two components: the National Integration Center (NIC) and Supporting Technologies.



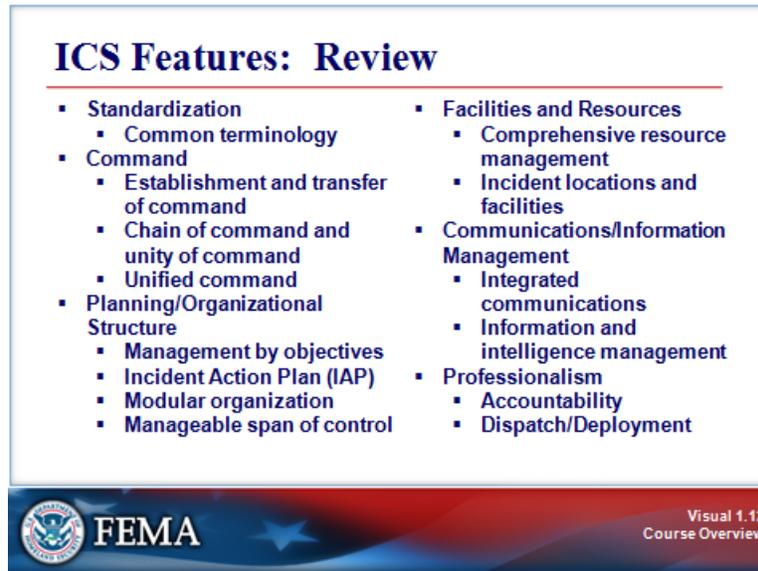
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## ICS FEATURES: REVIEW

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### Visual 1.12

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### Key Points:

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#### Standardization:

- **Common Terminology:** Using common terminology helps to define organizational functions, incident facilities, resource descriptions, and position titles.

#### Command:

- **Establishment and Transfer of Command:** The command function must be clearly established from the beginning of an incident. When command is transferred, the process must include a briefing that captures all essential information for continuing safe and effective operations.
- **Chain of Command and Unity of Command:** Chain of command refers to the orderly line of authority within the ranks of the incident management organization. Unity of command means that every individual has a designated supervisor to whom he or she reports at the scene of the incident. These principles clarify reporting relationships and eliminate the confusion caused by multiple, conflicting directives. Incident managers at all levels must be able to control the actions of all personnel under their supervision.

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### ICS FEATURES: REVIEW

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#### Visual 1.12 (Continued)

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- **Unified Command:** In incidents involving multiple jurisdictions, a single jurisdiction with multiagency involvement, or multiple jurisdictions with multiagency involvement, Unified Command allows agencies with different legal, geographic, and functional authorities and responsibilities to work together effectively without affecting individual agency authority, responsibility, or accountability.

#### Planning/Organizational Structure:

- **Management by Objectives:** Includes establishing overarching objectives; developing strategies based on incident objectives; developing and issuing assignments, plans, procedures, and protocols; establishing specific, measurable objectives for various incident management functional activities and directing efforts to attain them, in support of defined strategies; and documenting results to measure performance and facilitate corrective action.
- **Incident Action Planning:** Incident Action Plans (IAPs) provide a coherent means of communicating the overall incident objectives in the context of both operational and support activities.
- **Modular Organization:** The Incident Command organizational structure develops in a modular fashion that is based on the size and complexity of the incident, as well as the specifics of the hazard environment created by the incident.
- **Manageable Span of Control:** Span of control is key to effective and efficient incident management. Within ICS, the span of control of any individual with incident management supervisory responsibility should range from three to seven subordinates.

#### Facilities and Resources:

- **Comprehensive Resource Management:** Maintaining an accurate and up-to-date picture of resource utilization is a critical component of incident management. Resources are defined as personnel, teams, equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment or allocation in support of incident management and emergency response activities.
- **Incident Locations and Facilities:** Various types of operational support facilities are established in the vicinity of an incident to accomplish a variety of purposes. Typical designated facilities include Incident Command Posts, Bases, Camps, Staging Areas, Mass Casualty Triage Areas, and others as required.

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## ICS FEATURES: REVIEW

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### Visual 1.12 (Continued)

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#### **Communications/Information Management:**

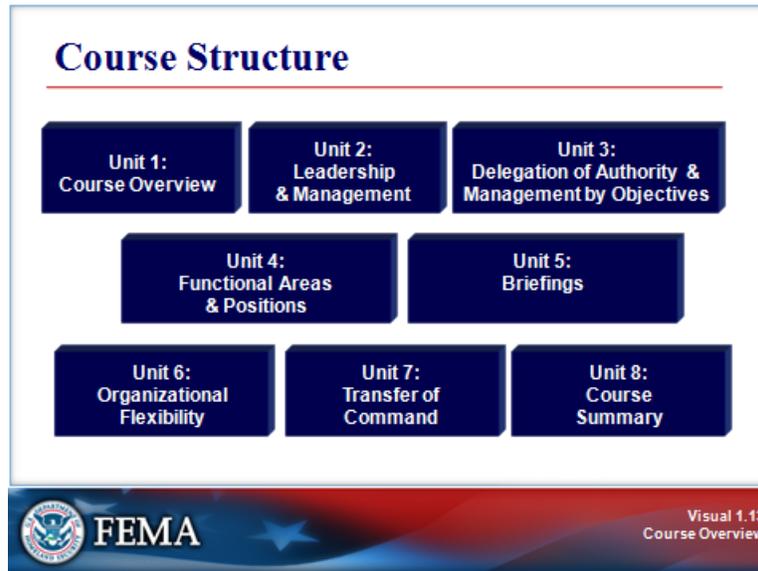
- **Integrated Communications:** Incident communications are facilitated through the development and use of a common communications plan and interoperable communications processes and architectures.
- **Information and Intelligence Management:** The incident management organization must establish a process for gathering, analyzing, sharing, and managing incident-related information and intelligence.

#### **Professionalism:**

- **Accountability:** Effective accountability at all jurisdictional levels and within individual functional areas during incident operations is essential. To that end, the following principles must be adhered to:
  - Check-In: All responders, regardless of agency affiliation, must report in to receive an assignment in accordance with the procedures established by the Incident Commander.
  - Incident Action Plan: Response operations must be directed and coordinated as outlined in the IAP.
  - Unity of Command: Each individual involved in incident operations will be assigned to only one supervisor.
  - Personal Responsibility: All responders are expected to use good judgment and be accountable for their actions.
  - Span of Control: Supervisors must be able to adequately supervise and control their subordinates, as well as communicate with and manage all resources under their supervision.
  - Resource Tracking: Supervisors must record and report resource status changes as they occur.
- **Dispatch/Deployment:** Personnel and equipment should respond only when requested or when dispatched by an appropriate authority.

### COURSE STRUCTURE

#### Visual 1.13



#### Key Points:

This course will focus on the following ICS features:

- Chain of Command and Unity of Command
- Modular Organization
- Management by Objectives
- Manageable Span of Control
- Transfer of Command

This course includes the following eight units:

- Unit 1: Course Overview (current unit)
- Unit 2: Leadership & Management
- Unit 3: Delegation of Authority & Management by Objectives
- Unit 4: Functional Areas & Positions
- Unit 5: Briefings
- Unit 6: Organizational Flexibility
- Unit 7: Transfer of Command
- Unit 8: Course Summary

Review the agenda on the last page.

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## COURSE LOGISTICS

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### Visual 1.14

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### Course Logistics

- Course agenda
- Sign-in sheet
- Housekeeping:
  - Breaks
  - Message and telephone location
  - Cell phone policy
  - Facilities
  - Other concerns



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Visual 1.14  
Course Overview

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### Key Points:

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Review the following course logistics:

- Course agenda
- Sign-in sheet
- Housekeeping:
  - Breaks
  - Message and telephone location
  - Cell phone policy
  - Facilities
  - Other concerns

**SUCCESSFUL COURSE COMPLETION**

**Visual 1.15**

**Successful Course Completion**

- Participate in unit activities/exercises
- Achieve 75% or higher on the final exam
- Complete the end-of-course evaluation



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Visual 1.15  
Course Overview

**Key Points:**

Successful course completion requires that you:

- Participate in unit activities/exercises.
- Achieve 75% or higher on the final exam.
- Complete the end-of-course evaluation.

The next unit covers the ICS leadership and management principles.

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## ICS-200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents Sample Agenda

### DAY 1

#### Morning Session

- Unit 1: Course Overview (1 hour 30 minutes)
- Unit 2: Leadership & Management (2 hours)

#### Afternoon Session

- Unit 3: Delegation of Authority & Management by Objectives (2 hours)
- Unit 4: Functional Areas & Positions (2 hours)

### DAY 2

#### Morning Session

- Unit 5: Briefings (1 hour 30 minutes)
- Unit 6: Organizational Flexibility (1 hour 30 minutes)

#### Afternoon Session

- Unit 7: Transfer of Command (45 minutes)
- Unit 8: Course Summary (1 hour)