

## FINAL RECOMMENDATION

**Recommendation of the Action Plan Team:** CORE Mission

**State of Issue #:** 15-22

**Recommendation #:** R-78

Summary: Evaluate the possibility of having the USFA assume the administration of FEMA's first response programs (e.g. USAR)

Recommendation: If the COO wishes this to occur, a working team/group made up of USFA staff should then be appointed to research and then develop all necessary coordination including formal documentation of all specific steps and procedures necessary to assume the administration of FEMA's first response program.

Background: This was recommended for consideration a number of years ago. Without going into great detail, USFA rejected this recommendation due to the lack of adequate resources. But, for the same reasons, USFA once received major FEMA assignments (with some resources for a time) in dealing with hazmat. It is felt that a concept of an USFA/First Responder community working relationship warrants study and consideration. (The FEMA hazmat role returned to headquarters within about a one-year time period.)

Certainly, today and into the future, to everyone's advantage, a significantly improved working relationship between the Response and Recovery Directorate (RR) and USFA would prove beneficial. A structured interactive relationship would enhance FEMA's ties to the first responder community.

1. Step(s) to Achieve: COO will need to approve R-72 and R-77 before this recommendation can be finalized.
2. Estimated Timeframe: Not applicable at this time.
3. Estimated Cost: Not applicable at this time.
4. Outcome: If this recommendation is pursued, USFA would require additional FTEs, budgetary supplement, and additional office space in order to accomplish this requirement.

Conclusion:

Once the COO has approved this recommendation the team discussed and determined that with adequate resources and a well-defined RR/USFA working relationship, such efforts could improve services received by our customers.

Submitted by:

Action Plan Team: Core Mission

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APPROVED/Date

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DISAPPROVED/Date