Evacuation Terminology

FIRESCOPE – FIELD OPERATIONS GUIDE

ICS 420-1

Protective Action Terms

1. **Evacuation Warning –** The alerting of people in an affected area(s) of potential threat to life and property. An Evacuation Warning considers the probability that an area will be affected within a given timeframe and prepares people for a potential evacuation order. Evacuation Warnings are particularly necessary when dealing with a variety of issues such as special needs populations and large animals.

2. Evacuation Order – Requires the immediate movement of people out of an affected area due to an imminent threat to life.

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Web Link:

http://demo.epageview.com/FOG2017/viewer/desktop/#page/343

Page 21-2 PROTECTIVE ACTION GUIDELINES

Cal OES – *"LEGAL GUIDELINES FOR CONTROLLING MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND PROPERTY DURING AN EMERGENCY"*

Protective Action Terms

V. Evacuations

For the purpose of this guideline, an evacuation is considered a control on the movement of people and their property. An evacuation may be a **voluntary evacuation**, where the governing body recommends but does not require the evacuation of an area. Alternately, an evacuation may be **mandatory**, where the governing body determines that under its police power it can require the citizens of an area to leave that area in order to protect life, safety, or the general welfare of the population during an emergency. In either event, an evacuation is best ordered pursuant to either statutory authority or the Emergency Services Act.

Penal Code section 409.5 authorizes officers of the highway patrol, police departments, marshal's office or sheriff's office and certain other statutorily designated law enforcement officers to close an area whenever there is a menace to public health or safety. Although section 409.5 is often utilized during emergencies, it is not clear whether it authorizes law enforcement to remove persons who were within the area prior to its closure. Further, only those officers specifically named in the statute may enforce it.

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Web Link:

http://www.caloes.ca.gov/PlanningPreparednessSite/Documents/LegalGuidelinesforControllingMovementPeopleProperty(FEAT%20doc).pdf

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