FIRST RESPONDERS TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION IN FIRST AID AND SAFETY TECHNIQUES FOR PREPAREDNESS IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AND DISASTERS

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Abstract: Police Officers throughout the United States are the first responders whenever there are any type of emergency situations and disasters (natural, unnatural or manmade). Police Officers need to be trained and certified in first aid and safety techniques, and recertification should be on a continuous basis before the original certification expires. Identified training needs include Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR); First Aid; Automated Emergency Defibrillator (AED) and Blood-Borne Pathogens. The American Red Cross and Police Officers share a common interest and goal: to serve and protect the public. I have developed a curriculum for training and a plan for implementation that is based on partnership between the American Red Cross and a City Police Department. The curriculum of the “First Responder Train the Trainer Program” consists of five first aid/safety techniques teaching elements (teaching methods for trainers; preparation to respond; scene, victim and environment assessment; life-threatening injuries response; and non-life threatening injuries response). A curriculum and implementation plan using the City of Jackson Police Department as an example will be presented.

Keywords: Emergency preparedness, first responders, first-aid and safety techniques, training

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