



## Characteristics of the Incident Command System: Part 1

No. CC-2013-8 September 16, 2013

**Learning Objective:** The student will understand the Operations Section Chief's (OSC's) responsibilities.

The OSC, a member of the General Staff, is responsible for the management of all operations directly applicable to the primary mission of ensuring the overall safety and welfare of all Section personnel. The OSC activates and supervises organization elements in accordance with the Incident Action Plan (IAP) and directs its execution.

The OSC also directs the preparation of unit operational plans, requests or releases resources, makes expedient changes to the IAP as necessary, and reports such to the Incident Commander (IC). The Deputy OSC may be assigned for specific tasks (i.e., planning operations, day/night operations, evacuation or contingency planning, etc.).

- Develop the operations portion of the IAP, and complete the appropriate Incident Command System (ICS) Form 215 (G/W) as appropriate.
- Brief and assign Operations Section personnel in accordance with the IAP. Supervise Operations Section, ensuring safety and welfare of all personnel.
- Determine need, and request additional resources.
- Review suggested list of resources to be released, and initiate recommendation for release of resources.
- Assemble and disassemble Strike Teams and Task Forces assigned to Operations Section.
- Report information about special activities, events and occurrences to IC.
- Maintain Unit/Activity Log (ICS Form 214).

For additional information regarding the OSC's responsibilities, the U.S. Fire Administration/National Fire Academy Field Operations Guide can be accessed at <http://feti.lsu.edu/municipal/NFA/TRADE/materials/TRADE%20CD%20XVI//WebHelp/index.htm>.