

Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association: "Working together to protect Southeast Texas"

Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association



Organized Feb. 9, 1949

"Working together to protect Southeast Texas"

Strategic Plan

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A note from the President of the Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association

I am pleased to disseminate the Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association (SNCA) Strategic Plan. We are very proud of the long history of the organization and our Strategic Plan. We are an organization dedicated to protecting the citizens of Southeast Texas. Whether we are from government, private business, or nonprofit organizations, the members of the SNCA are constantly working to improve the response and recovery capability of the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast area.

Some might wonder why the SNCA or any organization would need to publish a Strategic Plan. Strategy development is the way an organization prepares for the future. Strategic Planning is challenging since it requires the organization to take an honest, open look at itself, where it has been and determine where it is headed. The advantage of developing a Strategic Plan is that it provides the decisions and actions that shape and guide the organization and where it is headed.

The plan was developed and drafted by reviewing the previous years' plan and updating it to reflect needed changes. We are currently on track with the plan and it will be re-evaluated and updated biennially to insure continuous improvement. This will be done in the beginning terms of the New President serving in 2 year increments.

President, Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association

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To be the premier mutual aid organization serving the community by innovative achievement of the highest level of awareness through preparedness, prevention, response and recovery actions.

Our Mission:

The Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association (SNCA) is a team of public and private entities working together to protect the standard of life and resources of the community through teamwork, integrity and preparedness.

Our Values:

Teamwork: *Working together to maximize the use of mutual aid and member resources.*

Integrity: *Striving to professionally and ethically protect life and resources.*

Preparedness: *Working together to enhance information, network, and promote innovative training for the continual improvement of response capability.*

A brief history...

The Texas City disaster gave impetus to the founding of the Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association. Many area fire and emergency personnel had seen this destruction first-hand. They moved quickly to convince city, county and industry officials of the immediate need for an organized disaster plan to prevent the massive loss of life and property that had occurred at Texas City.

On February 9, 1949, a group of representatives from local fire departments and industry met for the purpose of organizing a mutual aid organization. At this first meeting, the Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association was formed. In the beginning, one of the largest obstacles facing this group was forming a plan which would not only meet the needs of the community, but would also satisfy the interest of all parties involved. As a direct result of this commitment and willingness on the part of each of the 136-plus members that made up the Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association, a mutual aid plan was unanimously endorsed. The emergency assistance plan formed over 74 years ago is continually updated to meet the changing times and the Association maintains a constant state of preparedness.

Over the years the Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association has continually broadened its membership and is inclusive of government agencies, industrial manufacturing facilities, public utilities, public health administrations, emergency medical organizations, community service organizations, public for profit/non-profit entities, vendor sales companies and honorary members.

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Guiding Documents:

- Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association Constitution
- Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association By-laws
- Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association Operational Procedures and Attachments
- Sabine-Neches Chiefs' Association Strategic Plan

Strategic Objective: To unite, and have available as a resource, member governmental agencies, industrial manufacturing facilities, public utilities, pipeline companies, petroleum/chemical storage facilities, public for-profit/not-for profit entities, community service organization, vendor/sales companies and for-profit providers of contractual services for mutual aid assistance and preparedness for response to all hazards.

Action Items:

Monthly meetings and special events

- Conduct monthly meetings (normally on the first Wednesday of the month) with speakers, presentations and training from member hosts and subject matter experts that promotes the knowledge of potential hazards and emergency operations in the field of emergency response.
- Solicit membership feedback of the Strategic Plan during the year. Conduct an annual review of the Strategic Plan each year at the first Board meeting. Bring any recommended changes to the membership for a vote at the next general meeting.
- Ensure meeting programs continue to be of a broad and varied nature so as to be of interest and value across the membership spectrum. Publish future meeting locations, sponsor and presentation topic on the SNCA web page. Host to give company/entity overview to the membership at introduction. (Secretary)
- Periodically give a presentation on a response to a major event or activity in the history of the SNCA. (Secretary and Training & Exercise Committee)
- Continue annual Bosses Night, advertise early and often, encourage all members to invite their boss. Distribute informational early. (Bosses Night Committee)
- Hold an annual SNCA Golf Tournament, advertise early and often Advertise on the web, at the golf course, and using other venues as appropriate. (Golf Committee and Public Relations Committee)

Outreach

- To solidify and enhance support and knowledge of the SNCA at the management level, give a presentation at the Plant Manager's Forum on the SNCA. Hold one meeting a year designed for elected officials, media and Plant Managers to show the benefits of SNCA. Utilize the April Strategic planning meeting in this capacity. The April meeting may have strategic planning action items on the agenda. The standing

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meeting agenda should include a “mid-year” report/organization update. Members can extend the invite to their Bosses/Council. In addition we will invite media to this meeting. (BOD: Public Relations Committee, Program Committee)

- Distribute promotional materials to “get the word out” about the SNCA. Promotional materials include tri-fold pamphlet for potential new members and for members to use to educate others on the SNCA. (Membership Committee)
- Encourage long-standing members to occasionally bring a junior member of their organization to a SNCA meeting to introduce him/her to the members and allow the junior member to learn about the SNCA. (Membership Committee)
- Consider expanding SNCA’s interaction at the State level to include consideration of the benefits of having SNCA representation on the inter/intra state mutual aid association. (Other ways to expand beyond region for networking & mutual aid) (BOD)
- Maintain a SNCA cooperative relationship with local LEPC’s and the Area Maritime Security Committee by minute sharing. (Secretary/Treasurer)
- Maintain a SNCA cooperative relationship with neighboring mutual aid organizations.

Membership

- Continue to proactively recruit appropriate new members. Make SNCA tri-fold pamphlet available to all members as a force-multiplying recruiting tool. Invite school district management to attend a SNCA meeting and consider joining. Continue to expand existing sections of SNCA such as increasing Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, Health, and Industry, Public Works, schools, ISD’s, TxDot, EMC’s. (Membership Committee)
- Advertise the website on all publications and news announcements to encourage membership and educate those who are interested. (Membership Committee, Public Relations Committee)
- Review the SNCA Constitution, By-laws and Operational Procedures annually, at a minimum. Draft recommended changes and submit to the Board of Directors for their review. (Constitution and By-laws Committee)

Budget

- Develop and maintain an SNCA budget – improve business literacy and include the 501(c)4 (Treasurer)

Strategic Objective: To continually improve professionalism, response capability and readiness across and between the membership organizations. Serve as a forum to share information on upcoming training and exercise opportunities.

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Action Items:

Communications

- Maintain a SNCA web page (www.snychiefs.com) that contains pertinent information including meeting minutes, calendar of events, training opportunities, Constitution and By-Laws, history, lessons learned, best practices, contact information, inventory in protected area, etc. (Website and Communications committees)
- Maintain a SNCA sponsored web page called "Southeast Texas Info" (<http://www.setinfo.org/>) for the South East Texas residents in Jefferson, Hardin, and Orange Counties to inform citizens of incident status during large scale or catastrophic emergency operations. (Website Committee)
- Maintain a SNCA sponsored data base (<http://www.sncaems.org/>) for members and Emergency Management planners to maintain, coordinate, and facilitate agency contact information, mutual aid incidents & resource inventory available for mutual aid within the membership area. (Inventory Committee)
- Maintain a notification system accessible to all SNCA members to communicate to the membership important issues and/or response information. (i.e. phone, text, email, etc) (Executive Board)
- Maintain P-25 compliance of the South East Texas Regional Radio System (SETRRS) within the region. Promote expansion of P-25 capability to move to 800MHz within Jasper County. (Communications Committee)
- Review Communications Guidelines to ensure procedures remain up-to-date. (Communications Committee)
- Collaborate with the SETRRS Committee to maintain SNCA input for radio system capabilities and coverage.
- Conduct a weekly radio test to all entities to ensure SETRRS is operational throughout the four county area. Ensure updates to SNCA website & data base to maintain notification system. (Communications Committee)

Drills, Exercises, Training and Education

- Identify and disseminate a multi-year training and exercise plan to help forecast participation. (Training and Exercise & Website Committee)
- Identify specific member NIMS/ICS training needs and locate appropriate sources. (Training and Exercise Committee)

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- Announce upcoming training and exercise opportunities at monthly meetings and post on the website. (Training and Exercise Committee)
- Promote and coordinate SNCA participation in appropriate regional, State and federal exercises. (Training and Exercise Committee)
- Review the After Action/Lessons Learned Report from exercises. Identify and prioritize action items for the SNCA. (Training and Exercise Committee)

Preparedness

- Maintain Incident Command organization and address SNCA's contribution to the staffing for the Golden Triangle Incident Management Team (IMT). (Incident Management Team Committee)
- Maintain the SNCA Incident Management Team list, notification capability, coordinate training & credentialing. (Incident Management Committee)
- Maintain collaboration with the international All Hazard Incident Management Team Association (AHIMTA) for IMT standards.
- Promote offerings of NIMS courses, to include 300, 400 & position specific ICS courses. (Training and Exercise Committee)
- Promote members gaining instructor certification for NIMS, ICS and Emergency Management courses, to include 300, 400 & position specific ICS courses. (Training and Exercise Committee)
- Promote implementation of the National Qualification System (NQS) in collaboration with the Texas Division of Emergency Management and FEMA.
- Conduct After-Action Reviews of SNCA responses (e.g., Fire and Hurricanes) and develop recommendations for improvements. (Training & Exercise Committee)
- Maintain the Sabine Neches Chiefs Association members' contacts information, Inventory, and radio capability. (Communications & Inventory Committee)

Strategic Objective:

To promote *awareness through preparedness, prevention* in the community at large through our member organizations

Action Items:

- Ensure meeting programs continue to be of a broad and varied nature so as to be of interest and value across the membership spectrum. Publish future meeting locations, sponsor and presentation topic on the SNCA web page. Sponsor to give company/entity overview to the membership at introduction. (Secretary)

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- Periodically give a presentation on a response to a major event or activity in the history of the SNCA. (Appropriate member(s))
- Continue annual Bosses Night, advertise early and often, encourage all members to invite their boss. Distribute informational flyer early. (Bosses Night Committee)
- Support or participate in community educational events geared toward awareness, preparedness or prevention. On an annual basis, solicit member recommendations for sponsorship donations. (Training & Exercise Committee)
- Collaborate with Lamar Center For Resiliency and Regional Emergency Management/Disaster Expositions to expand public awareness and emergency preparedness. (Training & Exercise Committee)

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Sabine Neches Chiefs' Association Organizational Structure

