

## **PopPro™ Resistance Response - Points of Consideration**

Written emergency population protection (evacuation) plans should include an approved guideline for dealing with anyone willfully not complying with, or actually obstructing the response effort. The following points should be addressed in the formulation of any such guideline.

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**First**, ensure the non-compliance is not due primarily to failure of responders to adequately protect or communicate...recognize the difference between obstruction and an individual's legitimate effort to care for family and personal property. (*i.e.; a concerned parent at a roadblock attempting to determine the status of family members within the affected emergency area*)

**Second**, develop and disseminate to responders specific guidelines for dealing with non-compliance such as persons refusing to evacuate when ordered or violating established perimeters to enter a closed area. Elements to consider include:

- ◆ Clearly communicate:
  1. Nature of the emergency
  2. Authority of the responder to evacuate and/or close area
  3. Danger(s) posed by entering or remaining in affected area
  4. Response efforts being made and options available to address the subject's concerns
- ◆ Emphasize that responder safety will not be jeopardized in futile rescue attempts should the non-compliance continue
- ◆ Identify the subject....note clothing description and, if possible, obtain name(s) of personal physician and dentist (for use should post-incident identification of remains become an issue)
- ◆ Document the above....video or cassette tape recording is preferable. Otherwise, take notes and try to have a witness present
- ◆ Determine the effects of limited responder resources being diverted to deal with the subject....arrest and transport are labor intensive!
- ◆ Act: If the non-compliance endangers only the life or safety of the adult subject involved and he/she knowingly disregards the danger, it may be best to leave the subject alone (*i.e.; Harry Truman refusing to leave his cabin at the Mount St. Helen volcano site*). If it would also directly endanger the life or safety of others (children, etc.) or would clearly hinder the response effort and thereby endanger others, arrest or forcible removal of the subject should be considered. Consider release of the subject after removal from the affected area
- ◆ Review non-compliance response guidelines with legal counsel....preferably the prosecutor having jurisdiction in the affected area

Include the approved guidelines in Part Three, Section 2 (see field guide) or as a supplement to the written plan and communicate to appropriate responders