

**Zelvin, Lawrence, CDR (USN), OSD-POLICY**

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**From:** Roupas, Mark, CIV, OSD-POLICY  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2005 5:54 PM  
**To:** McHale, Paul, HON, OSD-POLICY  
**Cc:** Verga, Pete, CIV, OSD-POLICY; Kuster, Thomas, CIV, OSD-POLICY; Chavez, Richard, COL, OSD-POLICY; POL Civil Support Directorate; Salesses, Robert, CIV, OSD-POLICY  
**Subject:** Memorandum for Record

Mr. McHale,

I just spoke to Mr. Casey Decker in the Emergency Operations Center. I discussed the need for clarity between the three different requests we received today regarding medical surge capability: initial request for 1,000; subsequent request for 2,000; and your call with Mr. Simonson for 500 beds and personnel.

I asked Casey to clarify which one of these we should complete and whether the request was for actual assistance or information for planning.

Casey left the phone to check with his leadership and the answer was to answer the original request for personnel to assist in manning a 1,000 bed mobile hospital. This request should be considered for information (planning) only. When I asked Casey if he could make Mr. Simonson aware of our concerns and that we would focus our efforts on the 1,000 bed request for information, he provided this additional information.

This request for assistance is pending from the State of Louisiana but not yet approved by FEMA. DHHS expects it to come through the system later. However, DHHS is trying to decide which health care approach is better: 1) activate NDMS and move the patients out of the State or 2) move medical beds and personnel into the affected area and treat there. DHHS medical planners are meeting with MR. Simonson at 6pm to discuss and decide which course to accept. If the decision is to move the patients via NDMS, then DHHS will activate the NDMS system. If the decision is to treat in-state, then we should expect a formal RFA for ~500 beds and personnel to support.

In response to DHHS' first request for information on the 1,000 bed hospital, the Joint Staff sent out a message at 4:32pm today to the Service's medical planners asking them to complete the spreadsheet outlining each federal partner's available medical personnel. We expect to provide a response back to DHHS by tomorrow.

v/r  
Mark

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