



Office of
Emergency Management
Division of Administration
& Finance

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

MISSION IN ACTION

The University of Houston (UH) Office of Emergency Management (OEM) exists to assist in protecting the campus community (staff, faculty, students, visitors) by building, sustaining, and improving the university's ability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards, ensuring continuity of essential university operations during emergencies through "all-hazards" planning and coordination. They manage campus-wide emergency plans, manages the Emergency Operations Center, and provide training and exercises for preparedness. With strong collaboration between OEM and so many departments on campus, the UH campus community continues to be prepared and resilient against anything that comes their way.

Mission Statement

To support our campus community of staff, faculty, and students to ensure that as a university we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.



Ginger Walker presenting at the High Education Risk Professionals Symposium

230+

Hours in the Emergency Operations Center

Annual Emergency and Continuity Plans Reviewed and Updated

14

19

Incidents of Weather Monitoring

Faculty, Students, and Staff Received Training

2,707



Maia Solomon receiving the Women and Gender Resource Center Scholarship

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

OEM Accomplishments:

- Research Continuity for the University of Houston
- State Office of Risk Management Continuity of Operations Planning Program Assessment
- Enhancements to the traffic plans for Football Season 2025 including IAP enhancements
- Community Emergency Response Team Training
- 2025 Hurricane Preparedness Event
- Emergency Operations Center Activation – Winter Weather 2025
- Ride Out Team Coordination and Implementation
- Emergency Operations Center Coordination and Implementation
- Emergency Preparedness Presentation – Department or College Focused
- Implementation of Reilly Weather to the OEM Team
- Successful Vehicle Intrusion Tabletop
- Successful Student Housing and Residential Life Student/Cot Relocation Exercise
- International Students Orientation

Staff Accomplishments:

- Awarded the Staff Council Women and Gender Studies Scholarship
- Secretary of the State Office of Risk Management Continuity Council
- Instructed Higher Education EM Bootcamp at the TMAT Conference
- Emergency Management – LSU Real-World Disaster Coordination
- Attended the Big 12 Emergency Managers Meeting
- PVAM Symposium – Higher Education Emergency Management Presentation
- OEM part of team for a Storm Water Management Grant Implementation
- Texas Emergency Manager Certification



Building Coordinator Meeting Presentation



Severe Winter Weather Event January 2025



CERT Class Spring 2025

PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

A major component of our office is developing and reviewing plans. OEM maintains the Emergency Management Plan, Continuity of Operations Plan, Mass Evacuation Plan, and Mass Notification Plan.

246

The campus-wide implementation of the Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) Program in Veoci resulted in the creation of 246 Continuity of Operations Plans.

300+

In partnership with Student Housing & Residential Life, emergency preparedness training was delivered to more than 300 Resident Advisors.

2,707

Preparedness training was delivered by the Office of Emergency Management to 2,707 participants.



OEM Staff



Dan Reilly and OEM Hurricane Preparedness Event



Emergency Operations Center at UH

TRAINING & EXERCISES

Training		
Type/Name	Number of Participants	Capability Exercised
COOP Training	49	Response/Recovery
EOC Liaison Training	36	Preparedness
EMAT Conference	50	Preparedness
Incident Command Training	21	Preparedness
Ride Out Team Training	60	ALL
Building Coordinator	30	Preparedness
Orientation	200	Preparedness
Football EAP Training	60	Preparedness
CERT	18	Preparedness/Response/Communication
Veoci Training	7	Preparedness/Response/Communication
Emergency Management in Higher Education: Lessons Learned	50	Preparedness

Exercises		
Type/Name	Number of Participants	Capability Exercised
Tabletop	50	Preparedness/Response
Exercise	100+	Preparedness
Tabletop	42	Preparedness
Tabletop	13	Preparedness

Drills		
Type/Name	Number of Participants	Capability Exercised
Monthly Audible Siren Test	Campus-Wide	Public Information/Warning
UH Alert Testing	Campus-Wide	Public Information/Warning

BIG 12 CONFERENCE

OEM efforts for the Big 12

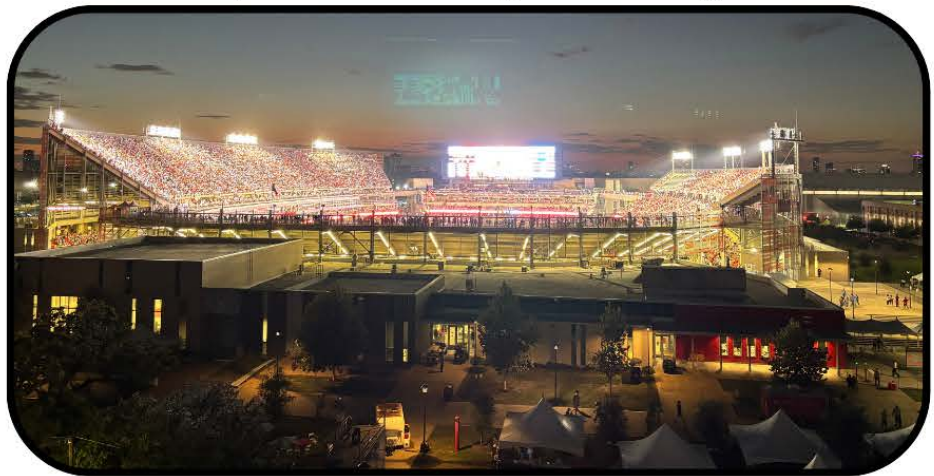
- Conducted a tabletop exercise to support preparedness for the 2025 Big 12 football season
- Developed and enhanced the TDECU Stadium Emergency Action Plan
- Implemented operational enhancements to the football command post
- Provided Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and command post orientation for athletic operations
- Participated in the Big 12 Office of Emergency Management Conference in Fort Worth
- Coordinated preparedness and planning efforts for the Big 12 basketball season
- Improved the Fertitta Center Emergency Action Plan



Football Tabletop Exercise



Big 12 EM Meeting



TDECU Stadium

EOC ACTIVATIONS

The UH Emergency Operations Center (EOC) provides a central intelligence space for decision makers and response team personnel to gather critical information, coordinate response activities and manage personnel as the situation dictates. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated 19 times, with the creation of individual IAPs, in 2025 as an effort to support major university events on campus. There were 3 activations for emergencies in 2025.

Various situations on campus can result in the EOC's activation, including:

- Football Games
- Commencement
- Frontier Fiesta
- Hurricanes
- Freezing Weather
- Concerts
- Civil Unrest
- Severe Weather Events
- High-Profile Events
- Basketball Games

19

Routine Activations

Emergency Activations

3

FUTURE OF OEM

A message from the Director

"The Office of Emergency Management accomplished goals that were above and beyond expectations. It was an extremely busy year with enhancements to emergency plans campus-wide, new developments to the continuity program, Emergency Operations Center activations, preparedness activities and presentations, and this is just a tip of the iceberg. In addition, OEM received awards, scholarship recipients, conducted interviews within higher education, created and facilitated exercises, conducted presentations and achieved certifications. All these enhancements of preparedness activities, various mitigation strategies, prevention tools, response capabilities and recovery coordination efforts continue to build a strong program. OEM will continue to grow to ensure that everyone on campus has the tools and resources to be as prepared as possible before, during and after an emergency." - Ginger Walker, Director of Emergency Management



Ginger Walker in the EOC

Resources



Use the QR Code to view more resources

- [Be Prepared Website](#) that will give information on hazards that the Houston community faces.
- The Official University of Houston [Emergency Management Plan](#)
- [Training Opportunities](#)
- The Official University of Houston [Hurricane Response Guide](#)

