

# TRANSPORTATION ACCIDENT DISASTER RESPONSE

## **Background:**

Transportation accidents consist of accidents that occur on city streets, highways, aircrafts, railroads, and in the Potomac and Anacostia rivers. Transportation accidents can be very deadly and cause major delays on the roads and railroads.

You can stay up to date on current transportation issues and emergencies by signing up for Alert DC at <http://.textalert.ema.dc.gov/index.php?CCheck-1>. Or you can also view traffic reports on the District Department of Transportation website at <http://ddot.dc.gov>.

## **Transportation Tips:**

- ☐ Avoid aggressive driving behaviors.
- ☐ Refrain from using your cell phone while driving (using your cell phone without a hands-free device is illegal in the District).
- ☐ Keep your eyes on the road and on those directing traffic.
- ☐ Remain aware of your surroundings when standing on the subway platform.
- ☐ Be familiar with the locations of emergency phones placed throughout Metro stations. There are also emergency intercoms located on either end of all Metrorail train cars.
- ☐ Be acquainted with the emergency evacuation procedures associated with the Metro transit system.
- ☐ If riding Metrorail or Metrobus during an emergency situation, wait for the bus or train to stop. Listen for the vehicle operator's instructions.
- ☐ If anyone is injured get help or call 9-1-1 immediately.
- ☐ If not injured, be prepared to assist those in need, such as people in wheelchairs and with strollers.
- ☐ Use emergency exits on buses and rail cars only if there is an immediate threat to passengers' safety.
- ☐ If evacuated from a Metrorail train, do not touch the "third rail," even during a power outage, as power can still travel through the rail.
- ☐ The United States Coast Guard recommends that boaters keep a Very High Frequency FM (VHF FM) radio on board.
- ☐ Make sure you and your passengers know all applicable boating laws and regulations.
- ☐ Enroll in a boat safety course offered by the Metropolitan Police Department's Harbor Patrol Unit. Any boat operator in the District of Columbia's waterways must have boat safety certification.

