

For more information, please visit the following sites:

CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY SERVICES ACT

www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=gov&group=08001-09000&file=8550-8551

CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE §3100-3109

www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=gov&group=03001-04000&file=3100-3109

THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION OATH OR AFFIRMATION

www.leginfo.ca.gov/.const/.article_20

CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

www.oes.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

www.dot.ca.gov

AS A CALIFORNIA STATE AGENCY, CITY, COUNTY, OR PUBLIC DISTRICT EMPLOYEE, YOU MAY BE CALLED UPON AS A DISASTER SERVICE WORKER IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PAMPHLET WILL HELP YOU UNDERSTAND YOUR ROLE AND OBLIGATION.

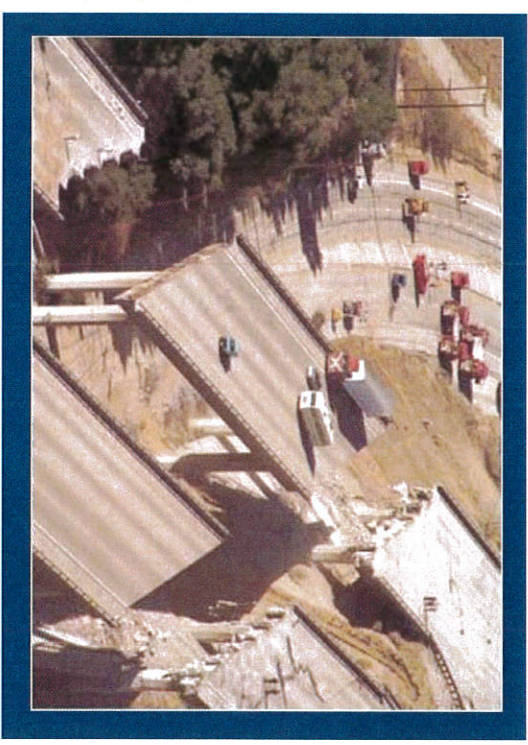
CALTRANS OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1120 N Street, Suite 3200
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 654-1498 or (916) 657-4911
Highway Hotline - 1-800-427-ROAD (7623)



California Public Employee

Disaster Service Worker



Caltrans Office of Emergency Management

Public Employee Disaster Service Worker Status

California Government Code §3100-3109:

It is hereby declared that the protection of the health and safety and preservation of the lives of the people of the state from the effects of natural, man-made, or war-caused emergencies which will result in conditions of disaster or extreme peril to life, property, and resources is of paramount state importance... in protection of its citizens and resources, all public employees are hereby declared to be Disaster Service Workers...

All Disaster Service Workers shall, before they enter upon the duties of their employment, take and subscribe to the oath or affirmation in Article 20 of the State Constitution.

What is meant by disaster service?

Disaster service means all activities authorized by and carried out pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act

Who is included in the Disaster Service Worker status?

All public employees are included in the Disaster Service Worker status, meaning all persons employed by any State, County, or City agency or any public district.

What are the scope and duties of an employee as a Disaster Service Worker?

Any public employee performing the duties as a Disaster Service Worker shall be considered acting within the scope of disaster service duties while assisting any unit of the organization or performing any act contributing to the protection of life or property, or mitigating the affects of an emergency.

How are public employees assigned disaster service activities?

Public employees are assigned disaster service activities either by their superiors or as designated by law to assist the agency in carrying out its responsibilities during times of disaster.

Do public employees acting as Disaster Service Workers get paid?

Public employees performing the duties as a Disaster Service Worker shall be paid as long as they have taken and subscribed to the oath or affirmation.

What is the oath or affirmation referred to in the government code?

Before entering upon the duties of employment, all public employees take and subscribe to the oath or affirmation as set forth and required by the California Constitution that declares them to be Disaster Service Workers in time of need.

When do public employees take this oath or affirmation?

Most public employees sign the oath or affirmation during the hiring process, which is then kept on file with the employing department or agency..

Can Disaster Service Workers be sued for actions taken while performing duties?

Public employee Disaster Service Workers for government and non-profit organizations cannot, by law, be held liable for their actions during a disaster, as long as they are acting within the scope of their responsibilities or assigned duties.

What if a public employee is injured while acting as a Disaster Service Worker?

Claims sustained by public employees while performing work as a Disaster Service Worker are filed as worker compensation claims under the same authorities and guidelines as any other employee in the agency that work is being performed for.



For further information, please refer to the websites on the back.