3 - EARTHQUAKES, EARTH MOVEMENTS, FLOODS, TORNADOES AND OTHER SEVERE WEATHER THREAT ANNEX

**Purpose:** The purpose of this annex is to provide information on how the college will respond to earthquakes, earth movements, floods, tornados, and other severe weather issues.

A review of the 2014 Montgomery County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan reveals that earthquakes, earth movements, floods, tornados, and other severe weather issues are possible in the area of Ohio where Sinclair campuses reside.

In order to prepare for such emergencies, Sinclair College is certified as a “Storm Ready” Community by the National Weather Service (NWS) and complies with the strict monitoring and training requirements of this program. Documents detailing these requirements are on file with the Safety Coordinator and the Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police.

**Training/Preparedness** – The Department of Public Safety will conduct three annual “Storm Ready” safety presentations in addition to receiving “Storm Spotter Training” biennially. All trained weather spotters shall maintain a constant awareness of weather conditions, when applicable.

For quick action steps for these hazards, the Incident Commander should follow the information outlined on pages 5-8 of the “Incident Commander Action Steps” located in Section 3 of Sinclair College’s complete Emergency Management Plan.

**Tornadoes and other severe windstorms storms:**

Tornadoes and other severe storms can occur anytime throughout the year if conditions are favorable. Tornado warnings should never be taken lightly. The Sinclair Police may activate their Emergency Operations Center (EOC) whenever there is a weather advisory issued by the NWS and determines when the campus community should be evacuated to the designated shelters. The Sinclair Police Dispatch Center monitors the National Weather Service reports, bulletins issued on the Law Enforcement Data Systems computer network and the local media in order to track the path of storms. Notification procedures of events covered by this annex are outlined in Sinclair Police Policy 329 in the Police Policy and Procedure Manual.

If a tornado warning is issued by the National Weather Service, Sinclair Police will immediately monitor the path of the impending storm. If the college is near the projected path of the storm, the Emergency Notification System will be activated in all buildings at the Dayton campus (except the Eaker Street building which will use a separate notification system) by a series of tones. Personnel in the Dispatch Center will announce that a tornado warning has been issued and that everyone should proceed to the shelters listed below. Announcements are made in person at the learning centers and Courseview. Weather radios are placed in each building operated by the college, and they provide additional notifications of impending inclement weather. Time permitting, NIXLE text alerts may also be used for these warnings.
When the announcement is made, go immediately to the designated shelter area and do not attempt to go outside. If you are outside when the announcement is made, you need to seek cover on the basement level in the nearest available building.

If the storm has already hit the college and you cannot make it to a basement, take cover in a classroom or office away from the outside walls. Take cover under any heavy furniture near an inside wall or inside a closet. Assume a curled position to protect your head and eyes. Stay away from large open areas, such as atriums, the gym, the Fieldhouse, Blair Hall, the Great Hall and the Frederick C. Smith Auditorium (Room 12150) in Building 12, or any wide free span roof. Be aware of falling debris or downed electrical wires.

If you are physically able to, assist disabled persons to the designated shelter area. It is safe for the physically challenged persons to use the elevators. Able bodied persons should use the stairs so the capacity of the elevators is not overloaded.

When the all clear signal is given, an announcement will be made.

The designated shelter area for all Sinclair buildings are noted below:

**Designated Tornado Shelters (Dayton campus)**

**Building 1** - entire basement level

**Building 2** - entire lower level and basement level

**Building 3** - entire basement level

**Building 4** - entire lower level and basement level

**Building 5** - entire basement level

**Building 6** - entire basement level **except the hallway outside rooms 6021-6025**

**Building 7** - Building 6 basement
  - Rooms 7006 A, B and C (stay away from glass windows and partitions)

**Building 8** - northeast and southeast basement level, including the lobby and stairs area and the Student Leadership Office
  - northwest and northeast basement level near rooms 8012-8014
  - south basement level near and in room 8021

**Building 9** - northeast hallway near room 9102
  - ground and basement level of the northeast stairs
  - north area of basement (for children and staff of Child & Family Education)

**Building 10** - basement level near rooms 10L11-10L15 or in rooms 10L11-10L15

**Building 11** - basement level hall near rooms 10L11-10L15 or in rooms 10L11-10L15
Building 12 - Frederick C. Smith Auditorium (room 12150)

Building 13 - entire basement area

Building 14 - basement level (east side) in the Audio/Video Production area (stay away from glass windows and partitions)

Building 17 - men's and women's restrooms

Building 19 - first floor center hallway from west entrance (keep all doors closed and latched)

Building 20 - room 20121

Building 24 – Storage Room #102 on the SW corner of the first floor and both restrooms (Room #103 and #104)

Off Campus Sites

Courseview Campus Center - men's and women's restrooms, rooms 105a and 105b

Eaker Street Building - inside classrooms on the north side of building

Englewood Learning Center - men's and women's restrooms, rooms 102a, 102d, 104, 105 and the Bookstore

Huber Heights Learning Center - men's and women's restroom, 103, 117, 118, 119, 121b and the Bookstore

Preble County Learning Center - men's and women's restrooms, rooms 112, 113, 114

Snow and Ice conditions:

The College Administration constantly monitors severe and changing weather conditions. Whenever snow and ice conditions become so extreme and to the point that it could impact the campus, a decision to postpone or cancel classes may be announced. A NIXLE text alert will be made. When in doubt, listen to the Dayton area radio and TV stations prior to coming to the College. Announcements are also available on the Sinclair Info Line (937) 512-2888 and will be posted on the Sinclair web site – www.sinclair.edu. (Please do not call Sinclair Police for snow information). Should weather become severe after the college opens, impending closing announcements will be made over the Emergency Broadcast System.

Earthquakes and Earth Movements

If You Are Inside:

- Watch for falling objects.
- Crawl under a table, counter, etc.
- Get into a protective position by tucking your head to your knees and cover your head with your arms.
- Stay away from windows, glass partitions and mirrors.
- Stay away from overhead fixtures.
- Stay away from filing cabinets.
- Stay away from bookcases.
- Stay away from electrical appliances.
- Stay away from hanging objects.
• Evacuate the building only after debris has stopped falling.

If You Are Outside:
• Move to an open area away from building structures.
• Watch for fallen power lines.
• Watch for fallen streetlights.
• Watch for fallen trees.
• Watch for flying glass.

If You Are In A Vehicle:
• Stop your vehicle in the nearest open area.
• Stay in your vehicle until the tremors have subsided.

After The Incident:
• Remain calm.
• Be prepared for after-shocks.
• If evacuation is ordered, use the nearest and safest exit.
• DO NOT USE ELEVATORS!
• Proceed to your designated evacuation assembly area.
• Do not move seriously injured persons unless they are in danger.
• Open doors carefully.
• Watch for falling objects.
• Do not use matches/lighters or other sources of ignition.
• Avoid using telephones, as emergency response personnel will need access to cell towers.

Floods:

The Facilities Department has detailed plans to address flooding. These plans are coordinated with GCA Services Group and the City of Dayton.

Listed below are general precautions when dealing with flooding:

• Be prepared and listen to all warnings issued for your area.
• Do not walk or drive across flood waters.
• Avoid recreational contact with flood waters due to the unknown amount of raw sewage, waste chemicals and the risk of drowning.
• Stay away from floodwaters. If you come upon a flowing stream where water is above your ankles, stop, turn around and go another way. Six inches of swiftly moving water can sweep you off of your feet.
• If you come upon a flooded road while driving, turn around and go another way. Most cars can be swept away by less than two feet of moving water.
• Do not go floating, boating, swimming or rowing in flood-waters; streams or the river.
• Use special caution at night because flood danger is more difficult to recognize in darkness.
• Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. Electrocution is also a major killer in floods. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to Sinclair Police.
The Incident Commander should consult pages 5-8 of the “Incident Commander Action Steps” in Section 3 of this manual for information as to the expected impact, expected consequences and suggested action steps for addressing this situation.

Events covered in this threat annex may require detailed procedures involving evacuation, accounting for all persons, communication and notification, medical care, security and recovery to follow when normal college operations are disrupted. The functional annexes that are contained in Sinclair College’s complete Emergency Management Plan contain the necessary details as outlined below:

1. For details of the evacuation procedure, see the Evacuation Functional Annex of this Manual.
2. In each of the hazards listed above, after there has been sufficient time to move to appropriate shelter areas, it will be necessary to account for persons displaced from their original locations. For details of this process, see the Accounting for All Persons Functional Annex of this Manual.
3. For details of communication about this event and for notifications procedures, see the Communications and Notification Functional Annex of this Manual.
4. Should college operations be disrupted in a significant manner as a result of these events, see the Continuity of Operations Functional Annex of this Manual.
5. Procedures for handling injuries to persons are addressed in Public Health/Medical Functional Annex of this manual.
6. For details of security procedures, see the Security Functional Annex of this Manual.
7. For details of the recovery procedures necessary for these events, see the Recovery Functional Annex of this Manual.