



Department of the Interior

AVIATION TRAINING BULLETIN

No. DOITNG 15-02

Date: September 25, 2015

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SUBJECT: Aviation Incident Response Exercise (AIRE)

The Office of Aviation Services (OAS) Training Division provides support for local units/field offices to participate in an Aviation Incident Response Exercise (AIRE).

The AIRE is a focused exercise drill that allows the organization to evaluate its capability to execute its Aircraft Incident Mishap Response Plan. Research has shown that people generally respond to an emergency in the way that they have been trained.



The purpose of the AIRE is to:

- Give personnel the opportunity to practice their roles and gain experience
- Improve the organization's system for responding to an aviation incident
- Exercise internal and external coordination required in response to aviation incident
- Exercise and identify areas for improvement in the current mishap response plan
- Focus on identifying and eliminating response problems before an actual incident

The drill consists of (1) a series of simulated communications delivered via exercise messages; (2) the unit/field office exercising their response to the messages; and (3) drill debrief. Any information gained as a result of the drill will be kept at the local level. The purpose of the drill is ONLY for training purposes and will not be shared unless otherwise authorized at the bureau level.

The AIRE usually involves 2 to 3 hours of coordination with key unit personnel prior to the drill. The actual drill and debrief typically take 3 to 4 hours on the day of the AIRE. Conducting the AIRE is especially beneficial after personnel changes or prior to seasonal aviation operations.

For additional information about the AIRE or to request support in conducting an AIRE for your unit/field office, please contact Cathy Barta, OAS Training Specialist at 208-995-6116 or catherine_barta@ios.doi.gov.

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