Monroe County Emergency Management
Reentry Program Task Force Recommendation 2018

1) **Primary Findings in Review of Reentry Program as Implemented during Irma Response:**
   a. Found that current Sticker Program is effective for the intended purpose of phased reentry of Monroe County Residents.
   b. Identified two primary opportunities to augment the current Sticker Program:
      i. Reentry Procedure for Essential Personnel
      ii. Current Operational Plan for Florida City Checkpoint
   c. Identified need for Community option to utilize trained volunteers to support the response efforts

2) **Reentry Procedure for Essential Personnel**
   a. A Placard System will be implemented that allows efficient and effective reentry of *mission essential* personnel for response efforts post-event
      i. **Outline of System**:
         1. "Reentry List of Names" at checkpoint will be eliminated
         2. Placards System will be managed by Monroe County Emergency Management
         3. Placard System identifies two groups of essential personnel:
            a. Group 1-
               - Emergency Medical Services
               - Public Utilities (FKAA, Keys Energy, FL Keys Elec. Coop, etc) and their support structure as identified by Emergency Management
               - County and Municipal Tier 2 employees
               - Telecommunications (AT&T, COMCAST, Independent, etc)
               - 1st Push Government Contractors

            b. Group 2
               - Gas Stations
               - Grocery Stores
               - Banks and Financial Institutions
               - Construction Supply stores (ie- Home Depot, etc)
               - Local Contractors with *response-specific* missions
                 o They must be "Mission Essential" as determined by Emergency Management

- They must be licensed in Monroe County and preferably residents
- The Contractors Examining Board would be a valuable resource for vetting applicants to the Placard System and perhaps a liaison from the Board should be included in the EM process.
- Contractors seeking inclusion in the program should provide inventory of heavy equipment assets, number of personnel contributing to the mission, proof of licenses or certifications, justification for inclusion, etc.
  - Government Contract Hotels -Hotels with pre-event contracts with Monroe County to provide housing for essential personnel

4. Placards will be distributed to identified organizations such as hospitals, grocers, etc. in bulk numbers (as determined by Emergency Management). Organizations should retain placards until such time a mandatory evacuation is called. At that time, each organization should distribute the placards to their essential personnel for reentry.

ii. **Registration** of organizations and individuals in the Placard System will be administered by Emergency Management. This process will include: promotion of the program and an approval process based on best practices in Emergency Management.
1. Group 1: EM has regular communication with these essential response organizations or individuals and will utilize this channel for promotion of the Placard System.
2. Group 2: A Registration Form will be created and made available for organizations or individuals to request inclusion in the Placard System.
   a. This Form should include information that allows EM to identify mission essential organizations and personnel including inventory of heavy equipment assets, number of personnel contributing to the mission, qualifications, certifications, justification for inclusion.
   b. This Registration Form will be the avenue for individuals/organizations who believe they have a mission essential function during response or other valid reasons to be considered for the Placard System despite not being readily identified by Emergency Management such as local doctors, veterinarians, independent contractors with mission essential roles (ie- telecommunication, plumbing, electricians, heavy equipment operators etc), organizations with animals in their care (ie- organizations forced to leave behind animals that may die if not cared for asap), etc

iii. **Mechanics of the Placard:**
1. The Placard will be reissued annually and should be year specific:

<ol type="a">
Color (changed annually) Groups have different colors
Year Issued in large font

<ol start="2">
Fraud Protection- fraudulent duplication could be reduced through the use of unique shapes, embedded images that prevent photo copying, hologram, etc
Guidelines for use of the Placard should be included on the back
Barcodes or an issuing number unique to each placard should be included

<ol type="i" start="4">
Additional Components:

Common Sense Reentry – Law Enforcement at the Checkpoint will be given a list of vehicles and vehicle categories that should be allowed in without a placard (Emergency Management will clarify which should be allowed only with Mission Tracking Number):
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Group 1 Common Sense List:

Utility Vehicles
First responders
Fuel Tankers

Group 2 Common Sense List:

Corporate Grocery store trucks (Publix/Winn Dixie)
Corporate Marked Construction supply stores (ie- Home Depot, etc)
Armored Trucks for banks and other commercial institutions

Common Sense List to coincide with Citizen Sticker Program:

Press Vehicles
Volunteer Support Agencies
Vehicles covered in Group 1 & 2

Implementation of new Placard System will include:
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Educational Outreach and Communication to the community- Annually
Annual Updating of the placard's physical appearance
Annual Reissuance and Registration (as determined by Emergency Management)

3) **CERT program and Advanced Reentry for Citizenry:**
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Monroe County Emergency Management will incorporate a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) into reentry plans. The Program should include:
<ol type="i">
Training provided through Monroe County (and Municipal) Fire & Rescue will be approx. 40 hrs and could include:

Basic Search and Rescue
First Aid in a Disaster environment
Terrorism Module
Basic Fire Safety

    ii.   While not required, it is recommended that the training be taken by groups (such as- HOA's, neighborhood watch, etc). These groups then become a post-event support structure of trained individuals better able to assist the community.

    iii.   CERT training must reinforce the concept of mandatory evacuation with the intent of advanced reentry, if conditions of the event permit, for support of the community response effort.

    iv.   CERT trained individuals would be eligible for reentry in Group 2 of the Placard System.

4) Community Reentry Sticker Program:

   a. The current stickers are effective for the intended purpose of phased reentry of Monroe County Residents.

    i.   The addition of the Placard System, CERT program and improved operations at the Florida City checkpoint will dramatically improve the overall reentry process.

    ii.   Additional Recommendations:

    iii.   Annual Public Education campaign that provides information on the sticker requirements for reentry after evacuation, placement of stickers on vehicles, pick-up locations, build reasonable reentry expectations and provide information on sticker requirements.

       1. and other pertinent information.

       2. Annual (each April) printing and distribution of adequate stickers to identified pickup locations

       3. It is recommended that additional government locations be utilized for sticker distribution along with the Sheriff's Office including Monroe County Tax Collector Offices, Clerk of Court offices, Commissioner Offices, County Administrators Office, etc.

5) Recommendation's to the Sheriff's Office concerning the Florida City Checkpoint Operational Plan:

   a. Recommendations for improved efficiency at the Florida City Checkpoint:

    i.   "No Sticker – No Entry"- it is recommended, for the purposes of efficient reentry of the majority, that only vehicles which display a Reentry Sticker be allowed to enter the final checkpoint lanes. However, implementation of such a requirement **must** include a robust 'vetting station' in Florida City where residents who do not have stickers may present valid documentation to law enforcement and receive a sticker before moving into the final reentry lanes.

    ii.   Sticker Placement- Lower left corner of the front windshield

    iii.   There should be no "List of names" at the checkpoint for Reentry

    iv.   There should be Staging Areas and backups in the Operational plan

    v.   Liaisons from the EOC should be in the staging areas (for example- a PIO in the media staging area would be of great assistance)

    vi.   There should be clear signage on all the major state roads leading into Monroe County. The dynamic message boards on the Turnpike, I-95, 826, 836, I-75 and I-595 to direct individuals to appropriate staging areas as they approach Florida City

vii. The Speedway should be used for Sticker Staging