Sequence of Events and the Disaster Declaration Processes

**Incident Occurs:** Natural or man-made disasters such as floods, tornadoes, mudslides, earthquakes, or utility outages.

**County/Local Government:**
- Assesses situation
- Declares emergency at the local level, if needed
- Provides emergency assistance to protect the public’s health and safety
- Coordinates damage assessment to determine the extent of damage, resources needed to support local government recovery efforts and uninsured private and public damages and losses
- Requests direct state assistance, if needed

**Ohio Emergency Management Agency Receives County EMA Request for State Assistance:**
- Recommends Governor’s declaration, if warranted
- Assists local governments gathering damage assessment information for private and public damages, if needed
- Coordinates requests for direct assistance with applicable Emergency Support Function (ESF) - state agencies

To determine whether incident warrants a federal declaration, federal, state and local agencies may conduct Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments (Joint PDA). If Joint PDA results warrant the following could occur:
- Prepares request letter for Small Business Administration (SBA) Home/Personal Property/Business Loan Program, OR
- Prepares the Governor’s request letter to the President for a federal disaster declaration

**State and Federal Disaster Assistance Programs:**
- State of Ohio Individual Assistance Grant Program
- State Disaster Relief Program
- SBA Home/Personal Property/Business Disaster Loan Program
- FEMA Individual Assistance Programs
- FEMA Public Assistance Programs
- FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs