SUBJECT: Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA)

References: See Enclosure 1

1. PURPOSE. This Directive:

a. Establishes policy and assigns responsibilities for DSCA, also referred to as civil support.

b. Incorporates and cancels DoD Directive (DoDD) 3025.1 and DoDD 3025.15 (References (a) and (b)).

c. Supplements the regulations (in DoDD 5525.5 (Reference (c))) required by section 375 of title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.), (Reference (d)) regarding military support for civilian law enforcement.

d. Provides guidance for the execution and oversight of DSCA when requested by civil authorities or by qualifying entities and approved by the appropriate DoD official, or as directed by the President, within the United States, including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any territory or possession of the United States or any political subdivision thereof.

e. Authorizes immediate response authority for providing DSCA, when requested.

f. Authorizes emergency authority for the use of military force, under dire situations, as described in paragraph 4.i. above the signature of this Directive.

2. APPLICABILITY. This Directive:

a. Applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other
organizational entities within the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to collectively as the “DoD Components”).

b. Applies to the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard (hereafter referred to collectively as the “National Guard”) personnel when under Federal command and control. Also applies to National Guard personnel when the Secretary of Defense determines that it is appropriate to employ National Guard personnel in title 32, U.S.C., status to fulfill a request for DSCA, the Secretary of Defense requests the concurrence of the Governors of the affected States, and those Governors concur in the employment of National Guard personnel in such a status.

c. Applies to all DSCA (except the specific forms of DSCA listed in paragraph 2.d. of this section), including but not limited to:

   (1) Mutual or automatic aid, also known as reciprocal fire protection agreements (see chapter 15A of title 42, U.S.C. (Reference (f))).

   (2) DoD fire and emergency services programs (see DoD Instruction (DoDI) 6055.06 (Reference (g))).

   (3) Support of special events in accordance with applicable laws and DoD policy (see DoDD 2000.15 (Reference (h))).

   (4) United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) activities as the DoD Coordinating and Primary Agency for Emergency Support Function #3, Public Works and Engineering, of the National Response Framework (Reference (i)).

   (5) Defense support to civilian law enforcement agencies (see DoDD 3025.12 (Reference (j)) and Reference (c)).

d. Does NOT apply to the following:

   (1) Support in response to foreign disasters provided in accordance with DoDD 5100.46 (Reference (k)).

   (2) Joint investigations conducted by the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, and the military criminal investigative organizations with civil law enforcement agencies on matters within their respective jurisdictions using their own forces and equipment.

   (3) Detail of DoD personnel to duty outside the Department of Defense in accordance with DoDI 1000.17 (Reference (l)).

   (4) Counternarcotics operations conducted under the authority of section 1004 of Public Law 101-510 (1991) (Reference (m)).
3. **DEFINITIONS.** See Glossary.

4. **POLICY.** It is DoD policy that:

   a. This Directive shall be implemented consistent with national security objectives and military readiness.

   b. Unless expressly stated otherwise, the provisions of this Directive should not be construed to rescind any existing authorities of the Heads of DoD Components, commanders, and/or responsible DoD civilians to provide DSCA in accordance with existing laws, DoD issuances, and Secretary of Defense-approved orders.

   c. DSCA is initiated by a request for DoD assistance from civil authorities or qualifying entities or is authorized by the President or Secretary of Defense.

   d. All requests for DSCA shall be written, and shall include a commitment to reimburse the Department of Defense in accordance with sections 5121, et. seq., of Reference (f) (also known as “The Stafford Act”), section 1535 of title 31, U.S.C. (also known as “The Economy Act” (Reference (y))), or other authorities except requests for support for immediate response, and mutual or automatic aid, in accordance with paragraphs 4.g. and 4.m. of this section. Unless approval authority is otherwise delegated by the Secretary of Defense, all DSCA requests shall
be submitted to the office of the Executive Secretary of the Department of Defense. For assistance provided according to paragraph 4.g. of this section, civil authorities shall be informed that oral requests for assistance in an emergency must be followed by a written request that includes an offer to reimburse the Department of Defense at the earliest available opportunity. States also must reimburse the United States Treasury in accordance with section 9701 of Reference (y). Support may be provided on a non-reimbursable basis only if required by law or if both authorized by law and approved by the appropriate DoD official.

e. All requests from civil authorities and qualifying entities for assistance shall be evaluated for:

(1) Legality (compliance with laws).

(2) Lethality (potential use of lethal force by or against DoD Forces).

(3) Risk (safety of DoD Forces).

(4) Cost (including the source of funding and the effect on the DoD budget).

(5) Appropriateness (whether providing the requested support is in the interest of the Department).

(6) Readiness (impact on the Department of Defense’s ability to perform its other primary missions).

f. DSCA plans shall be compatible with Reference (i); the National Incident Management System (Reference (z)); all contingency plans for operations in the locations listed in paragraph 1.d. above the signature of this Directive; and any other national plans (approved by the President or Secretary of Defense) or DoD issuances governing DSCA operations. DSCA planning will consider command and control options that will emphasize unity of effort, and authorize direct liaison if authorized by the Secretary of Defense.

g. Federal military commanders, Heads of DoD Components, and/or responsible DoD civilian officials (hereafter referred to collectively as “DoD officials”) have IMMEDIATE RESPONSE AUTHORITY as described in this Directive. In response to a request for assistance from a civil authority, under imminently serious conditions and if time does not permit approval from higher authority, DoD officials may provide an immediate response by temporarily employing the resources under their control, subject to any supplemental direction provided by higher headquarters, to save lives, prevent human suffering, or mitigate great property damage within the United States. Immediate response authority does not permit actions that would subject civilians to the use of military power that is regulatory, prescriptive, proscriptive, or compulsory.

(1) The DoD official directing a response under immediate response authority shall immediately notify the National Joint Operations and Intelligence Center (NJOIC), through the
chain of command, of the details of the response. The NJOIC will inform appropriate DoD Components, including the geographic Combatant Command.

(2) An immediate response shall end when the necessity giving rise to the response is no longer present (e.g., when there are sufficient resources available from State, local, and other Federal agencies to respond adequately and that agency or department has initiated response activities) or when the initiating DoD official or a higher authority directs an end to the response. The DoD official directing a response under immediate response authority shall reassess whether there remains a necessity for the Department of Defense to respond under this authority as soon as practicable but, if immediate response activities have not yet ended, not later than 72 hours after the request for assistance was received.

(3) Support provided under immediate response authority should be provided on a cost-reimbursable basis, where appropriate or legally required, but will not be delayed or denied based on the inability or unwillingness of the requester to make a commitment to reimburse the Department of Defense.

h. The authority of State officials is recognized to direct a State immediate response using National Guard personnel under State command and control (including personnel in a title 32, U.S.C. (Reference (e)) (hereafter referred to as “Title 32”) status) in accordance with State law, but National Guard personnel will not be placed in or extended in Title 32 status to conduct State immediate response activities.

i. Federal military commanders are provided EMERGENCY AUTHORITY under this Directive. Federal military forces shall not be used to quell civil disturbances unless specifically authorized by the President in accordance with applicable law (e.g., chapter 15 of Reference (d)) or permitted under emergency authority, as described below (see DoDD 3025.12 (Reference (j)) and DoDD 5525.5 (Reference (c))). In these circumstances, those Federal military commanders have the authority, in extraordinary emergency circumstances where prior authorization by the President is impossible and duly constituted local authorities are unable to control the situation, to engage temporarily in activities that are necessary to quell large-scale, unexpected civil disturbances because:

(1) Such activities are necessary to prevent significant loss of life or wanton destruction of property and are necessary to restore governmental function and public order; or,

(2) When duly constituted Federal, State, or local authorities are unable or decline to provide adequate protection for Federal property or Federal governmental functions. Federal action, including the use of Federal military forces, is authorized when necessary to protect the Federal property or functions.

j. Except for immediate response and emergency authority as described in paragraphs 4.g. and 4.i. of this section, only the Secretary of Defense may approve requests from civil authorities or qualifying entities for Federal military support for:
(1) Defense assistance in responding to civil disturbances (requires Presidential authorization) in accordance with Reference (j).

(2) Defense response to CBRNE events (see DoDI 2000.18 (Reference (aa))).

(3) Defense assistance to civilian law enforcement organizations, except as authorized in Reference (c).

(4) Assistance in responding with assets with potential for lethality. This support includes loans of arms; vessels or aircraft; or ammunition. It also includes assistance under section 382 of Reference (d) and section 831 of title 18, U.S.C. (Reference (ab)); all support to counterterrorism operations; and all support to civilian law enforcement authorities in situations where a confrontation between civilian law enforcement and civilian individuals or groups is reasonably anticipated.

k. Federal military forces employed for DSCA activities shall remain under Federal military command and control at all times.

l. Special event support to a qualifying entity shall be treated as DSCA.

m. All requests for DSCA mutual and automatic aid via the DoD Fire and Emergency Services programs shall be in accordance with Reference (g).

n. DSCA is a total force mission (see DoDD 1200.17 (Reference (ac))).

o. No DoD unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) will be used for DSCA operations, including support to Federal, State, local, and tribal government organizations, unless expressly approved by the Secretary of Defense. Use of armed UAS for DSCA operations is not authorized. (See References (p), (q), (r), and (s))

p. Direct liaison between DoD Components and the States should occur only when time does not permit compliance with paragraph 13.a. in Enclosure 2 of this Directive. In each such instance, the Chief, National Guard Bureau, will be informed of the direct liaison.

5. **RESPONSIBILITIES.** See Enclosure 2.

6. **RELEASABILITY.** UNLIMITED. This Directive is approved for public release and is available on the Internet from the DoD Issuances Web-site at http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives.
7. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Directive:


   b. Must be reissued, cancelled, or certified current within 5 years of its publication in accordance with DoD Instruction 5025.01 (Reference (am)). If not it will expire effective December 29, 2020 and be removed from the DoD Issuances Website.

   [Signature]

   William J. Lynn III
   Deputy Secretary of Defense

Enclosures

1. References
2. Responsibilities
   Glossary
ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES

(b) DoD Directive 3025.15, “Military Assistance to Civil Authorities,” February 18, 1997 (hereby cancelled)
(d) Sections 375, 382, 2564, 9442, and Chapter 15 of title 10, United States Code
(e) Title 32, United States Code
(f) Sections 300hh-11 and 5121. et. seq.¹, and Chapter 15A of title 42, United States Code
(g) DoD Instruction 6055.06, “DoD Fire and Emergency Services (F&ES) Program,” December 21, 2006
(n) Section 701n of title 33, United States Code
(o) Executive Order 12656, “Assignment of Emergency Preparedness Responsibilities,” as amended
(q) Executive Order 12333, “United States Intelligence Activities,” December 4, 1981, as amended
(r) Executive Order 13388, “Further Strengthening the Sharing of Terrorism Information to Protect Americans,” October 25, 2005
(x) DoD Directive 1100.20, “Support and Services for Eligible Organizations and Activities Outside the Department of Defense,” April 12, 2004

¹ Section 5121, et. seq., of title 42, U.S.C. Appendix, is also known as “The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act,” as amended, and is referred to in this Directive as “The Stafford Act”
² Document is classified and copies maybe requested by contacting USD(I), USDI.pub@osd.mil
(y) Sections 1535 and 9701 of title 31, United States Code
March 1, 2004
(aa) DoD Instruction 2000.18, “Department of Defense Installation Chemical, Biological,
Radiological, Nuclear, and High-Yield Explosive Emergency Response Guidelines,”
December 4, 2002
(ab) Section 831 of title 18, United States Code
(ac) DoD Directive 1200.17, “Managing the Reserve Components as an Operational Force,”
October 29, 2008
(ad) DoD Directive 5111.13, “Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and
America’s Security Affairs (ASD(HD&ASA)),” January 16, 2009
(ae) DoD Directive 8320.02, “Data Sharing in a Net-Centric Department of Defense,”
December 2, 2004
(ah) Unified Command Plan, current edition
(aaj) DoD Instruction 1215.06, “Uniform Reserve, Training, and Retirement Categories,”
February 7, 2007
(ak) DoD Directive 5105.77, “National Guard Bureau (NGB),” May 21, 2008
(al) Joint Publication 1-02, “Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated
Terms,” current edition

---

3 Section 1535 of title 31, U.S.C., is also known as “The Economy Act”
4 For official use only and on a need-to-know basis, a copy can be requested from the J-5/Joint Staff at 703-693-2742.
5 Classified document, a copy can be requested from the J-3/Joint Staff at 703-693-9455.
ENCLOSURE 2

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY (USD(P)). The USD(P) shall:

   a. Coordinate DSCA policy with other Federal departments and agencies, State agencies, and the DoD Components, as appropriate.

   b. Establish DoD policy governing DSCA.

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HOMELAND DEFENSE AND AMERICAS’ SECURITY AFFAIRS (ASD(HD&ASA)). The ASD(HD&ASA), under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P), shall:

   a. Serve as the principal civilian advisor to the Secretary of Defense and the USD(P) for DSCA.

   b. Serve as the Defense Domestic Crisis Manager.

   c. As delegated by the Secretary of Defense in accordance with DoDD 5111.13 (Reference (ad)), serve as approval authority for requests for assistance from civil authorities or qualifying entities sent to the Secretary of Defense, except for those items retained in paragraphs 4.j. and 4.o. above the signature of this Directive, or delegated to other officials. This authority may not be delegated further than the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs. When carrying out this authority, the ASD(HD&ASA) shall:

      (1) Coordinate requests with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Commanders of the Combatant Commands with DSCA responsibilities in the matter, and Military Department Secretaries and other DoD officials as appropriate.

      (2) Immediately notify the Secretary of Defense of the use of this authority.

   d. Develop, coordinate, and oversee the implementation of DoD policy for DSCA plans and activities, including:

      (1) Requests for assistance during domestic crises, emergencies, or civil disturbances.

      (2) Domestic consequence management.

      (3) Coordination or consultation, as appropriate, with the Department of Homeland Security and other Federal agencies on the development and validation of DSCA requirements.
(4) DoD support for national special security events.

(5) DoD support for national and international sporting events, in accordance with section 2564 of Reference (d).

(6) Direct the fullest appropriate dissemination of information relating to all aspects of DSCA, using all approved media and in accordance with DoDD 8320.02 (Reference (ae)).

e. Exercise staff cognizance over Reference (c).

3. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR SPECIAL OPERATIONS AND LOW-INTENSITY CONFLICT AND INTERDEPENDENT CAPABILITIES (ASD(SO/LIC&IC)). The ASD(SO/LIC&IC), under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P), shall support planning by the Defense Domestic Crisis Manager during DSCA operations, as required.

4. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER) (USD(C))/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO), DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. The USD(C)/CFO shall:

   a. Establish policies and procedures to ensure timely reimbursement to the Department of Defense for reimbursable DSCA activities.

   b. Assist in management of statutory resources for DSCA in support of appropriate international and domestic sporting events.

5. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS (USD(P&R)). The USD(P&R) shall identify, monitor, and oversee the development of integrated DSCA training capabilities and the integration of these training capabilities into exercises and training to build, sustain, and assess DSCA readiness in accordance with DoDD 1322.18 (Reference (af)).

6. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS (ASD(HA)). The ASD(HA), under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P&R), as the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense for all DoD health policy, shall:

   a. Provide guidance and support for all domestic crisis situations or emergencies that require health or medical-related DSCA to ASD(HD&ASA).

   b. Exercise authority in accordance with section 300hh-11 of Reference (f), and the policy according to DoDD 6010.22 (Reference (ag)), for participation in the National Disaster Medical System.
7. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR RESERVE AFFAIRS (ASD(RA)). The ASD(RA), under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P&R), shall provide recommendations, guidance, and support on the use of the Reserve Components to perform DSCA missions to ASD(HD&ASA).

8. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY, AND LOGISTICS (USD(AT&L)). The USD(AT&L) shall establish policies and procedures, in coordination with ASD(HD&ASA), to implement DSCA requirements for DoD Fire and Emergency Services programs and mutual or automatic aid that may be part of that program.

9. HEADS OF THE DoD COMPONENTS. The Heads of the DoD Components shall:

   a. Direct that any DSCA-related DoD issuances, concept plans, interagency agreements, and memorandums of understanding or agreement with external agencies are in full compliance with this Directive.

   b. Direct Component compliance with financial management guidance related to support provided for DSCA operations, including guidance related to tracking costs and seeking reimbursement.

   c. When approved by the Secretary of Defense, plan, program, and budget for DSCA capabilities in accordance with law, policy, and assigned missions.

10. SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS. The Secretaries of the Military Departments, in addition to the responsibilities in section 9 of this enclosure, shall:

    a. Establish the necessary policies and procedures to ensure the appropriate personnel are trained to execute DSCA plans as directed by the Secretary of Defense.

    b. Direct that requests for reimbursement of actual DSCA expenditures (performance of work or services, payments to contractors, or delivery from inventory) begin within 30 calendar days after the month in which performance occurred. Final billing invoices shall be submitted to supported departments and agencies within 90 calendar days of the termination of the supported event.

11. CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in addition to the responsibilities in section 9 of this enclosure, shall:

    a. Advise the Secretary of Defense on the effects of requests for DSCA on national security and military readiness.
b. Identify available resources for support in response to DSCA requests, and release related orders when approved by the Secretary of Defense.

c. Incorporate DSCA into joint training and exercise programs in consultation with the USD(P&R), the Chief, National Guard Bureau (NGB), and appropriate officials from the Department of Homeland Security and other appropriate Federal departments and agencies.

d. Advocate for needed DSCA capabilities.

12. COMMANDERS OF COMBATANT COMMANDS WITH DSCA RESPONSIBILITIES. The Commanders of Combatant Commands with DSCA responsibilities, in addition to the responsibilities in section 9 of this enclosure and in accordance with the Unified Command Plan (Reference (ah)), shall:

a. In coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, plan and execute DSCA operations in their areas of responsibility in accordance with this Directive, Reference (ah), and the Global Force Management Implementation Guidance (Reference (ai)).

b. In coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, incorporate DSCA into joint training and exercise programs in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, other appropriate Federal departments and agencies, and the NGB.

c. Advocate for needed DSCA capabilities and requirements through the Joint Requirements Oversight Council, subject to paragraph 9.c. of this enclosure, and the planning, programming, budgeting, and execution process.

d. Work closely with subordinate commands to ensure that they are appropriately reimbursed for DSCA in accordance with paragraph 10.b. of this enclosure.

e. Exercise Training Readiness Oversight (TRO) over assigned Reserve Component forces when not on active duty or when on active duty for training in accordance with DoDI 1215.06 (Reference (aj)).

13. CHIEF, NGB. The Chief, NGB, under the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense, normally through the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Air Force, shall:

a. Serve as the channel of communications for all matters pertaining to the National Guard between DoD Components and the States in accordance with DoDD 5105.77 (Reference (ak)).

b. Annually assess the readiness of the National Guard of the States to conduct DSCA activities and report on this assessment to the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force; the USD(P&R), ASD(HD&ASA), and ASD(RA); and, through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to the Secretary of Defense and appropriate Combatant Commanders.
c. Report National Guard support of civil authorities or qualifying entities when using Federal resources, equipment, and/or funding to the NJOIC.

d. Serve as an advisor to the Combatant Commanders on National Guard matters pertaining to the combatant command missions, and support planning and coordination for DSCA activities as requested by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff or the Combatant Commanders.

e. Ensure that National Guard appropriations are appropriately reimbursed for DSCA activities.

f. Advocate for needed DSCA capabilities.

g. Develop and promulgate, in accordance with Reference (ak) and in coordination with the Secretaries of the Army and Air Force and the ASD(HD&ASA), guidance regarding this Directive as it relates to National Guard matters.
GLOSSARY

PART I. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ASD(HA)  Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
ASD(HD&ASA)  Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs
ASD(RA)  Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs
ASD(SO/LIC&IC)  Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities

CBRNE  chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high yield explosives

DoDD  DoD Directive
DoDI  DoD Instruction
DSCA  Defense Support of Civil Authorities
NGB  National Guard Bureau
NJOIC  National Joint Operations and Intelligence Center

TRO  Training Readiness Oversight

UAS  unmanned aircraft systems
USACE  United States Army Corps of Engineers
USD(AT&L)  Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics
USD(C)/CFO  Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer
USD(I)  Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence
USD(P)  Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
USD(P&R)  Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

PART II. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this Directive.

civil authorities. Defined in Joint Publication 1-02 (Reference (al)).

civil disturbances. Defined in Reference (al).

direct liaison. An authority for Federal military forces to consult with, coordinate with, and respond to State authorities (including National Guard units and personnel operating in Title 32 status or in State Active Duty status) or Federal civilian authorities in the tactical-level execution of assigned tasks, pursuant to an order by the Secretary of Defense or the President to provide support to those authorities.
DoD Domestic Crisis Manager. The lead DoD official responsible for DoD’s domestic crisis management response, ensuring the information needs and other requirements of the Secretary of Defense are met, and developing, coordinating, and overseeing the implementation of DoD policy for crisis management to ensure DoD capability to develop and execute options to prevent, mitigate, or respond to a potential or actual domestic crisis. The ASD(HD&ASA) serves as the Defense Domestic Crisis Manager.

DSCA. Support provided by U.S. Federal military forces, DoD civilians, DoD contract personnel, DoD Component assets, and National Guard forces (when the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Governors of the affected States, elects and requests to use those forces in title 32, U.S.C., status) in response to requests for assistance from civil authorities for domestic emergencies, law enforcement support, and other domestic activities, or from qualifying entities for special events. Also known as civil support.

emergency authority. A Federal military commander’s authority, in extraordinary emergency circumstances where prior authorization by the President is impossible and duly constituted local authorities are unable to control the situation, to engage temporarily in activities that are necessary to quell large-scale, unexpected civil disturbances because 1) such activities are necessary to prevent significant loss of life or wanton destruction of property and are necessary to restore governmental function and public order or (2) duly constituted Federal, State, or local authorities are unable or decline to provide adequate protection for Federal property or Federal governmental functions.

Federal military forces. Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force personnel (including Reserve Component personnel) on Federal active duty and National Guard personnel when under Federal command and control.

immediate response authority. A Federal military commander’s, DoD Component Head’s, and/or responsible DoD civilian official’s authority temporarily to employ resources under their control, subject to any supplemental direction provided by higher headquarters, and provide those resources to save lives, prevent human suffering, or mitigate great property damage in response to a request for assistance from a civil authority, under imminently serious conditions when time does not permit approval from a higher authority within the United States. Immediate response authority does not permit actions that would subject civilians to the use of military power that is regulatory, prescriptive, proscriptive, or compulsory. (State immediate response is addressed in paragraph 4.h. above the signature of this Directive.)

qualifying entity. A non-Governmental organization to which the Department of Defense may provide assistance for special events by virtue of statute, regulation, policy, or other approval by the Secretary of Defense or his or her authorized designee.

responsible DoD civilian. For purposes of DSCA, the Head of a DoD Component or other DoD civilian official who has authority over DoD assets that may be used for a DSCA response.
special event. An international or domestic event, contest, activity, or meeting, which by its very nature, or by specific statutory or regulatory authority, may warrant security, safety, and/or other logistical support or assistance from the Department of Defense.

total force. Defined in Reference (ac).