

The purpose of this initiative is to encourage the use of and help support the formation of Citizen Patrol Mutual Aid Teams to be used during natural disasters, major law enforcement actions, and potential terrorist threats or attacks. During the Southern California fire storms in October 2003, Citizen Patrol Volunteers played a vital role by assisting their sworn law enforcement counterparts with critical non-enforcement actions. Citizen Patrol Volunteers donated thousands of hours while performing tasks such as road closures, traffic control, evacuations, arson and looting prevention patrols as well as other assignments and others tasks thus allowing Officers and Deputies to focus on other duties. Citizen Patrol Volunteers can provide a much needed "Force Multiplier" when the need arises, however the majority of Citizen Patrol groups do not communicate with each other until a disaster occurs. Our goal is to encourage, assist, and support groups with the formation of mutual aid agreements locally, regionally, and on a national level.



*Pictured Above, a common logo developed by the NACOP for use by Citizen Patrol Action Teams can help identify various units when responding outside their community.*



*Pictured Above, over 100 Citizen Patrol Volunteers stage as they prepare to assist in the search for a missing young woman. The group comprised from over 10 C.O.P. units assembled with less than 12 hours notice to complete the search.*



*Pictured Above, during or after natural or man-made disasters such as Fires, Severe Weather Storms, Earthquakes, Terrorist attacks, Citizen Volunteers can play an important role in assisting with traffic control and street closures.*



*Pictured Above from a newspaper article, a Sheriff's Deputy stands guard at a flooded road where a Citizen Volunteer could fill the role and free up the Deputy to focus on enforcement actions.*