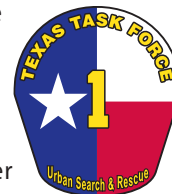


TX-TF1 DEPLOYS TO SEARCH A LARGE AREA OF DAMAGED BUILDINGS



A tornado rated as a F-2 on the Fujita intensity scale wreaked destruction in downtown Fort Worth. The tornado started at 6:20 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28th with sustained winds of up to 157 mph and killed 4 people and caused an estimated \$415 million in property damages. The tornado tore a four mile path, crossing the Trinity River west of the downtown commercial district before striking the Cash America, Bank One, and other office buildings. This main tornado spawned another tornado which moved across the cities of Arlington and Grand Prairie, damaging a mile-wide residential area, leaving over 80 people homeless.

Texas Task Force One (TX-TF1) was deployed and set up a base of operations at the Fort Worth Fire Training Academy by 6:30 a.m. Wednesday morning and conducted searches of several damaged and destroyed structures west of downtown Fort Worth.

The team searched the nine-story Cash America building, the 68,000-square-foot Chocolate Factory, and several smaller structures. The task force worked for local incident commander and received search and rescue building assignments from the Fort Worth Fire Department. TX-TF1 completed all search assignments by 6 p.m. Wednesday night and were released by the Fort Worth Fire Department.



Deployment Statistics

• Incident involved 77 personnel deployed for 2 days

Type I US&R Task Force

- 4 rescue squads
- 2 technical search teams
- 2 canine search teams
- Medical, communications, and logistic personnel and equipment