COMPANION GUIDE TO ONLINE TRAINING

PLN-03:
COMMUNITY SITREP
STUDENT COMPANION GUIDE

Turning Intelligence Into Action After a Disaster

Intelligence Fusion · The Community SITREP · Community Lifelines · Reassessment

Edition v1.0 · 2026

Semper Paratus, Semper Gumby

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PLN-03: COMMUNITY SITREP — STUDENT COMPANION GUIDE

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ONLINE TRAINING ACCESS

The five online lessons are available at fortunefavorstheprepared.com/pln-03-landing/. Support the development and availability of these courses by subscribing to my Patreon: patreon.com/fortunefavorstheprepared

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What This Guide Contains

For each of the five online lessons: a condensed reference summary covering the same material as the lesson, formatted for quick field reference rather than first-time learning. This guide is not a substitute for the online lessons — it is a companion to them, and to the Field Report Card (product C4-PLN03), which is the physical tool this course trains you to fill out.

Required Workflow — Online Lessons Before Using This Guide

- Step 1 — Support the development and availability of these courses by subscribing to my Patreon: patreon.com/fortunefavorstheprepared.
- Step 2 — Access the online lessons at fortunefavorstheprepared.com/pln-03-landing/.
- Step 3 — Complete all five lessons including knowledge checks.
- Step 4 — Use this guide as a field reference while filling in a Community SITREP or Field Report Card.

> **WHAT THIS COURSE IS NOT**
>
> PLN-03 teaches fusion and reporting, not collection. It does not teach you how to make an individual observation — that is INT-03 (SALUTE & SPOT Report Training). It does not teach map reading or grid coordinates — that is NAV-01. It does not teach the Community Lifelines framework from scratch — that is PLN-01, and this course assumes it. PLN-03 is where those three inputs get fused into one household or neighborhood picture.

Guide Map — What to Reference When

If You Need…	Go To…
The difference between a Threat Assessment and a Community SITREP	Chapter 1
The four intelligence source categories and how they fuse	Chapter 2
The exact fields in a Community SITREP, header to footer	Chapter 3
The seven Community Lifelines, in the correct order	Chapter 3
How household data (FEP, PPA, Next of Kin, HRW) feeds the fusion process	Chapter 4
Practicing fusion from fragmented, conflicting inputs	Chapter 5
Filling in coordinates on a report	Chapter 3, Appendix A
What comes after PLN-03	What's Next
Reference sources used in this course	Appendix A

CHAPTER 1: WHY POST-DISASTER INFORMATION FAILS

Every later chapter in this guide assumes you understand one distinction: the difference between assessing a threat before it happens and assessing conditions after it already has. This chapter is where that distinction gets made — get it wrong and every SITREP you write afterward inherits the confusion.

The Core Problem

After a disaster, information is incomplete, unstructured, and poorly shared. Different people know different pieces — whose power is out, which roads are blocked, who's hurt — and without a common format, none of it adds up to a picture anyone can act on. A Community SITREP exists to fix exactly that: not to collect more information, but to fuse what's already scattered across a neighborhood into one structured status.

Threat/Hazard Assessment vs. Community SITREP

	Threat/Hazard Assessment	Community SITREP
Timing	Pre-incident	Post-incident
Focus	Probability — what could happen	Condition — what is happening right now
Purpose	Planning and mitigation	Response and recovery decisions
Source document	Personal Preparedness Assessment Workbook, area study	Fused field observations, this course

FIELD NOTE — THE MOST CONFUSABLE PAIR IN THIS COURSE

A Threat Assessment asks “what could go wrong here.” A Community SITREP asks “what has gone wrong, right now, and how bad.” Confusing the two produces a SITREP full of speculation instead of observed condition — exactly the vague, unstructured reporting this course exists to replace.

Where Baseline Intelligence Comes From

You cannot assess degradation without knowing what “normal” looked like first. That baseline comes from two sources: the Personal Preparedness Assessment Workbook (a household's structured self-assessment of readiness) and the Family Emergency Plan Workbook (the area study and household facts — contacts, rally points, communications plan). Both are covered in full in Chapter 4.

CHAPTER 2: THE INTELLIGENCE FUSION MODEL

A Community SITREP is a fusion product, not a collection method. This chapter covers the four categories of input it fuses, and the one rule that keeps fusion honest: ground truth outranks context every time.

The Four Input Streams

Category	What It Covers	Example Source
HUMINT	Human observation — what people directly saw or heard	Neighbor and MAG welfare checks; individual SALUTE/SPOT reports (INT-03)
SIGINT/COMINT	Signals and communications — including silence as a signal	Radio traffic, repeater and cell tower status
TECHINT	Technical/infrastructure condition	Power, water, fuel, and system status
OSINT	Open-source — context and validation only	Weather, official alerts, utility maps

DOCTRINE NOTE — OSINT VALIDATES, NEVER OVERRIDES

OSINT is the only one of the four categories that does not originate from your own ground truth. It can confirm or contextualize what HUMINT, SIGINT/COMINT, and TECHINT already established — it should never be allowed to overrule what someone on the ground actually observed. An official map showing a road as “open” does not outrank a neighbor who just tried to drive it.

Where INT-03 Fits

Individual SALUTE and SPOT reports — taught in full in INT-03 — are the raw HUMINT feeding this fusion layer. This course does not re-teach how to build one; it teaches what to do with several of them once they start arriving.

WHY THIS MATTERS LATER

Chapter 3 turns these four streams into the actual fields of a Community SITREP. If you can't yet sort a piece of information into one of these four categories, the structure in Chapter 3 will feel arbitrary instead of load-bearing.

CHAPTER 3: BUILDING THE SITREP — STRUCTURE AND MECHANICS

This is the chapter you'll come back to most. It walks the Community SITREP field by field, in the order they appear on the Field Report Card (product C4-PLN03) and the fillable EOC-bound form.

Administrative Header

- To / From / Precedence — who it's going to, who sent it, how urgent
- Current DTG — date-time group, local time on the field card; UTC on the EOC-bound form
- Incident # / Operational Period / Expiration DTG — EOC-side tracking fields
- Location — address or landmark
- Coordinates (UTM/MGRS) — optional but recommended; NAV-01 (free) teaches grid reading and plotting

Incident Status Block

- Incident Status, Size & Scope, Overall Hazard — the condition-level summary
- Current Weather, 24-Hour and 48-Hour Outlook — OSINT, used for context only

Status of Lifelines — Correct Order

This is the core of the SITREP: current status, trend, and ETA to green for each of the seven Community Lifelines, in the order PLN-01 established — not FEMA's typical presentation order, not alphabetical.

#	Lifeline	What It Covers
1	Safety & Security	Crime, violence, or anything unsafe right now
2	Food, Water & Shelter	Access to food, drinking water, a place to stay
3	Communications	Phone, internet, or radio — working at all?
4	Energy	Electricity or fuel — available?
5	Transportation	Can vehicles or people actually move through?
6	Health & Medical	Can someone hurt or sick get treated?
7	Hazardous Materials	Anything leaking, burning, or contaminating?

FIELD DISTINCTION — STATUS VS. TREND

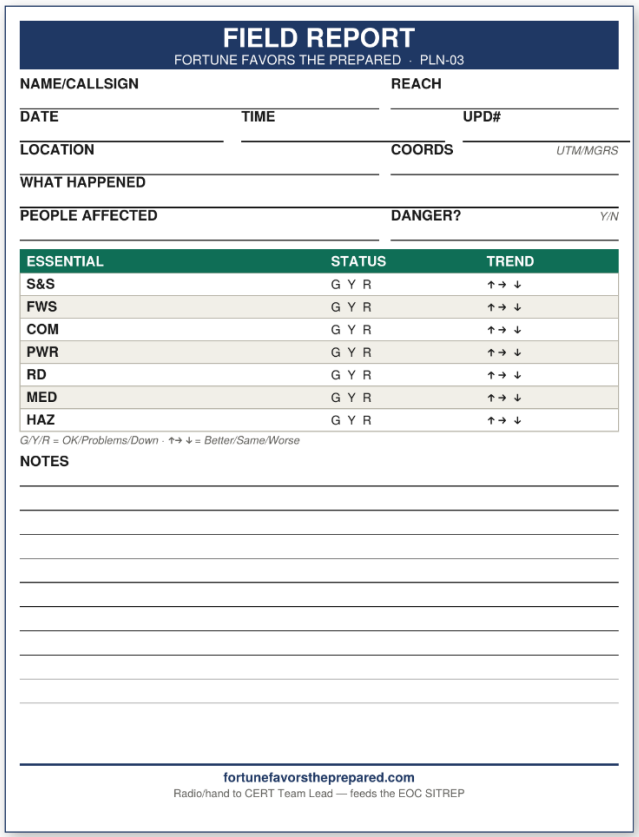
Status (OK / Problems / Down, or Green / Yellow / Red) is a snapshot: how bad is it right now. Trend (Better / Same / Worse) is a direction: is it moving toward green or away from it. A lifeline can be Status: Down and Trend: Better at the same time — report both, don't collapse them into one number.

The Field Report Card (C4-PLN03)

The plain-language version of this same structure, sized to carry in a pocket. Available in two variants: C4-PLN03-C (color) and C4-PLN03-B (black & white, low-ink for bulk CERT printing), both sold as a 12-card bundle — three print sheets, four cards each, no leftover cards per bundle. The reverse side of every card explains each abbreviation and field in plain language, so a card handed to someone who hasn't taken this course is still usable.

FIELD REPORT CARD

Fortune Favors the Prepared · PLN-03 · C4-PLN03-C



FIELD REPORT

FORTUNE FAVORS THE PREPARED · PLN-03

NAME/CALLSIGN _____ REACH _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ UPD# _____

LOCATION _____ COORDS _____ *UTM/MGRS*

WHAT HAPPENED _____

PEOPLE AFFECTED _____ DANGER? _____ *Y/N*

ESSENTIAL	STATUS	TREND
S&S	G Y R	↑ → ↓
FWS	G Y R	↑ → ↓
COM	G Y R	↑ → ↓
PWR	G Y R	↑ → ↓
RD	G Y R	↑ → ↓
MED	G Y R	↑ → ↓
HAZ	G Y R	↑ → ↓

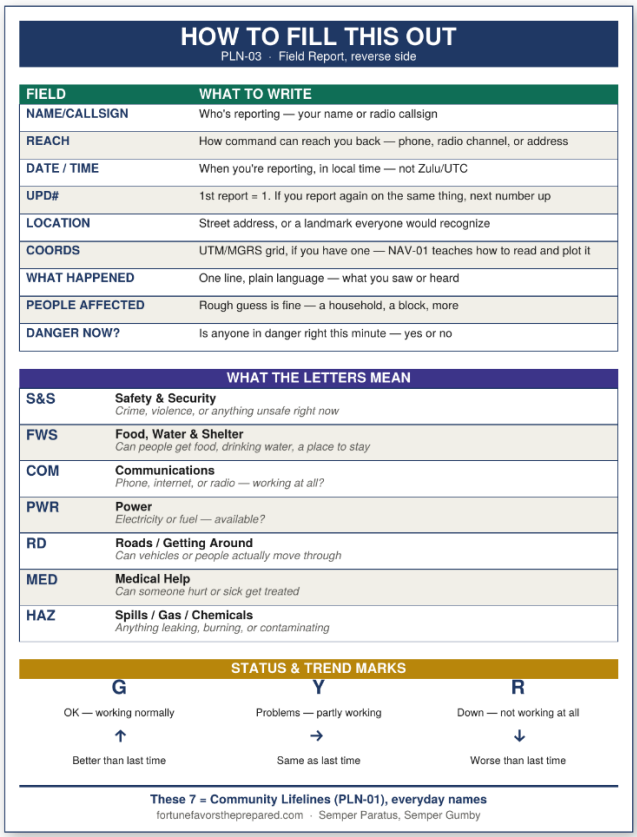
G/Y/R = OK/Problems/Down · ↑ → ↓ = Better/Same/Worse

NOTES

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Radio/hand to CERT Team Lead — feeds the EOC SITREP

FRONT



HOW TO FILL THIS OUT

PLN-03 · Field Report, reverse side

FIELD	WHAT TO WRITE
NAME/CALLSIGN	Who's reporting — your name or radio callsign
REACH	How command can reach you back — phone, radio channel, or address
DATE / TIME	When you're reporting, in local time — not Zulu/UTC
UPD#	1st report = 1. If you report again on the same thing, next number up
LOCATION	Street address, or a landmark everyone would recognize
COORDS	UTM/MGRS grid, if you have one — NAV-01 teaches how to read and plot it
WHAT HAPPENED	One line, plain language — what you saw or heard
PEOPLE AFFECTED	Rough guess is fine — a household, a block, more
DANGER NOW?	Is anyone in danger right this minute — yes or no

WHAT THE LETTERS MEAN

S&S	**Safety & Security** *Crime, violence, or anything unsafe right now*
FWS	**Food, Water & Shelter** *Can people get food, drinking water, a place to stay*
COM	**Communications** *Phone, internet, or radio — working at all?*
PWR	**Power** *Electricity or fuel — available?*
RD	**Roads / Getting Around** *Can vehicles or people actually move through*
MED	**Medical Help** *Can someone hurt or sick get treated*
HAZ	**Spills / Gas / Chemicals** *Anything leaking, burning, or contaminating*

STATUS & TREND MARKS

G	Y	R
OK — working normally	Problems — partly working	Down — not working at all
↑	→	↓
Better than last time	Same as last time	Worse than last time

These 7 = Community Lifelines (PLN-01), everyday names

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BACK

CHAPTER 4: REASSESSMENT LOOP — FEEDING HOUSEHOLD DATA UPWARD

A SITREP is only as good as the household-level data feeding it. This chapter covers how the FFTP workbook family connects to the fusion process — both before an incident (baseline) and after (execution and recovery).

Related FFTP Workbooks

Workbook	Role in the Fusion Loop
Family Emergency Plan (FEP) Workbook	The execution layer — rally points, PACE communications plan, and the contact hierarchy a SITREP's "To/From" fields draw on.
Personal Preparedness Assessment (PPA) Workbook	The post-disaster reassessment tool — invalidated assumptions, degraded resources, new gaps.
Next of Kin Workbook	Upstream source for the Health & Medical lifeline when an incident involves a casualty — its Emergency Info page is the fastest way to get medical basics to responders.
Household Recovery Workbook (HRW)	Where a Response & Recovery Decision gets executed once the SITREP has driven it — the First 72-Hour Checkbox Page and Days 3–14 Claim Filing Window pick up where this course stops.
Mutual Assistance Group (MAG) Workbook	Where household-level SITREP practice scales up to group coordination.

> **DOCTRINE NOTE — EXECUTION QUALITY IS INTELLIGENCE QUALITY**
> A household with a clean, rehearsed FEP — known rally points, a working PACE plan, a defined out-of-area contact — produces faster, cleaner welfare reports than one without. Fast accountability and clean HUMINT are not separate goals; the first produces the second.

The Full Flow

Preparedness & Area Study → Initial Community Intelligence → Incident Occurs → Intelligence Inputs → Community SITREP → Situational Awareness → Response & Recovery Decisions → Household Recovery Workbook.

CHAPTER 5: CAPSTONE — FUSING A SITREP FROM FRAGMENTED INPUTS

The capstone is judgment practice, not new content. You'll be handed fragmented, partially conflicting multi-source inputs — radio traffic, a neighbor report, a utility outage map, a degraded-fuel TECHINT note — and asked to produce a complete SITREP.

What's Being Tested

- Source-conflict resolution — ground truth over OSINT, per Chapter 2's doctrine note
- Correct lifeline categorization — placing an observation under the right one of the seven
- Trend and ETA judgment — not recall of lesson text

> **WHY THIS MATTERS LATER**
> This is the same judgment a MAG net control operator or CERT Team Lead exercises for real when three field cards arrive with slightly different accounts of the same intersection. The capstone is deliberately messier than the worked examples in Chapter 3 — real inputs rarely arrive clean.

What's Next

PLN-03 ends at a completed, fused SITREP. It does not train the specialist skills several chapters point toward — individual observation reporting, grid coordinate plotting, or the full Community Lifelines framework this course assumes.

PLN-03 connects to:

- PLN-01: Community Situational Awareness — Community Lifelines — the prerequisite this course assumes and never re-teaches.
- INT-03: SALUTE & SPOT Report Training — the individual-observation format that feeds this course's HUMINT category.
- NAV-01: Grid Coordinates and Map Reading — free course; teaches the MGRS skills behind every Coordinates field in this guide.
- PLN-04: PREP-CON Readiness Conditions — the household posture framework a SITREP's findings should inform.

> **PREREQUISITES — WHAT THIS COURSE ASSUMES**
> PLN-03 assumes PLN-01's Community Lifelines framework is already understood, and that INT-03's SALUTE/SPOT format is available as an input stream. It does not re-teach either — it builds directly on top of them.

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Appendix A: Reference Sources

- Community Lifelines framework — fortunefavorstheprepared.com/community-lifelines/ (PLN-01)
- FEMA Community Lifelines construct — the seven-category model this course's lifeline order is built on
- Family Emergency Plan Workbook, Edition v1.6.2 (May 2026)
- Household Recovery Workbook, “The Day After,” Edition v1.1
- NAV-01 — Grid Coordinates and Map Reading (free course)
- INT-03 — SALUTE & SPOT Report Training
- Field Report Card, product C4-PLN03 (color: -C, black & white: -B), 12-card bundle

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