**U.S. ARMY SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY**

**Master Leaders Course (MLC)**

**Operations Learning Competency**

**Advance Sheet for M454**

**Decisive Action: Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA)**

1. **SCOPE**

The objective of this three-hour lesson is to understand Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA), through readings and classroom participation. This lesson introduces current and emerging Army doctrine related to DSCA, as an element of decisive action. The lesson will enable you to appreciate the complexities of DSCA operations which a unit or an individual could find themselves involved with in the future.

**2.** **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

**This lesson supports MLC TLO 400-MLC-0440, “Analyze US Army and Joint Doctrine” as listed in the MLC Learning Competencies M400 advance sheet.**

**ELO:** **400-MLC-0460.04**

**Action:** Understand decisive action within the operational concept of unified land operations with a focus on the element of defense support of civil authorities.

**Condition:** In a staff group classroom environment, given readings, references, case studies, and classroom discussions on joint and U.S. Army doctrinal concepts.  
**Standard:** Understanding includes-

1. The roles and relationships of military forces in response of DSCA decisive action;

2. The primary DSCA tasks and missions of decisive action;

3. The fundamentals of DSCA in decisive action;

4. The disaster response sequence in DSCA; and

5. The legal considerations in DSCA decisive actions.

**Learning Domain:** Cognitive

**Level of Learning:** Understanding

**21st Century Soldier Competencies:**

1. Adaptability and initiative
2. Lifelong learner (includes digital literacy)
3. Communication and engagement (oral, written, negotiation)
4. Critical thinking and problem solving
5. Cultural and joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational competence
6. Tactical and technical competence (full spectrum capable)

**Linking warfighting challenges to required capabilities**

1. Develop and sustain a high degree of situational understanding while operating in complex environments against determined, adaptive enemy organizations.

2. Maintain an agile institutional Army that ensures combat effectiveness, supports other services, fulfills DOD and other government agencies' requirements, ensures quality of life for Soldiersand families, and possesses the capability to surge (mobilize) or expand (strategic reserve) the active Army.

3. Train Soldiers and leaders to ensure they are prepared to accomplish the mission across the range of military operations while operating in complex environments against determined, adaptive enemy organizations.

4. Develop agile, adaptive, and innovative leaders who thrive in conditions of uncertainty and chaos, and are capable of visualizing, describing, directing, leading, and assessing operations in complex environments and against adaptive enemies.

5. Integrate joint, inter-organizational, and multinational partner capabilities and campaigns to ensure unity of effort and accomplish missions across the range of military operations.

6. Understand, visualize, describe, direct, lead, and assess operations consistent with the philosophy of mission command to seize the initiative over the enemy and accomplish the mission across the range of military operations.

1. **ISSUE MATERIAL**

**a. Advance Issue:** M454 Advance Sheet.

**b. During Class:** Practical Exercise.

**4.** **ASSIGNED STUDENT REQUIRMENTS**

* 1. **Scan:**

[Reading A,ADP 3-28 Defense Support of Civil Authorities, July 2012 pages ii through 13](file:///D:\Class_63\All%20Instructors\04_DAT\C424-DA%20DSCA_12-13\C424%20RA%20FM%203-28.pdf) (16 pages). Read the introduction and chapters 1, 2, and 3 to gain a broad understanding of the complexities of DSCA operations in support of decisive action. It is important for you to grasp the fundamentals contained in this introduction in order for you to effectively participate in the lesson discussion this reading is tied to ELO 1, standards 1, 2, and 3.

[Reading B, FM 3-28, *Civil Support Operations*, 20 Aug 2010, Pages 7-1 to 7-15](file:///D:\Class_63\All%20Instructors\04_DAT\C424-DA%20DSCA_12-13\C424%20RC%20FM%203-28.pdf) (14 pages). Scan this chapter to gain an appreciation of DSCA legal requirements and considerations.The scanning of these pages is tied to ELO 1, standard 5 and the practical exercise.

1. **Classroom Discussion:** Come to class prepared to discuss the following:
2. What is the role of the DOD in DCSA operations?
3. Differentiate between using federal military forces and state National Guard forces in DSCA operations?
4. What are the primary tasks and missions of DSCA operations?
5. What are the fundamentals of DSCA operations?
6. What are the legal implications that must be considered when conducting DSCA operations?
7. **Bring to Class:** Ensure you have access in class to these manuals either electronically or on paper.
8. [FM 3-28, *Civil Support Operations, Chapter7,* 20 Aug 2010*.*](file:///\\blisfssma12002\SMC%20Share$\SMC%20Share%20Data\SMC%20Instructor%20Data\Class_63\All%20Instructors\04_DAT\C424-DA%20DSCA_12-13\FM%203-28%2020Aug10.pdf)
9. ADP 3-28 *Defense Support of Civil Authorities*, 6 July 2012.

**5.** **ASSESSMENT PLAN:** Refer to the MLC Learning Competencies M400 advance sheet for information on all assessments.