

## **STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE - 1.5.1**

### **TOPIC - ALARM RESPONSE - MUTUAL AID**

#### **PURPOSE:**

To meet the needs of Mutual Aid requests in a standard manner while insuring adequate coverage within our District.

#### **GENERAL:**

Whenever there is a request for us to provide aid to another fire district we must exercise appropriate discipline to send only what is requested and do so in a timely fashion, meeting minimum staffing levels.

#### **GUIDELINES:**

1. Upon receipt of the mutual aid alarm, members must report directly to the nearest station. POV response directly to a mutual aid call will not be allowed.
2. An officer, or the most experienced member, will make assignments based upon the nature of the request, and the capability and availability of personnel and equipment.
3. Only the requested types of apparatus should respond.
4. Minimum staffing levels **must** be achieved prior to response.
5. A Chief officer, or the assigned Duty officer, should respond to the incident for coordination of our units.
6. If more than one station is capable of meeting the request at the same time, the station closest to the incident will be the preferred station for response.

**NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the senior responding officer to manage what is to be considered an appropriate response.

7. A Mutual Aid request for "Personnel Only" must be coordinated by the station officer or the senior person. Personnel will be transported as a unit utilizing the best means available at the time of the call. Any vehicle used as a personnel carrier must have radio communication capabilities.
8. Prior to response, check available maps or gain directions for the best route of travel.
9. As the unit nears its destination the apparatus officer must contact the Incident Commander for assignment.

10. Protection capabilities must be maintained within the boundaries of the District. This may be accomplished either through a limited response on our part or through our request of Mutual Aid for station stand-by.
11. Automatic Aid Agreement and Conflagration Act response considerations are covered in other guidelines.