

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE - 4.2.4

TOPIC - INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM - STAGING

PURPOSE:

To promote a standard method to place uncommitted resources in a position away from the incident.

GENERAL:

Staging is used to place personnel, apparatus, and other resources in a position of readiness prior to the assignment of specific tasks. The effective use of staging will reduce the problem of congestion at the emergency scene by keeping resources at a distance. Staging resources prior to committing them into the scene will also allow the incident commander to make effective decisions regarding the use of those resources.

GUIDELINE:

LEVEL 1 STAGING

- a. Apparatus and its crew placed near but not on the scene, about 1 block away headed into the scene.
- b. Level 1 staging ceases to exist whenever the incident escalates to a point requiring level 2 staging.

LEVEL 2 STAGING

- a. Used on large scale, complex incidents requiring the accumulation of resources.
- b. Staging location must be large enough to accommodate the number of resources being accumulated.
- c. The incident Commander must assign a staging officer to manage the staging area.
- d. All units reporting to the staging area must report to the staging officer. Passports will be held by the staging officer and the time documented until the unit is issued an assignment.
- e. All assignments will come from Command to the staging officer, who will then inform units of where to go, who to report to, route of travel, and possibly the potential task.

STAGE AT CURRENT LOCATION

- a. This staging order is usually a result of vague dispatch information where locating the actual incident is difficult, or the incident is spread out over a large area.
- b. This staging order is neither Level 1 nor Level 2.

PERSONNEL STAGING

- a. Personnel not working an assignment must be staged in an area away from hazards.
- b. Personnel staging is an ideal place to establish rehabilitation efforts, including refreshments and medical assessment.