

Standard Operating Guidelines

Hurricanes and Floods

1.01 PURPOSE

- A. To provide a set of guidelines on responding before, during, and after a natural disaster.
- B. To aid IC.
- C. To help us perform our duties to our community and lessen the severity of the incident.
- D. To aid Kemah PD when called to help in evacuation.

1.02 SAFETY

- A. To remember the safety of all fire fighters and coverage of our community is our primary concern.
- B. It is the duty of the senior Officer or whoever is in command of our personnel to determine when all personnel should be evacuated if need be for their own safety.

1.03 POLICY

- A. We will strive to help, render aid as long as we have the equipment, personnel, and other resources that would be needed in this type of event.
- B. Call for additional assistance M/A if needed. Realize other departments will also be pushed to their limits and we may have to improvise.
- C. Members of the Kemah Volunteer Fire Department should read and follow this guideline to the best of their abilities.
- D. While this is a guideline, decisions will have to be made at each scene, and this SOG will help each Incident Commander to make decisions regarding his role and the roles of other officers.

1.04 GUIDELINES

- A. For Hurricanes:
 - 1. We should make sure all trucks, equipment, generators are ready (fueled up) and in working order. Lieutenants Responsibility. Station Captain will make sure we have supplies such as water, batteries etc. in case we have to spend the night or several days.
 - 2. Review Emergency Management book.
 - 3. The highest-ranking officer should be in communications with the Chief of PD once a hurricane is established to be on a path towards us to see what plans they are implementing.
 - 4. Determine which personnel will available or leaving in the event of a hurricane

5. Pd may call for our help in evacuation of the community
6. The highest-ranking officer in the department will make the determination to evacuate our personnel and equipment based on hurricane strength and time remaining to do so. Do not stay if you feel it is unsafe no matter what the category of hurricane is. We can not help people if our equipment or personnel are damaged or injured.
7. If we do need to evacuate determine which personnel and equipment will go where and set up possible back-up communications. Where is it safe to be relocated to?
8. Make sure we are still going to be able to communicate with dispatch and PD.

B. Flooding

1. If time permits, the same steps as outlined above need to be followed.
2. Flash flooding can occur at any time so it is very important that all equipment is ready and operational at all times.

1.06 RATIONALE

- A. We will strive to respond in our community using whatever resources we have and those from other departments to lessen the severity of the incident on our personnel.
- B. We should always use other department's equipment if we need it and do not have it ourselves.
- C. We should always think of the safety of our community and to our personnel at all times.
- D. We should strive to always be prepared for any foreseeable natural disaster.