

Standard Operating Guidelines

Mutual Aid

1.01 PURPOSE

- A. To provide a set of guidelines on using other departments resources, whether it is use of equipment or personnel.
- B. To aid in IC's role on when the need may arise to use those resources effectively so that a response from another department will aid in any emergency or non-emergency incident.
- C. To help us perform our duties to our community and lessen the severity of the incident on personnel or other possible limited resources.
- D. To aid other departments when called for mutual aid.

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 in response to another departments mutual aid call to help oversee the safety at the call of our responders and to assist IC as a liaison for our personnel.

1.03 POLICY

- A. We should call for mutual aid any time the senior officer deems necessary in order to meet the demands of the incident.
- B. We should call the closest departments first, when requesting mutual aid, then work our way out using other departments as necessary.
- C. We should respond to other departments' requests for mutual aid.

1.04 GUIDELINES

- A. A call for mutual aid should go out for the following situations
 - 1. Commercial or Residential fires that IC believes is already beyond our control for the personnel or apparatuses that have responded.
 - 2. Any other situation that IC believes needs additional personnel or resources from another department.
 - 3. IC can call for mutual aid anytime he feels necessary.
 - 4. We should release other departments from the scene as soon as possible.
- B. We should respond to mutual aid calls with the first out engine and or rescue truck depending on the personnel or equipment needs of the department calling us.
 - 1. We should leave one engine at our station to cover our community unless otherwise stated in the mutual aid agreement.
 - 2. We should respond with whatever personnel and/or equipment is needed and unless otherwise directed by the requesting departments IC.

3. We should keep communicating with our personnel at the station on standby as to whether their assistance may be needed and should be released as soon as possible if not needed.
4. K.V.F. D. should return back to our community as soon as possible after doing so.
5. The senior officer should take into account whether responding to a call for mutual aid assistance will hamper the response to our community.

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 adhere to any mutual aid agreements with have with other departments.
- D. We should always think of the safety of our community and to our personnel at all times.