

CHAPTER II OPERATIONS**SUBJECT 1 Responses****TOPIC 1 Emergency Response****A. PURPOSE**

This Procedure provides guidelines for responses to emergency situations.

B. POLICY

1. All emergency responses shall be made without delay. The Officer is responsible for the prompt response of all members. Lights and sirens shall be used at **all** times.
2. Non-emergency responses shall be made without delay, however lights and sirens should not be used.
3. Companies shall respond as dispatched. Any response made outside of normal dispatch procedure must be justified in writing.
4. Any time equipment falls from an apparatus; the apparatus shall immediately stop and retrieve the equipment.

C. EMERGENCY RESPONSES (*Reference Section 703.09 Dispatch Procedures- Apparatus Responses by Incident Type*).

1. Structure Fires- (One-Alarm and Extra Alarm Responses)
2. Still Alarms – The basic reduced fire response of a fire emergency that is deemed minor upon receipt of the initial call. The incident will be **upgraded** to a full one-alarm assignment upon arrival at the scene of a Fire Company reporting a “working” fire, the Incident Commander determines it is necessary, or due to multiple reports and/or additional information confirming a fire.
3. Fire Alarm Drops – A reduced fire response caused by the activation of a fire alarm, pull station, general alarm or smoke detector. The incident will be **upgraded** to a full one-alarm assignment upon arrival at the scene of a

Fire Company reporting a “working” fire, the Incident Commander determines it is necessary, or due to multiple reports and/or additional information confirming a fire.

4. EMS Incidents
5. Special Operations Incidents- (Bomb, Hazardous Material, River Emergencies, Entrapments, Collapse, Signal 500, Bio Hazard, Etc.)
6. Specials- (Stuck Elevators, Vehicle Struck a Building, Fumes, Fire Reported Out, Etc.)
7. Vehicle Fires
8. Single Resource Dispatches- (Outdoor Fires, Lock In / Out, Minor Gas Spills, CO Alarms, Salvage, Wires, Water Leaks, Etc.)
9. Mutual Aid Responses

NOTE: All fire dispatches to structures, One-Alarms, Still Alarms, and Fire Alarms, *Reference Section 203.01 Structure Fires*, for procedures and responsibilities at these incidents.

D. NON-EMERGENCY RESPONSES

NOTE: Respond to these dispatches without lights and sirens.

1. Advancing to Another Company’s Quarters
 - a. When advanced to another Company's quarters, the Company so advanced, shall respond to all alarms assigned to the Company to which they have been advanced, but shall retain their own Company designation.

Example: Truck 29 is advanced to Truck 18's quarters for a fire in Mt. Washington. Trucks 18, Truck 31 & RAT 23 were on the first alarm. After arriving in Truck 18’s first alarm running area, District 4 transmits the second alarm; Truck 29 would be dispatched on the second alarm rather than Truck 3 as indicated by the CAD Computer prior to the “move-up”.

Note: Once recommended for advancement (move-up), the Company advanced, in this case Truck 29, replaces the Company they

are advancing to, Truck 18, in the CAD Computer.

- b. While en-route to an advance assignment (move-up), the Officer shall notify the Fire Alarm Dispatcher when the Company is in the first alarm running area of the Company to which they are advancing.
- c. If dispatched to an emergency incident while advancing, respond appropriately and without delay.

2. Hydrant Runs

- a. Hydrant Struck Dispatch- Complete a F-57 Hydrant report on all damaged hydrants and notify police.
- b. Hydrant Leaking- Shut off hydrant, if unable to, notify Water Works. Complete a F-57 if necessary. Note: If there is a traffic cone on top of the hydrant, Water Works may be working on the system. Confirm with Water Works through Dispatch before shutting off.

3. High Risk -Police Stand-by

Report to nearest firehouse as directed by the appropriate District Chief or Fire Alarm Dispatcher.

E. DISCOVERING A FIRE OR OTHER EMERGENCY WHILE EN-ROUTE TO AN EMERGENCY

1. Fire Company Discovering a Fire or Emergency

- a. If a structure fire is discovered en-route to another emergency, the Officer shall notify the Fire Alarm Dispatcher and take appropriate action at the scene of the discovered structure fire.
- b. The Fire Alarm Dispatcher shall dispatch a Company to fill in for the Company (from the original dispatch), plus dispatch the One-Alarm complement for the fire discovered en route.
- c. If an emergency other than a structure fire is discovered en route to another emergency, the Officer shall evaluate the situation, take appropriate action, and notify the Fire Alarm Dispatcher.

2. EMS or Other Vehicle Discovering An Emergency

If an emergency is discovered en-route to another emergency, the member in charge shall evaluate the situation, take appropriate action, and notify the Fire Alarm Dispatcher.

F. Equipment Falling From Apparatus or Vehicles En-Route

Whenever equipment, including personal protective clothing, falls off an apparatus or vehicle en route to an emergency or returning, the apparatus or other vehicle shall immediately be stopped and the equipment recovered.