



PROCEDURES MANUAL

SUBJECT: Structure Fire Operations – Staging

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APPROVED:

RW

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203.01.12 Structure Fire Operations – Staging

A. Purpose

To establish a procedure for fire companies responding to structure fires on the first and on additional alarms and their responsibilities as it pertains to staging.

B. Definition

1. **Level 1 Staging** - Units assigned in their direction of travel, uncommitted, approximately one (1) or two (2) blocks from the scene. Apparatus will not pass their last tactical objective when staging. Engine Companies will not pass their last hydrant and Ladder Companies will not pass the last access point to the building.
2. **On Deck** (Forward Staging) – This position may be located very close to the entry point of the “hazard zone”. When assigned “On Deck” you are awaiting an assignment outside of but close to the hazard zone for quick deployment without being on air. “On Deck” will reduce the number of people in an area (standing on the steps inside the building). This also prevents individuals from wasting their air supply before receiving an assignment.
3. **Recycle** – Is a timely and efficient means of air replacement and re-hydration with the intent of going back to work as soon as possible. This is different than Rehab where vitals and an extended rest period occurs.

C. One-Alarm Structure Fire Response

1. Report directly to the address
 - a. First (1st) and Second (2nd) arriving Engine Companies
 - b. First (1st) arriving Truck Company
 - c. First (1st) arriving District Chief
2. Level 1 Staging
 - a. Second Truck Company
 - b. Heavy Rescue Company
 - c. Second District Chief
 - d. RAT Company

- e. Safety Engine
- f. EMS Units
- g. Examples of Radio Communication:
 - i. "Ladder 23 Level 1, 2nd Truck."
 - ii. Engine 32 Level 1, 3rd Engine."

D. Still Alarm Responses

- 1. Level 1 Staging
 - a. Second arriving Truck Company
 - b. Heavy Rescue Company
- 2. Confirmed fires, Dispatch will automatically upgrade to full One-Alarm response.

E. Extra Alarm Responses

- 1. Level 2 Staging (*Reference Operations 202.03 Staging*)

F. Staged Companies will await direction from Command.

- 1. All confirmed "working fires" the RAT and Safety engine will stage apparatus and begin procedure directed responsibilities. They shall announce this on the fireground channel.
 - a. For Example; "RAT 23 on the scene, beginning RAT duties." Also, "Safety Engine 46 on the scene, assuming Accountability."
 - b. These radio communications allow the initial Incident Commander to remain in fast-attack mode and he/she knows that Accountability and RAT operations have been established."
- 2. The Incident Commander may begin directing the remainder of the first-alarm companies to come forward and respond in.
 - a. The IC can assign specific tasks for the third Engine Company, second Ladder Company and the Heavy Rescue Company to perform.
 - b. If no initial tasks are needed to be performed, can place these companies "On Deck".
 - c. Must assign a task, objective and location when assigning companies. For example, "Command to Truck 23 (second truck), complete a primary search of the 3rd floor."

G. Recycled Companies may be requested by the Incident Commander to go back into the building to perform tasks or be placed "On Deck".

H. On-Deck companies shall **never** self-deploy and go to work outside of Command. This will be considered "free-lancing".