

Washington Township Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure

Division 200: Emergency Operations
Section 203: Fire Suppression
Subject 203.06: Suppression Operations – Mutual Aid
Supersedes: S.O.G. B1-11 (7/13/92)



Approved By:

Date: May 31, 2005

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PURPOSE:

To provide a fire suppression operational guideline, in general terms, for the use of apparatus, equipment, and personnel.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Suppression forces will be utilized in a manner that provides the most effective and efficient outcome to intervene in, mitigate conditions, and bring to logical conclusion those circumstances that cause the summons for assistance on a mutual aid or Automatic Mutual Aid Response System (AMARS) basis. Further, that all members shall become familiar with and use the provisions of this policy, and refresh themselves as necessary to maintain their effectiveness.

PROCEDURES:

General

Mutual aid and AMARS shall provide a source to complement available resources within and outside the community. Mutual aid rendered is performed under the auspices of the Greater Dayton Area Fire Department Mutual Aid Agreement. Most, but not all, political subdivisions within Butler, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Warren counties, and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base are signatories to this Agreement. Incidents dispatched as an emergency with a response given to a specific location/incident scene will be answered on an emergency basis. Incidents dispatched as move up, fill in, or relocation assignment to another community/department shall be promptly answered, but performed on a non-emergency basis.

Staffing

Staffing for mutual aid and AMARS responses shall provide the same minimum and maximum staffing levels on apparatus and vehicles as described in other Staffing for Fire Suppression policies.

Upon arrival at the receiving community/departments' incident scene, the apparatus/vehicles shall report to the Staging Officer or Incident Command, dependent upon their previous instructions or assignment. If under move up, fill in, or relocation assignment to another departments' station, the apparatus/vehicles shall report to the appropriate dispatcher on their arrival and availability. When providing move up, fill in, or relocation assignment to another community/department, apparatus and vehicles will not respond back to Washington Township unless and until released or dispatched by the receiving community/department.

Apparatus/vehicles and personnel will fall under the direction of the receiving community/departments' ranking officers and incident command structure. Should no Incident Commander or Staging Officer be present, than steps shall be taken to establish command and implement Incident Command policies and procedures.

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Apparatus

Only apparatus and personnel dispatched to mutual aid and AMARS responses shall respond. With the exception of Chief Officers, members on responding apparatus are the only persons that shall enter upon the incident scene, station, or other location where dispatched or sent. No other apparatus, vehicles, or privately owned vehicles are to be used or taken to the scene. Apparatus used during such events are defined to be:

AIR UNIT	vehicle to transport and/or recharge air bottles and/or cascade system
AMBULANCE	EMS vehicle staffed by EMT-Basic's
ENGINE	triple combination pumper with pump capacity of at least 750 gpm
LADDER	aerial device of either telescoping or articulating boom and said device is either ladder or platform/bucket equipped
MEDIC	EMS vehicle staffed by Paramedic's
TANKER	vehicle capable of transporting and delivering at least 1,000 gallons
RESCUE	specially equipped vehicle that may vary between light, medium, or heavy duty rescue capabilities

Communications

Apparatus and vehicles responding on mutual aid and AMARS incidents outside the community shall announce their response on the primary radio talk group for Washington Township Fire. The response communication shall also include which radio talk group or frequency the apparatus or vehicle(s) is switching to for communication with the receiving community/department. Immediately upon completion of the radio acknowledgement for response, the apparatus or vehicle(s) shall announce their response on the correct radio talk group/frequency to the receiving community/department. This response announcement to the receiving community/department shall include the apparatus/vehicle radio identifier, number of personnel on board, and a repeat of the location receiving the response.

Incoming apparatus or vehicles providing mutual aid or AMARS to Washington Township will be directed to use a specific radio talk group or frequency. This radio communication assignment may not be the same for all communications at an incident, and as such, should not cause any other apparatus or vehicles to switch radio talk groups or frequencies, unless specifically directed to do so.

References:

Miami Valley Fire/EMS Alliance

Incident Command System Guide, 1/19/05

Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office

Greater Dayton Area Fire Department Mutual Aid Agreement