

Washington Township Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure

Division 600: Communications & Fire Alarms Office
Section 602: Fire/EMS/Rescue/Haz Mat Emergencies
Subject 602.02: Desired Apparatus Staffing Levels and Mutual Aid Responses
Supersedes: Directive 602.02 of 8/2/01 and 5/15/02



Approved By:

Date: May 30, 2006

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PURPOSE:

To establish a procedure for when Washington Township's in-service apparatus falls below the assigned desired response level.

Note: For purposes of this procedure in-service apparatus means staffed apparatus regardless of whether at quarters or on assignment.

RESPONSIBILITY:

All Alarms Operators must understand and must follow this desired apparatus response level procedure.

PROCEDURES:

Desired Staffing Levels

The desired level for staffed apparatus consists of the following:

- Three (3) or more Engines
- One (1) Ladder Truck
- One (1) Heavy Rescue Unit
- Two (2) or more Medic Units

When any apparatus level falls below the desired staffing level due to a lack of qualified personnel, the Alarms Operator will contact the Shift Commander. The Shift Commander will contact the Station Company Commander of all out of service stations.

Contact will not be made while personnel are involved in emergency situations.

When less than two (2) engines and/or two (2) medics are staffed, the Operator will attempt to contact, via telephone, one of the following command officers in the order listed: Deputy Chief, Chief, Fire Marshal regarding such status.

Mutual Aid

Definitions:

Automatic Mutual Aid Responses (AMARS) – A pre-arranged agreement between departments for a specific piece(s) of apparatus to be dispatched as part of the initial response to any given incident.

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Mutual Aid Response – A pre-arranged agreement (Greater Dayton Area Fire Departments (GDAFD) Mutual Aid Agreement) between area departments to provide Engines, Ladders or other specialized apparatus upon request.

A.M.A.R.S. Agreements:

Currently, AMARS agreements are in place with the City of Bellbrook, Clearcreek Township, City of Kettering, Miami Township and Sugarcreek Township fire departments. The Fire Alarms Office is equipped with tone-activated monitors for each of the departments listed. When any of the monitors are activated, the Fire Alarms Operator must listen to and document the location, type of call, i.e., house fire, building fire, etc., and the response assignment. The response assignment should include the specific equipment requested from Washington Township. If available, the Fire Alarms Operator should dispatch the equipment requested and when dispatching said equipment the entire response to the incident should be given. **If the Washington Township apparatus dispatched by the other department is not available, that department should immediately be so notified.**

Commitment to Mutual Aid

Washington Township will commit to send fifty percent (50%) of its in-service engines on a mutual aid request. Specialized equipment, including but not limited to, a Medic, Air Unit, Battalion Officer, Ladder or Rescue may, however, be dispatched.

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