

# Hurricane Fire & Rescue

Hurricane, WV

Operation  
Guidelines

Subject
Guideline Number
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Pages

Response, Placement, and Company Functions
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5

**Purpose:** To establish guidance for the response, placement, and company functions at an incident.

**Scope:** All Personnel

**Responsibility:** It will be the responsibility of emergency operation personnel to adhere to this guideline.

This S.O.G. provides guidance for units as they respond and position for operations at incident scenes. It also establishes the primary assignments for units to begin work prior to Incident Command becoming fully functional.

## **Response:**

Units will “respond” in emergency status (red lights and sirens functioning) to all dispatches unless advised to do otherwise or as established by S.O.G. Apparatus will follow the route affording them the quickest total travel time but will not exceed safe speed considering conditions and posted speed limit when in emergency status. All personnel will remain seated and wear provided restraints. Drivers must use the utmost care and pay extra attention to safety when moving. Responding units will maintain radio contact on the appropriate channel with Dispatch and advise when on-scene. **Units will not contact Command while en route to request assignment. Arriving 1st alarm units will follow standard placement assignments (Level 1 staging) unless advised by Command to do otherwise.** Second and greater alarm units will stage at a remote site from the scene (Level II staging) and notify the Staging Officer (if established) or Command of location and status. All Level II staged units should be at the same location. Personnel will stay with their respective units in staged status until given as assignment through the Command system. Units not used in function positions (pumping, laddering, lighting, etc.) will be parked out of the way.

## **Standard Placement (Level I Staging)**

Upon arrival at the scene units will position their vehicles based on standard practice, maximum effectiveness and safety. Placement of units at situations other than fire alarms, structure fires and smoke investigation will be covered in other incident-specific S.O.G.'s.

**1st Arriving Engine** - This unit will be placed near the front of the fire structure, enabling visibility of three sides (to allow truck placement) or in best position based on size-up factors to begin suppression or investigation activities.

**1st Arriving Truck** - Unit to be placed at front of structure in position to reach roof surfaces for ventilation.

**Exception #1** Multi-story occupied structure with smoke or fire showing, placement will be to enable rescue from upper floors.

**Exception #2** Large volume fire showing (already vented) and/or threatening exposures, placement will be to enable establishment of aerial fire stream.

**Exception #3** Mobile home parks or small structures (under 1,400 sq. ft.), placement will be 250 ft. from fire structure out of way of engines laying lines but accessible for equipment or defensive operations.

**2nd Arriving Engine** — Placed at closest water supply and prepare to lay line upon direction of either Command or 1st arriving engine.

**1st Arriving Command Unit (C/O)** — Placement will be in position to afford view of structure and suppression area if possible and safe. Visibility of Command unit to other operating units is important.

**1st Arriving Ambulance** — Placement will be 300 ft. from fire structure out of way of function units but accessible for equipment or EMS operations.

**1st Arriving Rescue/Utility** — Placement will be in Level II staging.

Subsequent arriving support staff will be placed away from function areas and out of way of access. If possible, all units should be placed on the same side of the street or in a position that maintains an open access lane large enough for apparatus to get into or out of the function area. Size-up factors may indicate the need for the 1st unit on scene or Command to direct incoming units to other than standard placement.

## **Staging (Level II)**

This is established either by Command or by the 1st arriving unit (unassigned) en route as part of a 2nd alarm. A large area (safe & secure, if possible) will be identified at least 600 ft. from the function area for the assembling of incoming units, prior to assignment by Command. The first arriving unit Officer will become Staging Officer and maintain lists of units & personnel, control access and egress from staging and communicate with Command. Individual units in Level II Staging will not communicate with Command.

## **Standard Company Functions**

In order to coordinate initial efforts on-scene, the following standard functions and priorities are assigned by Company. These standard functions are to be carried out automatically by the assigned Company until alternative assignments or stop orders are issued by Command.

### **1st Arriving Engine**

1. Size-up or investigation
2. Forcible entry (if required)
3. Search and rescue
4. Placement of initial attack line
5. Establishment of own water supply (if necessary)

### **2nd Arriving Engine**

1. Locate and establish initial water supply
2. Provide manpower to supplement secondary attack lines or rescue operations
3. Support sprinkler & standpipe operations if applicable (SOP 618)

### **1st Arriving Truck**

1. Size-up for ventilation method or aerial operations
2. Assist in search and rescue (if requested)
3. Position and set up (commercial or multi-story)
4. Prepare and position personnel to effect ventilation & communicate readiness to Command

### **1st Arriving Ambulance**

1. Stand by for assignment from Command
2. Maintain visual contact with scene and anticipate possibility of patients
3. Set up for rehabilitation activities as directed by Command

## **1st Arriving Utility**

1. Stage and await assignment from Command.

All companies must be prepared to assume alternate duties, assignments or roles, depending on size-up factors and direction from Command. Companies will keep personnel together and function as a team. Companies deviating from standard functions should communicate their intent to do so to Command.

## **FIRE EMERGENCIES (2 ENGINES, 1 RESCUE, 1 MEDIC UNIT)**

Structure Fire  
Commercial Structure Fire\* (Truck Company response)  
Truck Fire (Large Truck & Mobile Homes)  
Smoke in Structure  
Lightning Strike to a Structure  
Explosions  
Bomb (Confirmed)  
Fire Alarm (NO MEDIC REQUIRED)

## **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (2 ENGINES, 1 RESCUE, 1 HAZMAT TRAILER, 1 MEDIC UNIT)**

Hazmat Spill (over 25 gallons)  
Hazmat Leak  
Hazmat Fire  
Hazmat Unknown

## **ACCIDENTS (1 ENGINE, 1 RESCUE, 2 MEDIC UNITS)**

Auto Accident with Entrapment  
Plane Crash  
Auto vs. Structure  
Motorcycle Accident  
Bus Accident  
Cave Ins/ Below Grade Rescue  
Elevated Rescue  
Structural Collapse

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL (1 RESPONSE UNIT, 1 MEDIC UNIT)**

ALS (Advanced Life Support)

BLS (Basic Life Support)  
First Responder Support  
All other medical and unknown medical emergencies

**OTHER INCIDENTS (OFFICERS DISCRETION)**

Animal Rescue  
Child Locked in Vehicle  
Dumpster Fire  
Fuel Spill – Small (Under 5 Gallons)  
Helicopter Landing – LZ  
Illegal Burn  
Police Assist  
Power Lines Arching or Down  
Roadway Debris/Hazard  
Trouble Alarm  
Unknown Emergency  
Vehicle Lockout  
Water Evacuation

**BRUSH FIRES (BRUSH TRUCK/1 PUMPER-TANKER)**