

# JOINT RESPONSE AGREEMENT

## MODEL STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>STRUCTURAL FIRE ATTACK ADDITIONAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>PAGE(S):</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>REVISED:</b>			

**STRUCTURAL FIRE ATTACK  
Additional Resources  
EOM 308.00**

**October 8, 2009  
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This guideline provides information for determining the need for additional resources during an emergency incident.

The decisions required to provide for adequate resources is an important factor in fire forecasting. The Incident Commander should balance the tactical challenges with the resources required to bring the incident under control. At times the Incident Commander may reach a point where it is necessary to determine whether or not to call for additional resources. When this occurs, the Incident Commander should call for additional help. Incident Commanders should always opt for extra equipment and personnel. As the incident continues and a determination is made that additional resources are not needed, they can always be canceled.

As a general rule, the Incident Commander should order additional resources when:

- An actual fire situation exists and the life hazard exceeds the rescue capabilities of initial alarm companies.
- The number, location, and condition of actual victims exceed the capabilities of initial alarm companies.
- Fire conditions become more severe or the situation deteriorates significantly.
- All companies have been committed and the fire is not controlled.
- Forces are depleted due to exhaustion, injury, or are trapped or missing. The Incident Commander should forecast the effect the fire will have on personnel and provide for extra support.
- The Incident Commander runs out of some type of resource - personnel, apparatus, water, equipment, command staff, or overhead.
- There is evidence of fire, but companies are unable to determine location.

- The commitment of companies is not effective.
- Companies cannot effectively perform salvage operations.
- The situation becomes so complex or widespread that the Incident Commander cannot effectively manage the incident.

**PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT RESPONSE:**

The following list should be used as a MINIMUM response guideline. The goal is to have the closest, most appropriate resources respond.

**TYPE OF INCIDENT**

**INITIAL RESPONSE**

Residential Fire:

2 –Engines  
1 – Truck  
1 – R.A.T. (Mutual Aid)  
1 – Medic  
Mini-IMAT

Residential Fire Alarm:

2 – Engines  
1 – Truck  
1 - Medic

Commercial Fire:

4 – Engines  
2 – Trucks  
1 – Medic  
1 – RAT (Mutual Aid)  
Mini-IMAT

Commercial Fire Alarm:

2 – Engines  
1 – Truck

Motor Vehicle Crash / Injuries:

1 – Engine  
1 – Medic

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Motor Vehicle Crash / Entrapment:

1 – Engine  
1 – Rescue  
2 – Medic

Motor Vehicle Crash / Interstate:

1 – Engine  
1 – Medic

Motor Vehicle Fire

1 – Engine

Odor/Emergency to Property/Wires Arcing  
Investigation

1 – Engine  
1 – Medic

Haz-Mat Response

2 – Engines  
1 – Rescue  
1 – Medic  
Mini-IMAT  
Appropriate HAZMAT team

Trench Rescue / Confined Space

1 – Engine  
1 – Rescue  
1 - Ladder  
2 – Medics  
Mini-IMAT  
Butler County Technical Rescue

Water Rescue

1 – Engine  
1 – Medic

Appropriate Water Rescue Team

### **NON-EMERGENCY REPOSE**

To reduce the risk associated with responding to non life-threatening calls, all units should respond to the below listed calls non-emergency unless information received at the time of the call suggests an emergency exists. The officer in charge may at anytime upgrade the detail as he or she sees fit.

#### **❖ Automatic Alarm Activations**

Automatic alarm activations include: smoke detector, heat detector, and sprinkler alarms/gong in residential and commercial structures. The automatic alarm activation details, with no report of fire or smoke, shall be handled as follows:

1. The first due company should respond emergency.
2. The remaining units, that are due to respond, should respond non-emergency.
3. Upon updates from the first arriving unit, and/or future updates from dispatch, that indicate other conditions exist, the First unit officer may choose to upgrade the units to emergency status.

#### **❖ Carbon Monoxide without Symptoms**

Carbon Monoxide (CO) alarm activation that includes residential and/or businesses shall be handled as follows:

1. First due Engine Company and 1<sup>st</sup> due Ambulance shall respond non-emergency to the detail.
2. Upon updates from the first arriving unit, and/or future updates from dispatch, that indicate other conditions exist, the officer of the first due unit may choose to upgrade the units to emergency status.

#### **❖ Odor Investigation**

Odor investigation that is dispatched for an odor outside of a structure shall be handled as follows:

1. The first due company shall respond non-emergency.
2. Upon updates from the first arriving unit, and/or future updates from dispatch, that indicate other conditions exist, the Officer of the first due may choose to upgrade the units to emergency status.

❖ **Emergency to Property**

Emergency to property that includes flooded basements, broken water pipes and any other non-life threatening emergencies shall be handled as follows:

1. The first due company shall respond non-emergency.
2. Upon updates from the first arriving unit, and/or future updates from dispatch, that indicate other conditions exist, the first due Officer may choose to upgrade the units to emergency status.

**REQUEST FOR MUTUAL AID:**

Mutual Aid requests are to be directed through the appropriate communications center and it should always be the shift commander's prerogative to accept or deny mutual aid requests by outside agencies, depending upon sufficient manpower for the fire district.