

Chapter 10-3

Effective

Standard Operating Guideline for Automatic Aid for Structure Fires

rev. 04/26/06

1. Purpose

This SOG details how PVFD will respond to requests for automatic aid on structure fires or structure-related incidents such as alarm soundings.

2. Scope

This SOG applies to all PVFD firefighters and line officers.

3. Response

Automatic Aid is defined as a request for mutual aid that is pre-planned and dispatched at the same time as the initial incident dispatch. Automatic aid responses to neighboring districts for structure fires or related incidents shall include one command unit and the apparatus specified on the Response Guide. Other apparatus shall have crews assigned, but shall not respond until requested.

4. Command and Control

When PVFD provides mutual aid to another department, PVFD units shall work seamlessly within the command structure of the home fire department. The home department shall also recognize PVFD's command structure and shall utilize PVFD resources appropriately.

PVFD shall only take command of an incident in another district when a PVFD unit is first on scene, or the home department requests that PVFD take command. In either case, the PVFD commanding officer shall keep the responding officers of the home department informed as to the actions being taken. At first available opportunity the PVFD commanding officer shall confer in person with the ranking officer of the home department and make arrangements to turn over control of the incident to the home department.

If the home department requests, PVFD may maintain control of the incident until its completion and send a copy of the KYFIRS report to the home department for their records. This usually occurs when the home department is too busy with other incidents to respond.

5. Strategy & Tactics

Structure fires shall be controlled in accordance with the PVFD SOP on General Fire Strategy & Tactics unless or until such time that the home department requests PVFD resources to be used in a different way.

The home department may pre-plan a special request from PVFD such as always providing water supply, RIT, or another specific action. PVFD shall honor such requests as long as the action fits properly into the best course of action for the specific incident. If conditions call for a deviation from the pre-planned action, the PVFD crew shall make that known to the IC.

At no time shall PVFD units deviate from PVFD SOPs or SOGs in any way that will cause a safety concern. Orders to do so shall be denied and referred to the Incident Safety Officer and the ranking PVFD officer on scene.