



TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PROVIDENCE
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Standard Operating Guideline

Responding Direct by Chief Fire Officers

Operations General 400.05	Issued: 19-December-2017 Revised: N/A	Pages: 2 Revision 1
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Purpose: The purpose of this procedure is to identify an appropriate Chief Fire Officer response while facilitating appropriate staffing levels for fire apparatus response.

Scope: This policy will affect the Department, and all contract emergency service providers who provide fire and rescue services to Upper Providence Township.

General: Chief Fire Officers perform a vital role(s) during all fire and rescue activities. Having capable Chief Fire Officers to handle the functions associated with incident command and coordination of the incident is simply necessary and mandatory. This policy is designed to provide guidance as to which Chief Fire Officers should respond to the incident scene directly.

Equipment

Chief Fire Officers who are responding to the incident scene directly shall operate an appropriately identified vehicle.

****No personally owned vehicles shall be operated on limited access highways such as Route 422.**

The vehicles being used by Chief Fire Officers shall be equipped at minimum, as follows:

- Communications – two functional county radios
- ICS Vests – including at least ‘Command’, ‘Operations’, ‘Safety’, and ‘Water Supply’
- A ‘First-in’ medical bag & AED
- A dry chemical fire extinguisher (Minimum 4A:80B:C rating)
- 5 Roadway flares
- A current DOT guide book and binoculars
- Hand light/flashlight
- SCBA
- Structural PPE
- Highway safety vest

Procedure (Weekdays)

A response to the incident scene directly for incidents requiring fire apparatus **shall be limited to one host agency Chief.**

- Weekdays are defined as Monday through Friday, 07:30 – 17:30 hours while Township staff is available to provide Chief Fire Officers.



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- Chief Officers not responding to the scene directly shall remain 'off radio' until responding with the apparatus, provided the Chief Officer is not the driver. Fire Officers shall not respond with the apparatus if they are the driver/operator.
- Additional Chief Officers may respond to the scene directly after their respective apparatus has made the response –or- at the request of the Incident Commander.

Procedure (Evenings, Weekends and Holidays)

A response to the incident scene directly for incidents requiring fire apparatus **shall be limited to the host agencies Chief and/or Duty Chief.**

- Evenings are defined as weekdays, after 1730 hours and before 0730 Monday through Friday. Weekends include the 24 hour period associated with Saturdays and Sundays. Holidays are defined as: New Years Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving and the next business day as well as Christmas and the next Business day.
- Any Chief Officer not responding to the scene directly shall remain 'off radio' until responding with the apparatus, provided the Chief Officer is not the driver. Fire Officers shall not respond with the apparatus if they are the driver/operator.
- Additional Chief Officers may respond to the scene directly after their respective apparatus has made the response –or- at the request of the Incident Commander.

Mutual & Automatic Aid Officers

- This policy shall not limit Chief Officer's responses directly to the scene by mutual & automatic aid agencies.

This policy supersedes any and all previous policies regarding the same topic.

This policy is hereby effective by order of the Chief of Fire and Emergency Services.

Signed: _____ Date: 12/19/2017