



TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PROVIDENCE
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
Standard Operating Guideline

Minimum Staffing of Apparatus

Operations General 400.07	Issued: 19-December-2017 Revised: N/A	Pages: 1 Revision 0
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Purpose: The purpose of this procedure is to provide minimum staffing criteria for responding fire apparatus.

Scope: This policy will affect the Department, and all contract emergency service providers responding to emergency incidents in Upper Providence Township.

General: The chances of successfully affecting an emergency scene outcome are greatly enhanced when fire apparatus are able to make the response. Furthermore, having the appropriate apparatus respond with competent and capable staffing is essential to providing fire protection and rescue services to our community.

Procedure

Fire and rescue apparatus, dispatched to emergency incidents through the Montgomery County Emergency Dispatch Service (MCEDS) shall respond with **no less than two (2) Qualified Firefighters** as designated in the Township Training Requirements.

- Provided the apparatus is responding with only two (2) personnel, both qualified firefighters shall be capable, competent enough, and authorized to wear SCBA as required for firefighting and rescue operations.
 - Fire apparatus that do not have a minimum of two (2) qualified firefighters may respond after response check (5 minutes after dispatch), and after advising command –or- the highest ranking chief officer on radio, of their limited manpower situation. Such units shall respond at reduced speed unless authorized otherwise and shall report as ‘Under staffed’ when notifying the MCEDS of their response.
- No agency member(s) *under* the age of 18 shall respond to, or operate at, incidents on limited access highways such as Route 422. Members *under* the age of 16 shall not respond to any emergencies, on any apparatus, at any time.

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