	West Fargo Fire & Rescue Standard Operating Guideline			Authorized by: D. Fuller Fire Chief
	Subject: RESPONSE TO ALARMS			
	Section: OPERATIONS	Date Authorized: 8/5/2015	Date Reviewed: 11/1/2017	
	Number: 201			

Intent

The intent of this SOG is to establish procedures for response to alarms.

Definitions

Urban Response Zone – any area with a population density of >1,000 persons per square mile

Suburban Response Zone – any area with a population density with a minimum of 500 persons per square mile and less than 1,000 persons per square mile

Rural – any area with a population density <500 persons per square mile

Remote – any area with a travel distance of > 8 miles from the nearest fire station

Still Alarm – a call type that has a single resource assigned

1st Alarm – a call type that has two engines, a ladder, a rescue, and a Battalion Chief assigned

Guideline

Personally Owned Vehicle Response

Members responding to the alarm shall utilize caution while operating their personally owned vehicles in route to the stations. Operation is dictated by North Dakota Century Code Chapter 39 Section 10-3 (see Policy 108 - Operation of Motor Vehicles). At no time shall any member of the department violate North Dakota Century Code while operating either their own vehicle or departmental vehicles in response to an alarm. Such a violation will result in the Board of Review being convened and possible disciplinary action taken against the member.


After safely arriving at the station, members will park in a manner that does not preclude apparatus from leaving the station in a timely manner, does not adversely affect neighboring properties or businesses and does not block the flow of traffic on the streets surrounding the station.

Response within the City Limits of West Fargo

The City of West Fargo shall be divided into two districts, the Central District which is served by the Central Station, and the Southside District, which is served by the Southside Station. These districts shall be used in determining the apparatus that is considered “first due” throughout this document. For all alarms, the first due unit will respond with 4 firefighters. All subsequent units will have a minimum of 3 firefighters; permission can be granted by any officer to respond with less than the minimum if the situation dictates. Rescue 7-5 shall have a minimum of two firefighters.

Automatic Fire Alarm Activations

Automatic Fire Alarms are those called in by the alarm company or reported through the phone with no other indicators of fire. An alarm with the report of smoke or the odor of smoke shall be upgraded to a building fire. Water flow alarms shall follow the same guiding principles. The first due apparatus will

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respond emergent, with lights and sirens activated. All other responding apparatus will respond non-emergent, driving with the flow of traffic.

<i>Automatic Fire Alarms</i>	
Central District	Southside District
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
Engine 7-1	Engine 7-0
*First due responds emergent, second due non-emergent	

Building Fire

Building fires refer to both residential and commercial buildings. The full first alarm response responds emergent. If a working fire is declared, additional units are sent the request of the Incident Commander. If the incident depletes the resources of the 1st alarm assignment, a 2nd alarm is requested. All additional units respond emergent.

<i>Building Fire</i>	
Central District	Southside District
Battalion 7-0	Battalion 7-0
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
Engine 7-1	Engine 7-0
Rescue 7-5	Rescue 7-5
Ladder 7-6	Ladder 7-6

<i>Building Fire – 2nd Alarm</i>	
Central District	Southside District
Car-1 (Fire Chief)	Car-1 (Fire Chief)
Car-10 (Fire Marshal)	Car-10 (Fire Marshal)
Safety Officer	Safety Officer
Engine 7-2	Engine 7-2
Rescue 7-4	Rescue 7-4
Fargo Engine (RIT)	Fargo Engine (RIT)
Fargo Ladder	Fargo Ladder
Fargo Battalion Chief	Fargo Battalion Chief

Motor Vehicle Collisions/Technical Rescue/Hazardous Materials

Depending on the location and severity of the MVC, response can range from a single resource, non-emergent, to a full assignment. Additional units are assigned to rollovers and interstate calls. All technical rescue/hazmat calls are handled with a full 1st Alarm Assignment. Additional specialty units can be requested through Fargo Fire Department.



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Fire Chief

Motor Vehicle Collision No Injury, Fluid Cleanup Only

Central District	Southside District
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
*Non emergent response	

Motor Vehicle Collision With Injury

Central District	Southside District
Battalion 7-0	Battalion 7-0
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
Engine 7-1	Engine 7-0
Rescue 7-5	Rescue 7-5

Motor Vehicle Collision With Injury, Rollover or Interstate Call


Central District	Southside District
Battalion 7-0	Battalion 7-0
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
Engine 7-1	Engine 7-0
Rescue 7-5	Rescue 7-5
Rescue 7-4	Rescue 7-4

Technical Rescue (Water, Rope, Grain Bin, Machinery Extrication)

Central District	Southside District
Battalion 7-0	Battalion 7-0
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
Engine 7-1	Engine 7-0
Rescue 7-5	Rescue 7-5
Rescue 7-4	Rescue 7-4
Ladder 7-6	Ladder 7-6

Hazardous Materials Response

Central District	Southside District
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
Engine 7-1	Engine 7-0
Rescue 7-4	Rescue 7-4
Ladder 7-6	Ladder 7-6

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Still Alarms

Still Alarm refers to call types that a single resource can handle, such as dumpster fire, car fire, or outside fire.

<i>Still Alarms (Car Fire, Outside Fire, Dumpster Fire)</i>	
Central District	Southside District
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
Engine 7-1	Engine 7-0
*First due responds emergent, second due non-emergent	

Brush/Grass Fires

A brush fire is a larger fire than an outside fire, requiring the use of specialized units such as brush trucks and tankers. These calls will most likely occur along the river and the fringes of the city.

<i>Brush / Grass Fires</i>	
Central District	Southside District
Brush 7750	Brush 7751
Tanker 7731	Tanker 7732
*First due responds emergent, second due non-emergent	

<i>CO Alarms / Service Calls</i>	
Central District	Southside District
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
Engine 7-1	Engine 7-0
*First due responds emergent, second due non-emergent	

EMS Calls

Routine EMS calls for service include all EMS assists where Basic Life Support from the fire department is needed. Active Assailant calls include active shooters, truck attacks against pedestrians and other terrorist acts where a large number of casualties could be expected.

<i>EMS Calls</i>	
Central District	Southside District
Rescue 7-5 (Engine 7-1, Engine 7-0)	Rescue 7-5 (Engine 7-1, Engine 7-0)



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Fire Chief

Active Assailant / MCI

Central District	Southside District
Battalion 7-0	Battalion 7-0
Engine 7-0	Engine 7-1
Engine 7-1	Engine 7-0
Rescue 7-5	Rescue 7-5
Rescue 7-4	Rescue 7-4
Ladder 7-6	Ladder 7-6

Additional units such as Tankers, Grass trucks for manpower, and outside mutual aid are available at the IC request.

Response to West Fargo Rural Areas

The Rural areas of West Fargo include the Cities of North River and Relies Acres, as well as the Townships of Mapleton, Reed and Raymond. This area is served by both the Main Station and the Southside Station. Interstate 94 shall be used in determining the apparatus that is considered “first due”. It is of utmost importance that the second responding apparatus is a tanker for all responses in the rural area of the district. Additional apparatus, such as ladder 7-6, and the EMS rescue are considered special request apparatus, and will respond at the request of the Incident Commander. All standard responses for rural alarms and fires are Engine 7-0, Engine 7-2, Tanker 7732, Tanker 7731 and Rescue 7-4. For MVC, Engine 7720 and Rescue 7-4 shall respond. All other special operations incidents, such as technical rescue and hazmat shall utilize the city response cards.

Response Zones

For purposes of establishing response times, the response district for the West Fargo Fire Department shall be divided into four separate response zones.

- Urban* any area with a population density of >1000 persons per square mile
- Suburban* any area with a population density with a minimum of 500 persons per square mile and less than 1000 persons per square mile
- Rural* any area with <500 persons per square mile
- Remote* any area with a travel distance of >8 miles from the nearest fire station

First alarm apparatus shall have an officer in the cab of the apparatus prior to departing the station. In instances where an officer is not immediately present and a timely response will be negatively impacted, the most senior firefighter or engineer shall act in capacity of the officer and the apparatus will respond. All subsequent alarm apparatus or special request apparatus can also respond with a senior member acting in capacity of a company officer if needed.