

	West Fargo Fire & Rescue Standard Operating Guideline			Authorized by: D. Fuller Fire Chief
	Subject: RESPONSE TO VIOLENT INCIDENTS			
	Section: OPERATIONS	Date Authorized:	Date Reviewed:	
	Number: 221	11/1/2017		

Intent

The intent of this Standard Operating Guideline is to establish procedures for; (a) response to violent incidents, and (b) protection of fire department members on scene. (For response to active assailants, see SOG 222-Response to Active Assailants)

Definitions

Violent Incident – any incident where it is more likely than not that a fire department responder would encounter a violent person and bodily harm would ensue. This includes, but not limited to, fights, fights involving weapons such as blunt objects, knives, and guns, domestic situations and riots.

Guideline

Responding to Violent Incidents

Units who are dispatched to a violent or potentially violent incident will be instructed by Red River Regional Dispatch to stage and await further instructions. In the case of a routine violent incident (not an active assailant) units should stage a block away from the call, out of the line of sight of any possibly violent subject and stage with warning lights off.

Protection of Fire Department Members on Scene

Fire department members who respond to a violent incident, stage properly and then enter the scene after law enforcement clears the area should understand that the potential exists for recurring violence, and occasionally members could find themselves in this situation. Fire department members should operate in teams of two minimum on scene. If the scene becomes unsafe, fire department members should exit the scene, remount the apparatus and stage according to standard operating guidelines.