

	Nokomis Fire Department		
	Date	Directive	Number
	May 2, 2019	#2	#217
		Category R.O.G	
	Fire Alarm Response		

PURPOSE:

All fire alarms reported by central stations and/or the public shall cause the Communications Center to dispatch sufficient fire apparatus, personnel and command staff to the property to safely and effectively provide fire control procedures.

PROCEDURE:

All fire alarms reported by central stations and/or public shall require the response of the following apparatus:

1 Engine

All fire alarms shall be handled and thoroughly investigated as if a fire exists until proven otherwise by a reliable source or through the first arriving companies investigation. Until determined otherwise, all personnel shall be in full PPE including SCBA and carry the necessary tools (forcible entry tools, thermal imager, high-rise pack etc.) into the structure to investigate. In buildings of multiple floors or large square footage (greater than 5000 feet sq ft.) a minimum of a 3-person team shall assemble to investigate the cause of the alarm.

Apparatus Response Modes:

The closest Engine (truck if closer than an engine) shall respond in the emergency mode (red lights and siren).

Fire Alarm Response

Closest Unit Response:

Battalion Chief's shall monitor the response and make necessary adjustments based on the closest apparatus to the scene (tanker or truck).

Alarm System Problems and Accidental Causes:

When the cause of the alarm is reported to the Communications Center as a system problem or accidental, i.e., workers, cooking smoke, honest scare, etc., the Communications Center shall immediately advise the Battalion Chief of the reported cause. The Battalion Chief will then downgrade the response to have the first due Engine Company continue in non-emergency while all other apparatus return to service. When the cause is reported before the dispatch, the first due Engine Company will be dispatched and will respond non-emergency.

The on-duty Battalion Chief at his discretion may alter these responses when conditions necessitate a single unit response, i.e., thunderstorms, high call volume and during training events requiring multiple units out of service.

All apparatus and personnel dispatched to the fire alarm shall be listed on the FFIRS report even if units are cancelled en-route. This is necessary in the documentation of claims should an accident occur and is used as a source of information for record keeping of ISO statistics. When conditions prevail and units are placed on a single unit or single response, it shall be noted on the report.

A “non-emergency” response should be noted in the narrative section if the response time is over 8 minutes.