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XI. COORDINATION WITH POLICE

A. <u>Coordination with Police Department Command Post</u>

At the time of dispatch, responding companies shall be advised that:

- 1. A police action is in progress.
- 2. The location of the Police Department Command Post.
- 3. Details regarding the nature of the incident.

First arriving officer shall report to the Police Department Command Post and make contact with the ranking officer in charge of the incident. That officer will act as department liaison, be responsible for the activities of all fire units and/or take appropriate action depending on the incident or situation. All Fire Department policies will be followed with personnel safety always a priority. A Fire Department Chief Officer will respond to the Police Command post as required.

The initial arriving officer will make the request for additional fire department resources as needed. The first arriving Chief Officer will then assume the role as liaison if needed or any other position as required.

B. <u>Responses Without Police Department Command Post</u>

The following procedures will be followed when a Police Department Command Post has not been established:

Prior to entering an area in which a police action is in progress or a violent crime has occurred, units will request from the Fire Communications Center (FCC) the security status of the incident. If the incident scene is not secure or if the situation is not under control by the Police Department, responding units, including medical units will position themselves a safe distance away. This safe distance may vary depending on the situation, but should be a minimum of two blocks.

Responding units will notify the FCC of their standby location so that Police Department escorts may respond if necessary.

C. <u>Chemical Agents</u>

Incidents where chemical agents are used, typically a SWAT incident, will normally accompany the establishment of a Police Department Command Post. It is imperative that responding units make contact with the Police Department supervisor to be kept

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informed as to the type, location, amount and the expected effects of the chemical agent being used.

D. <u>SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) Operation</u>

Standard procedures during SWAT operations, by the Police Department, usually require that Fire-Rescue personnel respond. The Fire Communications Center will advise the responding units of the location of their response. This response will normally be to the Police Department Command Post. Special Operations staff personnel and STAR paramedics will normally be assigned to the SWAT incident and should be in a position to assist the fire officer with any medical, tactical or firefighting requirements. If required a Chief Officer may be assigned to the incident. Most SWAT Officers have received firefighting hose training.