

BULLETIN

NO.: 21-167
DATE: November 4, 2021
TO: Fire Operations Personnel
FROM: David Picone, Battalion Chief, Health and Safety Officer
SUBJECT: **Safety Alert** – Close Proximity Incidents – Stand backs

The attached **Safety Alert** addresses situational awareness and identification of close proximity incidents during a stand back.

- **Refer to SDFD Operations Manual**
 - **SI 10 Section 04 Safety Communications**

Any questions should be directed through the chain of command.

Please contact the Health and Safety Office at SDFDHealth&Safety@sandiego.gov with comments or areas of improvement. For all other questions contact HSO/Battalion Chief David Picone at 619.533.4466 or dpicone@sandiego.gov



Wellness Resources QR code:
login: sdfd password: wellness
or call toll free **833-SDFD-HSO (733-3476)**





San Diego Fire-Rescue Department Health & Safety Office **SAFETY ALERT**

Div/Sec: Fire Ops Personnel

Date: November 4, 2021

Issue/Incident: Close Proximity Incidents - Stand backs

Background:

Areas of dense population and/or high run volume areas have the potential of having multiple incidents dispatched to the same vicinity (or building) of another response that was triaged as a “Stand back”.

ECDC, when assigning another response, may not know that a stand back is in the same or nearby location. In this situation, the responding units will not be notified. They are aware of this possibility and are working on a solution to identify stand backs and any potential nearby calls that come in simultaneously or before units being cleared in by police at the scene.

To increase safety, review existing SOPs and follow “Best Practices” including:

- Situation Awareness:
 - It is important to understand that this safety gap currently exists, and your situational awareness should be heightened to protect both you, your crew, and any potential other crews responding in the vicinity
 - When responding on ALL CALLS, utilize the “map”, “call zoom”, and “auto zoom” to determine if other responses are or have occurred

Action Items:

- Using available features of the MDC will allow the Company Officer to see other calls in the area
 - All current (and pending) calls are shown on the maps, identified by a “flag” (either blue or red)
 - **A red flag indicates a stand back call that has been identified by ECDC**
- Incident (not a stand back)
 - If the Company Officer responding to a non-stand back call determines they may be entering a location of a stand back, he/she is advised to contact ECDC
 - Advise of the potential of their call impinging on a different call that has been identified as a “stand back” and confirm that the scene has been “cleared in” by P.D.
- Incident (Stand back)
 - If assigned to a stand back response, the Company Officer should monitor the MDC for other calls being dispatched in the area of their call and make the appropriate notifications (e.g., ECDC and other responding units)
 - This is to prevent first responders from entering a potentially dangerous scene, before PD arrival or “clear in”
 - Monitor both the map (call zoom/auto zoom) and call log while waiting for a “clear in” notification during a stand back incident
 - This will allow the unit assigned to the “stand back” to notify both dispatch and the dispatched first responder of their potential of entering a scene that has been identified as potentially dangerous



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New Safety Tailboards, Messages, Feedback, Suggestions and/or Reporting to the OHSC - SDFDHEALTH&SAFETY@SANDIEGO.GOV

“Promoting Safe and Healthy Lives”

