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OPERATIONS MANUAL

STANDARD INSTRUCTION 02, SECTION 41

SPECIAL OPERATIONS: FAST RESPONSE SQUAD (FRS) “CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS”

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I. PURPOSE

These procedures are designed to provide operating guidelines and effective management and control of essential functions of the Fast response Squad (FRS) unit(s). These guidelines are consistent with current fire suppression and command policies contained within the SDFD Operations Manual. At no time are FRS units/personnel exempt from any operational policy or established procedure due to the staffing configuration of an FRS apparatus.

II. SCOPE

This policy shall apply to all SDFD Personnel.

III. AUTHORITY

The Fire Chief authorizes the information within this policy.

IV. POLICY

A. Introduction/Responsibility

1. The primary goal of the FRS is to improve emergency response times within the specific geographic service area gaps identified in the Fire Service Standards of Response Coverage Deployment Study (Citygate Associates; February 2011). The FRS is also designed to be an auxiliary support, unit capable of rendering medical aid and/or initial fire and rescue incident mitigation.
2. FRS units are not intended to replace the need for engine or truck company responses to medical or other all-hazard incidents. However, once at scene of an emergency incident, the FRS crew will be able to determine whether other responding units need to continue their response.
3. When an incident has been safely and successfully mitigated, the IC will return the FRS to available status and the FRS unit will return to its post within the geographic service area gap it has been assigned.

B. Mission Objectives

1. The FRS unit shall be equipped and the crew trained and prepared to affect immediate all-hazard incident type emergency mitigation within the capabilities of a limited two-person crew.
2. The crew shall be trained and equipped to provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) emergency medical care.
3. The FRS apparatus will be equipped with limited extinguishment capabilities allowing the crew to provide immediate extinguishment of small fires, prevent fire spread and provide support to more complex fire suppression activities.
4. When assigned to a structure fire, the IC may assign the crew to function in any of the ICS roles and/or tasks as needed.
 - a. Supplement any of the firefighting efforts

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- b. Act as the Initial Rapid Intervention Crew (IRIC) for accountability and firefighter safety
 - c. Perform reconnaissance of the incident location
 - d. Forcible entry, immediate rescue of endangered occupants
 - e. Gather information and provide responding units access and situational information in advance of their arrival
5. The FRS Captain will assume the role of Incident Commander (IC) at emergency incidents when arriving first on scene (standard transfer of command should occur as appropriate)
- a. At no time are FRS units/personnel exempt from any operational policy or established procedure due to the staffing configuration of an FRS apparatus.

C. Dispatch Procedures

1. The FRS will utilize the designation of “Squad” followed by the numbers as assigned to that unit (Squad 55) and will be automatically assigned as an additional unit on the following emergency incident types:
- a. The FRS will respond to all emergency incidents normally assigned to an engine company when CAD determines it is the closest apparatus or within its alarm district for multi-unit responses as described below.
 - b. EMS response utilization:
 - 1) The FRS will respond with the closest engine or truck and ambulance, to all medical incidents that currently require such resources. After patient contact and initial assessment, the FRS officer shall have the discretion to cancel or add units as required.
 - c. Fire and all hazard responses:
 - 1) Respond as an additional unit to all response matrixes within its designated response area.
 - a) If the FRS unit is the first arriving unit, the FRS Officer shall have the discretion to cancel or add units as required.
 - b) At the discretion of the FRS Officer, where there is a potential to positively affect incident outcome, the squad can be added to incidents.
 - d. Every effort shall be made for the FRS unit to remain in its designated response area. Utilization of the FRS for move ups within the city shall be limited to unique circumstances and will be approved by the Shift Commander. The FRS shall not be used for move up coverage outside the City.

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- e. The FRS unit shall only be assigned to responses outside the city to neighboring jurisdictions if another SDFD unit is also responding.

D. Utilization As An Auxiliary Battalion Resource

1. As support for Fire Department activities as directed by the respective Battalion Chief;
2. Administrative Activities;
3. Delivery of supplies and equipment within the designated response area;
4. Inspection Activities i.e.: F.C.I.P. and complaints; and
5. Reconnaissance of unimproved areas to determine means and routes of access and other pre-fire assignments

E. Housing, Scheduling and Staffing

1. The FRS unit will be staffed twelve hours a day from 0800-2000 (36/44 schedule) or twenty-four hours a day 0800-0800 (standard 6/4 schedule) as determined by a variety of factors.
2. Staffing will consist of one Captain and one Firefighter/Paramedic per unit/per shift. Personnel assigned to the FRS unit will be a dedicated crew and assigned to the appropriate work schedule. Probationary Fire Fighters are not eligible to work FRS units.
3. When in service, the FRS unit shall be posted at the assigned facility or remain mobile and assigned to any of highest priority service gap areas determined by the Fire Chief or designee.

F. Eligibility

1. All Captains and Fire Fighter Paramedics (excluding Probationary Fire Fighters) are eligible to bid or fill vacancies as described in the Staffing Manual.

G. Training

1. Supervision of the FRS unit and crew while in service will be under the respective Battalion Chief.
2. Training on the apparatus and specific equipment will be under the direction of the respective Battalion Chief and supported by Logistics.
3. An orientation training intra-net class will be assigned to all personnel and will remain available on the department training system.
4. Probationary Fire Fighters will receive the intra-net training and hands on training during their probationary year administered by post academy training personnel.

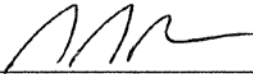
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V. Addendum

ADDENDUM

The City and Local 145 have met and conferred in good faith in accordance with the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act related to this Standard Instruction and have reached Agreement on this Standard Instruction as stated.

LOCAL 145

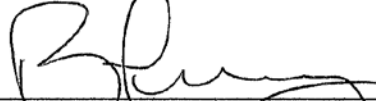


 Alan Arrollado, President, Local 145

10-7-15

 DATE

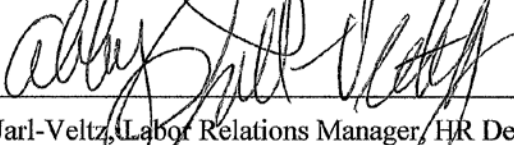
CITY OF SAN DIEGO



 Assistant Chief Brian Fennessy, Fire-Rescue Department

10/7/15

 DATE



 Abby Jarl-Veltz, Labor Relations Manager, HR Department

10/7/15

 DATE

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