

Apparatus Response

1.0 Purpose

Outline the procedure for the response of fire department apparatus.

2.0 Scope

This procedure applies to the use of fire department apparatus during Emergency and Non-Emergency responses.

3.0 Outcomes

- 3.1 Uniform apparatus response order
- 3.2 Safety of fire department members
- 3.3 Safety of the general public
- 3.4 Preservation of fire department apparatus

4.0 Responsibilities

- 4.1 **Driver** – The driver of a fire department vehicle is responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle at all times, including compliance with all traffic laws, as well as department policies and SOPs.
- 4.2 **Officer Responsibility**– The officer-in-charge (OIC) of a fire department vehicle is responsible for supervising the driver and all other assigned members; this includes ensuring that the driver complies with traffic laws, fire department policies, and SOPs.
- 4.3 **Member Responsibility**– All fire department members are required to comply with all safety policies and procedures while operating, riding in or performing any function that involves a fire department vehicle.

Note– The company officer or front seat passenger shall assist the driver by operating radios and conducting other activities such as map reading. The driver shall focus attention on safe operation of the vehicle.

5.0 Definitions

- 5.1 **Fire Department** – The Southwest Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department
- 5.2 **Truck 24** – 2011 Smeal Quint
- 5.3 **Rescue Pumper 24** – 2018 4 Guys Rescue Pumper
- 5.4 **Squad 24** – 2008 GMC Yukon

6.0 Procedure: Seatbelt Usage

- 6.1 All persons driving or riding in fire department vehicles shall be seated in approved riding positions with seatbelts or safety restraints fastened at all times when the vehicle is in motion.
- 6.2 The driver shall not begin to move the vehicle until all passengers are seated and properly secured. All passengers shall remain seated and secured as long as the vehicle is in motion.
- 6.3 Members shall not attempt to mount or dismount from a moving vehicle under any circumstances.

7.0 Procedure: Emergency vs. Non Emergency Response

- 7.1 Fire department vehicle operations are classified as either “emergency” or “non-emergency.”
 - 7.1.1 During “non-emergency” operations, fire department vehicles shall comply with all of the traffic laws and rules of the road that apply to all other vehicles.
 - 7.1.2 The specific exceptions to traffic laws that apply to emergency vehicles shall only be exercised during authorized emergency operations.
- 7.2 Emergency response shall be limited to situations where prompt response is likely to reduce the risk of death, serious injury or disability, or preventable damage to property.
- 7.3 The response classification may be changed by the officer-in-charge at the time of dispatch or while units are en route, based on the receipt of additional information. The change of response classification may apply to all units or only to specified units.
- 7.4 When multiple units are responding in emergency mode, the officer arriving at the scene and assuming command of the incident shall determine if it is appropriate to downgrade the response of any units that are still en route. The additional units shall be directed to continue non-emergency when the situation does not urgently require their presence at the scene
- 7.5 Warning lights and audible warning devices shall be used when fire department vehicles are responding in an emergency mode. Both warning lights and audible devices must be operated in order to meet the legal definition of an emergency vehicle.
- 7.6 Audible warning devices shall not be used when a vehicle is operating in a non-emergency mode.
- 7.7 All apparatus will operate in non emergency mode while en route to or from any type of training or drill activity.

8.0 Procedure: Order of Apparatus Response

- 8.1 Fire department apparatus will respond to incidents in a pre determined order depending on incident type.
- 8.2 A company officer or Incident Commander may alter the response order at their discretion based on incident or environmental conditions.

9.0 Procedure: Southwest Greensburg Borough Incident Response

- 9.1 Apparatus response for incidents in Southwest Greensburg Borough will follow the following table for order of apparatus response:

	<u>1ST</u>	<u>2ND</u>	<u>3RD</u>
AFA AND FIRE INCIDENTS	Truck 24	Rescue – Pumper 24	Squad 24
INCIDENTS INVOLVING VEHICLES (mva, vf, etc..)	Rescue – Pumper 24	Truck 24	Squad 24
MEDICAL INCIDENT	Rescue – Pumper 24	Squad 24	
HAZMAT INCIDENTS (INCLUDING GAS OR CO INCIDENTS)	Truck 24	Rescue – Pumper 24	Squad 24

10.0 Procedure: Mutual Aid Assists Response

- 10.1 When responding to incidents outside of Southwest Greensburg, Station 24 will move the requested apparatus.
- 10.2 When “Station 24” is dispatched outside of Southwest Greensburg, Apparatus response order will be Truck 24, Rescue – Pumper 24, and Squad 24.
- 10.3 When a specific unit is dispatched (either Truck 24, or Rescue – Pumper 24) that piece will move first followed by Squad 24 for support.

11.0 Procedure: Minimum Staffing for Borough Incidents

12.1 Fire Department Apparatus will not leave the station to respond to an incident inside the borough until the following minimum staffing requirements are met.

11.1.1 The first due apparatus should not leave until it has four firefighters or the station fire bell has stopped sounding

11.1.2 Each additional apparatus will wait for appropriate staffing before responding.

12.0 Procedure: Minimum Staffing for Incidents Outside of the Borough

12.1 Fire Department Apparatus should not leave the station to respond to an incident outside of the borough unless that apparatus has at least 3 fire fighters.

12.0 Procedure: Maximum Number of Occupants

12.1 Fire Department Apparatus will not exceed the allowable maximum number of occupants at anytime.

12.1.1 Maximum number of occupants for Truck 24 is 6.

12.1.2 Maximum number of occupants for Rescue – Pumper 24 is 6.

12.1.3 Maximum number of occupants for Squad 24 is 5.

Authorization:



Fire Chief (signature)

1/25/2020

Date