

PLYMOUTH FIRE DEPARTMENT
OPERATING GUIDELINE

SUBJECT: INCIDENT RESPONSE

DATE: JUNE 20, 2006

GUIDELINE NUMBER: 06 - 03

- I. **INTRODUCTION:** This operating guideline establishes procedures for responding to calls for service. Responders shall be conducting an ongoing risk vs. benefit analysis for every call – risking little in the non-emergency situations that constitute the vast majority of our calls.

- II. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this operating guideline is to establish a method to safely and efficiently respond to calls for service.

- III. **POLICY:** The Plymouth Fire Department shall respond under the following guidelines:

Conditions, time of day, and call information shall be considered when responding to a call for service. A “routine” (non-emergency) response is preferred due to the reduced risk of accident. The officer may upgrade or reduce the response based upon prevailing information.

RESPONSE MATRIX

EVENT TYPE	ROUTINE	EMERGENCY	NOTES
Lift Assist	x		
Check Burn	x		
Wash Down	x		
Missing Person	x		
Odor Investigation	x		
Gas Leak Outside	x		
Grass Fire Contained	x		
Wires Down or Arcing	x		
CO Alarm w/No Illness	x		
Smoke Investigation Outside	x		
Dumpster Fire w/No Exposure	x		
Elevator Rescue w/No Medical	x		

Fire Alarm	others	closest truck	Ask dispatcher to call inside.
Vehicle Fire	others	closest truck	

Gas Leak Inside	others	closest truck	
Injury Accident or Medical	others	closest truck	

Rescue		x	
Structure Fire		x	
Unknown Fire		x	
Grass Fire Uncontained		x	
Smoke Investigation Inside		x	

The decision to “pend” calls for service (as opposed to paging a general alarm for additional resources) shall be made on an individual call basis, depending on the nature of the call and the expected time of arrival. No more than three (3) calls for service shall be in pending at any one time. Rescue calls and calls that indicate a confirmed or potential threat to life or property shall be immediately paged as general alarms.

In general, members of the Duty Crew shall respond to **emergency** mutual aid calls, and other members of the Department (summoned by the general alarm page) shall “back-fill” their positions. Members of the Duty Crew shall remain in Plymouth on **standby** mutual aid calls, and other members of the Department shall provide standby service to the community requesting mutual aid. The officer in charge shall have the discretion and responsibility to assess mutual aid calls on a case-by-case basis.

IV. CONCLUSION: This operating guideline outlines a measured response philosophy used by the Plymouth Fire Department.

Fire Chief

Date