

This guideline provides North Zone procedures for initial response placement of apparatus, personnel, and equipment.

UTILIZATION OF THIS PROCEDURE WILL:

- Prevent excessive apparatus congestion at the scene of an incident.
- Allow the Incident Commander to evaluate conditions prior to assigning companies and place companies in an uncommitted location close to the scene.
- Facilitate effective communication while reducing radio traffic during initial stages of incidents.

MULTI-UNIT RESPONSES:

Engine Company:

The first arriving company will respond directly to the scene and will establish one of the following modes:

- Nothing Showing
- Fast Attack
- Command

All companies shall reference map books and pre-fire plan books (if applicable) for the immediate area.

Truck Company:

The first arriving truck company will respond directly to the scene, and will position in a location that will take into account rescue, aerial operations, and all other truck company functions that may be required. This location may not always be at the front of the building due to access, building construction, and fire conditions. If this company is serving the dual capacity of a "Quint", they may have to perform engine company functions and spot accordingly.

Medic Ambulance:

In the event the first arriving unit is a Medic Ambulance, a report on conditions shall be given to the Dispatch Center. Medic Ambulance personnel shall advise the Dispatch Center they are awaiting the arrival of the first due company. Medic Ambulance personnel shall perform priority tasks in support of the first arriving company. This may encompass initial rescue/evacuation efforts, securing utilities, or other appropriate tasks. Emergency Medical Technicians assigned to the Medic Ambulance will refrain from performing any functions outside of their non-safety status. Medic Ambulance personnel shall position the unit in a manner that does not obstruct access to other suppression and command resources.

Rescue Ambulance:

In the event the first arriving unit is a Rescue Ambulance, a report on conditions shall be given to the Dispatch Center. Rescue Ambulance personnel shall advise the Dispatch Center they are awaiting the arrival of the first due company. Rescue Ambulance personnel shall perform priority task in support of the first arriving company. This may encompass initial rescue/evacuation efforts, securing utilities, or other appropriate tasks. Rescue Ambulance personnel may take defensive suppression actions as practical for the capabilities of the unit. This may include initial attack of incipient vegetation fires, refuse fires, vehicle fires, and exterior attack of incipient structure fires. Rescue Ambulance personnel shall not assume a Fast Attack or Command Mode.

Wildland Company:

It is North Zone policy to stop the forward progress of the fire as quickly as possible and to bring the fire under control. The protection of exposures, improvements, or the need for evacuation may play a determining factor and become the primary goal when immediate control is not possible. The Incident Commander shall be responsible for identifying which strategy to use and will coordinate all incident operations.

One of the following fire attack strategies should be used:

- DIRECT
- INDIRECT
- PARALLEL
- COMBINATION OF ANY OF THE ABOVE

Additional First Alarm Resources:

All other units will respond to "Primary Staging". Units will stage, uncommitted, approximately one block from the incident until assigned by the Incident Commander. Units in primary staging shall position so that tactical options such as access, direction of travel, and water supply are considered.

Upon the arrival of units at primary staging (**EOM 306.00**), Dispatch shall be notified of unit designation and location. In some situations it may be necessary to be more specific when reporting to the staging location. Staged units shall avoid unnecessary radio traffic until orders are received from the Incident Commander. If, after a reasonable amount of time, it has become evident that a unit may have been forgotten, the Incident Commander shall be advised of the unit's status. This procedure will reduce unnecessary radio traffic and improve communications. If staged companies observe critical tactical needs, they shall advise the Incident Commander of such conditions.

All companies shall continue their response to the scene until a company reports "On Scene." Once the first arriving unit reports on scene, primary staging shall begin as outlined in this procedure.

Pre-fire planning will identify exceptions to Initial Response Apparatus Placement with regard to special functions that may need to be performed in a particular occupancy. In the absence of such exceptions, regular Initial Response Apparatus Placement procedures shall apply.

GENERAL EMS INCIDENTS:

- Fire apparatus shall park in a manner that allows for the ambulance to easily access and load the patient.
- On rescue type incidents, units shall leave access for the Truck Company to proceed into the scene. The Truck Company shall be located so that the rescue equipment can easily be accessed.
- On freeway incidents, fire apparatus shall park in a manner that provides for overall scene safety. This may necessitate parking the apparatus to serve as a safety barrier for emergency response personnel. When possible, ambulances shall move inside the barrier provided by fire apparatus. This will provide a safe area to assess, treat and load patients. Units are to clear the scene as soon as possible to avoid congesting the freeway.