

REDCOM STANDARD OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE

REDCOM EVENT TYPE CRITERIA

Guideline G-3

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Updated Date: November 25, 2014

- 3.7 STRUC (structure fire): Any fire involving a building, in a building or threatening a building. This includes a fire involving structural members of spaces such as attic, closet, room or other spaces. Active fires in the structure such as stove top fires, chimney fire or active appliance fire (dryer, vacuum, refrigerator); a visible smoke condition in a structure from unknown source; a vehicle fire inside a residential or commercial garage, parking structure, carport or next to a structure; other fires next to a structure that is creating a direct threat to the structure such as vegetation, dumpster, wood pile, attached outside deck or connecting fence fire, significant smoke in a building from a known or unknown source, excluding burnt food. Examples that DO NOT meet this criterion: smell of smoke but smoke can't be seen, a smoking appliance that is disconnected or only puffed a small amount of smoke, an arching and sparking plug.
- 3.7.1 STRUW (working structure): To allow for any agency to create a small balance of a structure fire assignment without increasing alarm levels.
- 3.8 VEG (vegetation fire): Any vegetation fire during the season; multiple reports of visible smoke for a distance during the season; any brush or timber fire during unusual weather pattern off season. Any report of vegetation on fire, excluding decorative landscaping in urban areas which should be code at DEBF (debris fire). Always attempt to get the size of the area involved and the rate of spread, any fuel information and if it is threatening anything such as people, wildlife, or structures.
- 3.8.1 VEGW (working vegetation fire): Will allow an agency to upgrade a vegetation assignment to include additional resources, primarily for urban agencies where they may only need a small assignment balance, similar to that of the working structure fire.
- 3.8.2 VEG-WINTER (off season vegetation fire): Upon CAL FIRE announcing the end of fire season, this event type will be used. Responses for this event type for all agencies will be the same as a debris fire, unless specified otherwise by the agency. This event type will remain in use until CAL FIRE announces the beginning of fire season or at the direction of the Op Area coordinator, REDCOM Duty Chief or REDCOM Management. If for any reason the event turns out to be something significant or at the request of the responding agency, the event type can be changed to VEG and the assignment balanced.

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- 3.9 DEBF (debris fire): Dumpster/trash can fire; decorative landscaping in urban areas such a bark and shrubbery, homeless encampment which is not attached to or immediately threatening a building or the (summertime) vegetation.
- 3.10 VEHF (vehicle fire): Any report of a vehicle fire or smoking vehicle, ranging from a motorcycle to a full size pickup. If the vehicle is in a carport, garage or parking structure, use structure (STRUC). If the vehicle fire is threatening vegetation and it is fire season, be prepared to upgrade the call to VEG assignment.
- 3.11 VEHFUL (vehicle fire full): The same criteria applies as the vehicle fire except the vehicle type is consider to be full sized vehicle such as a semi-truck, bus, RV, etc. If the caller states that a motor home, trailer or FV is on fire, you should ask the question if someone is living in it or if it is in a trailer park. If so, input the call as a structure fire.
- 3.12 BOATFIRE (Boat Fire): This applies to any vessel on the water, whether it's a lake or in the ocean waters.
- 3.13 INV-O (odor investigation): The investigation of any strange odor, including gas and electrical of an unknown origin and smoke.
- 3.14 INV-S (smoke investigation): The investigation of reported smoke. Check for any controlled burns in the area. During fire season CAL FIRE is to be notified on all some checks in the SRA, also multiple callers reporting smoke during fire season should be treated as a vegetation fire and dispatched single column. Single columns indicate that it is localized, thick clouds of smoke indicate that there could be a large area burning. Use good judgment and input from others.

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- 3.14 INV-E (electrical investigation): Popping or arcing electrical outlet, transformer or appliance without significant signs of active fire.
- 3.15 INV-F (fire investigation): Illegal burn, possible escaped control burn, a fire that was burning and now reported out, or anything investigatory that relates to some type of fire.
- 3.16 FA (fire alarm): Alarm call when no specific alarm type can be specified.
- 3.16.1 FA-COM (commercial fire alarm): Any known business location, hospital, convalescent homes and hotels/motels are included in this event type. This **does not** include locations where people reside as their primary residence, such as apartment complexes.
- 3.16.2 FA-CO (carbon monoxide alarm): Reports of carbon monoxide alarm activation whether or not a commercial or residential location, normally an investigatory response of a single engine.
- 3.16.3 FA-RES (residential fire alarm): Any location that has a residential occupancy, including apartment complexes, residential facilities and care homes. This also includes locations that are of a dual nature such as a skilled nursing facility residential complex. (NOTE: A trouble alarm does NOT warrant any fire unit response, Callers reporting a trouble alarm should usually be referred to their alarm company).
- 3.16.4 FA-RST (fire alarm reset): Any request to reset an alarm or a caller that reports that there is an alarm but confirms that there is no sign of smoke or fire (then reset may be more appropriate.)
- 3.16.5 FA-WT (water flow alarm) and FA-WF (fire alarm water flow): Any report of water flow alarm residential or commercial. Which will normally come from an alarm company, but may come direct from a business or residence? Dispatchers will clarify with the RP the type of alarm.

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- 3.17 GAS-IN (gas leak in a structure): Report of a natural gas or propane leak inside of a structure. In the event there is a gasoline leak inside of a structure (not highly likely, but could occur) use the HC (hazardous condition) or HAZ (hazmat) event type depending on the size of the lead or spill.
- 3.18 GAS-OUT (gas leak outside a structure): Report of a natural gas or propane leak outside of a structure, for a gasoline leak or spill use the HC (hazardous condition) or HAZ (hazmat) event type depending on the size of the leak or spill.
- 3.19 C1000: A reported aircraft crash of any size anywhere in the county EXCEPT Sonoma County Airport which uses Level 1 through Level 4 (**FAA Definitions**) and are catalogued alarms. This includes hot air balloons.
- 3.19.1 Alert 1: A general aviation aircraft experiencing minor difficulties e.g., rough running engine, unsafe gear indicator light. Low probability aircraft will crash.
- 3.19.2 Alert 2: A general aviation aircraft experiencing a major problem e.g., engine not running, landing gear not deployed. High probability the aircraft will crash.
- 3.19.3 Alert 3: A commercial carrier aircraft experiencing any mechanical problem or an incident where a large aircraft has crashed.
- 3.19.4 Alert 4: A non-aircraft incident, e.g., bomb threat, security problem, EMS emergency, fire emergency within airport perimeter. NOTE: Any request for Alert 4 from airport officials or airport fire, REDCOM must obtain the nature of the incident so the proper event type can be used for response and would not necessarily be entered as a Alert 4.

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- 3.20 HC (hazardous condition): Wires down, trees down, spills less than 5 gallons (includes but not limited to paint, gas, oil, sewer, etc.).
- 3.21 Hazmat: Chemicals leaks such as chlorine, spills greater than 5 gallons (includes but not limited to paint, gas, oil, sewer, etc.).
 - 3.21.1 Hazfull: Any confirmed hazmat incident that may require additional resources up to and including the activation of a hazmat team. Typically would be the upgrade of assignment from hazmat and normally only initiated by request of en route or on scene resources.
- 3.22 SER-PA (public assist): Uninjured falls that need help up life assist, lock outs (vehicle or home). For vehicles lockouts ask if the vehicle is running and when small children are involved on hot days an ambulance can be sent as a precaution.
- 3.23 SER-AA (agency assist): Any agency requesting the assistance of the fire department. This excludes explosive ordinance standby, for these please use LAW-SB when it goes into effect.
- 3.24 SER-SB (standby): Fire or EMS standby, normally pre-arranged for an event in which fire and EMS services may be needed due to injuries, e.g. ball games, races, fairs, etc.
- 3.25 EMS-DEMO (EMS demonstration/show and tell)
- 3.26 LAW-SB (law enforcement standby) Request from Law Enforcement to standby with fire, EMS or both. This could be for EOD (explosive ordinance disposal), SWAT or any other reason that Law Enforcement may request units to standby. This does not include staging for medical calls.