REDWOOD DISPATCH COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY
STANDARD OPERATING POLICY

REQUESTING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES	Policy	18

Green denotes the most recent change

Page 1 of 3   Effective Date: November 28, 2017

Approvals

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18.0 REQUESTING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

18.1 Requests for additional resources are typically made in five ways:

- Upgrade of assignments
- Additional alarms
- Strike Teams
- Task Forces
- Single increment resource

18.2 Upgrading assignments applies whenever a field unit wants the remaining units of a first alarm assignment dispatched to the incident. It is essential that the requesting unit specify the type of incident for upgrade, such as a structure assignment, vegetation assignment or extrication assignment. The CRO needs this information in order to make the proper request in CAD. For example, one engine could be initially dispatched to a single assignment for a smoke investigation. If on arrival the company officer finds a vegetation fire, the officer should make a request for "UPGRADE TO A VEGETATION ASSIGNMENT."

18.3 The CAD system provides up to five alarms for MCIs, structure fires (full assignments), and vegetation fires. Each alarm duplicates the amount and type of resources dispatched on the initial first alarm assignment. For example, if the first alarm for a vegetation assignment consisted of four engines and a chief officer, then each subsequent alarm would result in the dispatch of four more engines and another chief officer. The exception to this is second alarms for structure fires, where a Breathing Support (cascade) unit is normally added to the assignment. Additional alarms are the preferred method of requesting significant additional resources because it brings a predetermined number and type of resources and additional overhead personnel.

18.4 Strike Team or Task Force requests are typically the next level of requests for resources to local agency incidents beyond predetermined alarm assignments. Strike Teams consist of five like resources and a leader in

accordance with Firescope Field Operations Guide. Task Forces consist of any combination of resources and a leader in accordance with the Field Operations Guide.

18.4.1   Requests to the CRO for strike teams must specify the following information:

   18.4.1.1   Type of Strike Team being requested (e.g. Type I Engines, Type III Engines, Crews)

   18.4.1.2   Whether the need is IMMEDIATE or PLANNED – and if planned, a reporting date and time

   18.4.1.3   If the request is for an immediate and critical need, such as structure defense, the requesting party should use the following terminology: "IMMEDIATE NEED – FORM AT THE SCENE."

   18.4.1.4   Reporting location for the Strike Team at the incident.

18.4.2   Requests from the field for Task Forces must include all of the information specified in section 18.4.1, as well as specification as to what resources are needed in the Task Force, such as a "Task Force of Four Water Tenders" or a "Structure Protection Task Force."

18.5   Single increment resources, such as an additional ambulance, engine, truck or overhead resource can be requested. The CRO shall direct this request to the REDCOM Dispatcher and resources dispatched in accordance with CAD unit recommendations.

18.5.1   Should an IC make a specific request by unit designation, then the specified unit or resource will be dispatched if it is available.

18.6   Either the REDCOM Dispatcher or the CRO shall provide the additional responding resources with the incident's Control Channel and Tactical Channel as soon as it is established. Additional resources responding shall also be directed to a staging area if one has been established for the incident.

18.7   The CRO shall advise the IC of the designators of resources that have been dispatched as a result of the request for additional resources.

18.8   Requests from the field for a police, sheriff, or CHP response should be made using the standard term "LAW ENFORCEMENT," the Level of Urgency ("code 2" or "code 3") and the nature of the request (violent subject, intoxicated subject, uncooperative bystanders, shots fired, traffic control, etc).

18.8.1 If responders find themselves in a situation that they need to be more discrete in their request, or if dispatchers learn of additional urgent scene safety information that requires discrete communication, they may use the following codes:

From Field
- "Code 6, Code 2" Dispatch will then start Law Enforcement code 2. Example: Uncooperative subject
- "Code 6, Code 3" Dispatch will then start Law Enforcement Code 3. Example: Violent subject

From Dispatch

- "Code 6 information" The crew will then determine and advise dispatch of the safest method to receive the information. Landline for additional information"

18.9 Sonoma County ALL Call Page

18.9.1 In the event of a major disaster where notification to all providers in the county is vital, an XSN ALL CALL radio page can be utilized to notify all agencies simultaneously. The request can be made by the Sonoma County Operational Coordinator(s), REDCOM Duty Officer, REDCOM Supervisor or Field Incident Commander.

18.9.2 It's imperative that whomever makes the request, ensures that the following is included in the broadcast:

        18.9.2.1 Request personnel to report to their respective stations and status with REDCOM any equipment identifiers available for assignment.

        18.9.2.2 Identify a staging area where equipment is to report and is staffed with a staging area manager.

18.9.3 Agencies will need to establish Operational Polices addressing their internal procedures when this request is made. Each individual agency shall adhere to internal SOP's prior to statusing with REDCOM their availability or responding to an incident.

18.9.4 REDCOM shall notify the CAL-FIRE ECC (Cloverdale FPD) and City of Rohnert Park (RPDPS) of the request.