REDWOOD DISPATCH COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY
STANDARD OPERATING POLICY
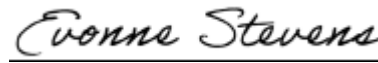
Approvals

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DOAG Chairperson   **REDCOM Executive Director**

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 to "UPGRADE TO A VEGETATION ASSIGNMENT."

18.3   The CAD system provides up to <u>five</u> 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, identify the command and tactical frequencies and contact if known.

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/Command 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, they may use the following codes:

- Code 6, Code 2 (Dispatch will then start Law Enforcement code 2 for an uncooperative subject)
- Code 6, Code 3 (Dispatch will then start Law Enforcement for a violent subject)

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, the REDCOM Dispatcher will send the XSN_ALL_CALL page via CAD to notify all agencies. The request should be made by the field incident commander or Unified IC's. The Sonoma County Operational Coordinator(s), REDCOM Duty Officer or REDCOM Supervisor also have the ability to make the request.

18.9.2   It's imperative that whomever makes the request specify the following to all the agencies in the broadcast:

18.9.2.1   The requestor shall identify resource needs by the pre-identified response matrix and total numbers needed. Example, "Requesting a 3-Region All-Call response from Regions 7, 8 & 9 to report to Sonoma Developmental Center Staging at 15000 Arnold Dr." The REDCOM dispatcher would then utilize the closest resource concept and request Regions 7, 8 and 9 to respond. Should the incident expand beyond the initial surge, the Incident Commander has the ability to request the remaining Regions or any available resources from within the county to respond once all regional pre- determined task forces have been exhausted.

18.9.2.2   Identify a staging area where equipment is to report staffed with a qualified Staging Area Manager and a Trainee, (STAM(t) or Fire Officer. Examples of staging locations that may be utilized suitable of accommodating 50+ resources by region are as follows:

- **Region 3:** Sonoma Developmental Center, Hanna Boys Center, Sonoma Valley High School, Sonoma Veterans Building, Sonoma Raceway
- **Region 4:** Fort Ross State Park, Ocean Cove Campground, Sea Ranch Airport
- **Region 5:** Guerneville Safeway, Casini Ranch, El Molino High School, Occidental FD
- **Region 6:** Healdsburg High School, Cloverdale Fairgrounds, Dry Creek Rancheria, Lake Sonoma Visitor area
- **Region 7:** Santa Rosa Fairgrounds, Wells Fargo Center, Maria Carillo High School, Elsie Allen High School
- **Region 8:** Graton Fire, Ragle Ranch Park, Lucky parking lot Hwy 116/Hurlbut
- **Region 9:** Petaluma Fairgrounds, Graton Casino, Sonoma State

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18.9.2.3 If the primary Control Channel is being severely impacted with radio traffic, the REDCOM Supervisor has the discretion to create an event separate of the incident to assign all of the surge resources responding to the staging area and request they status on a separate control channel.

18.9.2.4 In addition to the tones being sent, the REDCOM dispatcher will need to follow up with a CAD text message and Active 911 alert for all agencies.

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 CALFIRE ECC (Cloverdale FPD) and City of Rohnert Park (RPDPS) of the request.

18.9.5 Sonoma County Fire Agencies shall pre-identify stations and Overhead to respond in strike team/task force formation as the first wave when resource allocation permits doing so. Based upon the event type, the station selected shall respond the most appropriate apparatus specific to the needs of the incident. Example, vegetation fires type 3 engines preferred, structure fire or earthquake, type 1 engines preferred. The pre-identified stations and Overhead are as follows: **(TF=TASK FORCE)**
- **Region 3: (TF3) SRS ST 6, SON ST 2 ,3 & 6 SCH, BC3 or DC3**
- **Region 4: (TF4) NSC, TIM, GFD ST 43, MRO, OCD C54001or C5700**
- **Region 5: (TF5) SCY ST7, OCD, GFD ST 55, MRO, CAZ, BC7 or DC7**
- **Region 6: (TF6) HEA, DCB, SCN, CLD, SCY ST 1, BC6 or DC6**
- **Region 7: (TF7) SRS ST 11, 2 & 1, SCY ST 4 & 8, BC1 or DC71**
- **Region 8: (TF8)GFD ST 1, 83 & 87 GTN, SCY STN 10, BC8 or DC8**
- **Region 9: (TF9)RAD ST 2, PTL ST 1 , GFD ST 94, ROH ST 2, GFD ST 9 7, CGT, BC9 or DC9**