

# Emergency Operations

Book:	3 Emergency Operations
Chapter	I – Alarms and Response Procedures
Subject	1-Alarm Response Procedure
Code	3-I-1
Revised	10/19/2003

## 1.01 Purpose

- a. To provide uniform response guidelines to various emergencies and non-emergencies
- b. To provide a minimum response time to alarms in the city and ETJ.
- c. To identify inherent safety hazards in emergency responses

## 1.02 Policy

- a. The Jersey Village Emergency Services apparatus responses to emergencies, non-emergencies, and operations shall endeavor to conform to those policies and procedures contained herein.
- b. It shall be the policy of this department to answer all emergency alarms within the city limits and ETJ within five (5) minutes of receiving an alarm ninety (90) percent of the time.
- c. In non-emergency situations the department shall endeavor to handle these situations as quickly as time, equipment, and resources allow.

## 1.03 Classification of Alarms

- a. Box Alarm (multiple apparatus)
  1. Any fire reported within a structure.
  2. Any fire reported adjacent to a structure.
  3. Any alarm device sounding from a structure
  4. Any reported lighting strike.
  5. Vehicle fire with exposure
  6. Any odor of smoke inside a structure.
  7. Building collapse.
  8. Anytime the Officer in Charge feels the alarm should be a full response.
- b. Still Alarm (single or multiple apparatus)
  1. Vehicle fires with no exposure
  2. Dumpster/trash fire
  3. Automobile accident
  4. Emergency Medical calls
  5. Investigations.
  6. Utility shut off.

7. Lockout with children inside or engine running.
8. Person trapped in elevator.
9. Any hazardous materials incident.
10. Carbon monoxide inside a structure.

c. Special Alarms (emergency, non-emergency)

1. Service Calls (broken water pipes, assist the citizen, etc.)
2. Animals trapped or stuck in tree.
3. Brush, grass, tree, or woods fire
4. Water rescue incidents

### **1.04 Procedure**

a. Alarm Response

1. It shall be the policy of this department that Box Alarms within the city limits and ETJ shall be answered with two (2) engine companies, one (1) special operations company and one (1) ambulance from Jersey Village Emergency Services. Additional companies for box alarm assignments shall be from automatic aid/mutual aid departments.
2. It shall be the policy of this department that Still Alarms within the city limits and ETJ shall be answered with one (1) engine company, one (1) special operations company, or one (1) ambulance and other support vehicles as appropriate.
3. It shall be the policy of this department that Special Alarms within the city limits and ETJ shall be answered with apparatus appropriate for the type of call.
4. It shall be the policy of this department that all Automatic Aid/Mutual Aid Alarms within the county shall be answered with apparatus requested if available.
5. A Chief Officer shall be dispatched on all Box Alarms in the city or ETJ.
6. A Chief Officer shall be dispatched into county on all Box Alarms.

### **1.05 Authority**

The Incident Commander (IC) or Officer in Charge (OIC) shall have authority to special call any apparatus or equipment deemed necessary to handle the incident.

### **1.06 Safety**

1. All apparatus shall proceed to emergency alarms with appropriate emergency warning devices, per department policy.
2. All apparatus shall stop at all traffic lights and signs unless a clear right of way is available in which case driver shall slow before proceeding through intersection.
3. All apparatus drivers shall operate emergency vehicles in a safe manner taking into account traffic conditions, road conditions, and weather conditions.

4. Under no conditions shall apparatus exceed the maximum of ten (10) miles per hour over the posted speed limit.
5. All personnel shall wear seat belts while apparatus is in motion.
6. Drivers and Officers should be mindful of other responding apparatus from other directions.