

MUTUAL AID RESPONSE

A. Purpose

To establish a guideline for responding to mutual aid requests.

B. Scope

The guideline is to be followed by all personnel responding for mutual aid assistance to the surrounding departmental jurisdictions. This guideline should maximize the effectiveness of the Ponderosa personnel without diminishing response coverage for our primary district.

C. Safety

All traffic laws shall be obeyed when responding for mutual aid assistance. All PFD shall work under PFD guidelines to assure safety, health and environmental considerations.

D. Response Guidelines

1. No apparatus or equipment shall be committed for mutual aid to another fire department's area unless specifically requested by that department, except in those cases where prior arrangements have been made for such mutual aid responses. No firefighter shall respond to fires outside the Ponderosa District unless so requested by the department involved or directed to do so by the Fire Chief, or senior officer present.
2. Firefighters shall only respond to a fire, or other emergency situation, when their station is called, or when they are so directed by the Fire Chief, or senior officer present. The only exception to this shall be a member of the command staff.
3. The dispatched apparatus and the duty officer will respond after waiting a reasonable amount of time {approx. 4 min.}, with a minimum of three personnel to the proper location. **DO NOT strip our area of personnel**
4. Member carpooling must be considered and the senior PVFD officer responding shall determine if POV response is acceptable. Personnel shall monitor radio traffic for PVFD personnel responding to the station.
5. ***Command staff only*** will be permitted to respond in their personal vehicles. No other personnel shall be permitted to respond in their personal vehicles unless previous arrangements have been made with the calling department.

E. Positioning

1. The primary apparatus shall position their vehicle as assigned by command.
2. Any POV including Command Staff will stage away from the scene and enter with the PASSPORT ready and report to the personnel staging area and wait for an assignment. The exception to this is if a Command Staff is the Incident Commander prior to arrival of the host department. If no personnel staging area is established, PFD personnel shall establish a staging area at the primary PFD apparatus.