

Springdale Fire Department

Policy & Procedures Manual

Volume 2 – Operations

Section 203 – Fire Operations

203.1 – Standard Alarms (Assignments)

Dispatch personnel rely on caller provided information to identify different types of incidents. When this information is entered into the CAD system, standard alarms (assignments) are prompted by the CAD. Shift Commanders are responsible to monitor assignments and determine whether the dispatched assignment is correct. It is the responsibility of the Shift Commander to correct assignments as indicated.

Shift Commanders and/or First Due Company Officers shall add or reduce assigned units to ensure appropriate personnel and equipment is assigned to the alarm as warranted by additional information obtained en-route or after arriving on scene. The first Officer to arrive on the scene should increase or decrease units, as well as upgrade or downgrade the response mode of units, as warranted.

Company Officers and Firefighters are responsible to be familiar with their FMA and AMA and shall respond to assignments in their areas. If an incorrect assignment has been dispatched, the correct unit shall advise dispatch they are responding and to cancel other incorrect unit(s).

Standard Assignments are as follows:

- **Level 1 Alarm**
 - Single Engine or Truck
 - Small vehicle fire not exposing a structure
 - Dumpster fire not exposing a structure
 - Residential Automatic Fire Alarm (1 and 2 family dwellings)
 - Grass (ground cover) fire not exposing a structure
 - Including Stat 1
 - Broken gas meter
 - Small spill (fuel, oil, etc.)
 - Smoke detector sounding inside the caller's home, no smoke visible
 - Carbon Monoxide detector sounding
 - EMS (Rescue/Assist) inside the city limits
 - One Ambulance, One Engine
 - In FMA 1, may be Rescue 1 or Truck 1, One Ambulance

- **Level 1 Commercial Fire Alarm**

- 1 Engine and 1 Truck
 - Automatic fire or sprinkler water flow alarm in a commercial building or multi-family residential apartment complex

Response modes for Commercial Automatic Fire Alarms:

First due unit responds Code 3, secondary unit responds Code 1; if additional information indicates an actual fire is present, upgrade to Level 2 or 3 Alarm and all units respond Code 3

- **Level 1 Alarm Plus 1**

- 2 Engines (or 1 Engine and 1 Truck), 1 Squad
 - Large vehicle fire: Box Trucks, Semi-Tractor Trailers, Pickups pulling large trailers, etc.

- **Level 2 Alarm, also known as a “Full Assignment”**

- 2 Engines, 1 Truck, 1 Ambulance, Rescue 1, and Battalion 1
 - Minimum assignment to a structure fire, or a fire threatening a structure
 - Hazardous Material Incident
 - Technical Rescue Incident (including USAR 1)
 - Entrapment Incident
 - Response modes for Entrapment Alarms:
 - Confirmed Entrapment – all units respond Code 3
 - Possible Entrapment – first due units respond Code 3, remaining units respond Code 1
 - Rollover/Unstable Vehicle – first due units respond Code 3, remaining units respond Code 1

- **Level 3 Alarm**

- 3 Engines, 1 Truck, 2 Ambulances, Rescue 1, and Battalion 1
 - Confirmed fire in occupancies with high life danger
 - All aircraft emergencies
 - Examples of high life danger occupancies include
 - Northwest Medical Center
 - Nursing Home
 - Hotel or Motel
 - Apartment Complex with 4 or more units per building
 - Assembly Occupancy during an event

- **Level 4 Alarm**

- 4 Engines, 2 Trucks, 3 Ambulances, Rescue 1, and Battalion 1

- Confirmed working fire in large, commercial structure
 - Typically, this alarm will only be assigned by a Chief Officer
- **Tanker Alarm**
 - 3 Tankers
 - Automatically dispatched to structures located greater than 2000' from a hydrant (primarily in FMA 4 west).
 - At the request of an IC