

SOUTH PORTLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

SOG #:	6.123	Effective Date:	6/9/2015
Title:	Definition of Alarms / Dispatch Protocol	# of pages:	4
Category:	General Operations	Classification:	Green

1. **PURPOSE:** To establish standard alarm assignments

2. **PROCEDURES:**

Types of Calls:

- Still Alarms
 - Routine calls that are handled by one or two apparatus.
 - EMS calls with an ambulance and/or a fire company
 - Mulch or brush fires
 - Car accidents
 - CO detectors
 - Water problems
- Box Alarms (Street, Master, Supervised & Desk)
 - Calls that involve automatic alarm systems and potential large scale incidents.
 - Normally assigns 2 full time companies, 1 call companies, and 1 ambulance. (3 Engines, 1 Ladder and 1 Ambulance)
- Master Box
 - Outside pull station alarm
 - Alarms in larger buildings, usually municipal or government, monitored by the city system.
- Supervised Box
 - Private alarm monitoring company, at private homes and/or commercial businesses.
- Desk Box
 - Phoned in situation, normally a building fire discovered by someone prior to or in conjunction with the alarm system.
 - Desk Boxes have an additional response of the 3rd fulltime company moving from their quarters to Cash Corner station to cover (which is available to respond to other calls) **Except during short staffing periods, then it responds code 1 to the incident.**
- Special Calls
 - Unique calls which are used to allow flexibility during an event where an extra alarm is not needed.
 - Extra company for a water problem, ventilation or to handle more patients.
 - Storm events (Patriots Day)
 - Specialty equipment needed (extrication, water rescue)
 - Station coverage
- All Hands

- Upon confirmation of a fire the IC will request to the dispatch center that the event be upgraded to a “All Hands”
- Dispatch will assign the remaining 3rd full time company and 2nd ambulance (if available)
- A 3rd ambulance (normally Portland) will be assigned to the fire scene for EMS standby.
- Portland Squad will be assigned to the fire scene, primarily as RIT
- Off duty full time firefighters, officers and chiefs will be called back (automatically via CAD/Pagegate interface). Members shall report to their assigned stations and will staff E 401, L 401, A 403, & A 404 (if they are in service). The remaining call back personal will be sent to the scene and shall assemble at the Manpower Pool.
- Staffed stations will be covered with remaining call companies, spare apparatus with call back personnel, and/or mutual aid to a minimum of 2 Engines, 1 Ladder, & 1 Ambulance at all time).
- A Chief Officer or the senior call back Officer will assume command of the city and will work with the IC to assign apparatus and manpower to cover both the ongoing incident and the city (other Fire and EMS calls).
- 2nd Alarm
 - All “All Hands” assignments (see above) will be completed if skipped over (direct to 2nd Alarm).
 - Assign 2 Engines and 1 Ladder to level 2 staging.
 - Request additional 2 Engines and 1 Ladder to station coverage.
- 3rd Alarm
 - All previous alarms assignments filled out.
 - An additional 2 Engines and 1 Ladder to level 2 staging.
 - 2 Engines and 1 Ladder to station coverage.
- Additional alarms may be struck as needed until the incident is under control and mitigated.
- Task Force
 - The South Portland Fire Department participates in a regional task force group. A task force will get you basically another “alarm” such as 2 Engines, 1 Ladder, 1 Ambulance, and 1 Chief that respond together as a working group.
- Strike teams
 - 3 or more units of the same type, i.e. 3 Ambulances, 3 Tankers, or 3 Forestry units. Use this if you need a lot of a certain type of equipment (Ambulances for an MCI or Engines for a woods fire)

3. REFERENCES:

- None

By Order Of:

Kevin W Guimond

Kevin W. Guimond
Fire Chief

Generic Run Card for East & West End Boxes

- **1st Alarm East End Box:** E-408, E-402, E601 (On Most Boxes), L-405 (As Engine), L-402, A-401

- **All Hands**
 - **To Fire:** Sq-404, A-402, Sq-301, A-306
 - **Coverage:**
 - Central: E-406, L-601, E-601 (**If not on the Desk Box**)
 - Cash Corner: SFD E-3, SFD R-1
 - Western Ave: SFD L-1 (Quint)

- **2nd Alarm**
 - **To Fire:** E-406, SFD E-3, L-601
 - **Coverage:**
 - Central: E-306
 - Cash Corner: WFD E-4 (Quint), SFD R-1 (**already assigned**)
 - Western Ave: SFD L-1 (Quint) (**already assigned**)

- **3rd Alarm**
 - **To Fire:** E-306, WFD E-4, SFD L-1, SFD R-1
 - **Coverage:** Task Force (2 Engines, 1 Ladder, 1 Ambulance)
 - Central: Engine Company
 - Cash Corner: Ladder Company, Ambulance
 - Western Ave: Engine Company

Note: SPFD Reserve Apparatus may be placed in service by this point

- **1st Alarm West End Box:** Sq-404, E-406, L-405, A-402

- **All Hands**
 - **To Fire:** E-408, A-401, Sq-301, A-306
 - **Coverage:**
 - Central: E-402, L-402, E-601, L-602
 - Cash Corner: SFD E-3, SFD R-1
 - Western Ave: SFD L-1 (Quint)

- **2nd Alarm**
 - **To Fire:** E-402, L-402 SFD E-3
 - **Coverage:**
 - Central: E-601, L-601 (already assigned)
 - Cash Corner: WFD E-4 (Quint), SFD R-1 (**already assigned**)
 - Western Ave: SFD L-1 (Quint) (**already assigned**)

- **3rd Alarm**
 - **To Fire:** E-601, WFD E-4, SFD L-1, SFD R-1
 - **Coverage:** Task Force (2 Engines, 1 Ladder, 1 Ambulance)
 - Central: Engine Company
 - Cash Corner: Ladder Company
 - Western Ave: Engine Company

Note: SPFD Reserve Apparatus may be placed in service by this point