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SUBJECT: Special Rules for the Assignment of Apparatus

DIVISION: Communications Division

Objective: To define the number and type of apparatus due to respond to special types of Fire and EMS incidents. Standardized running assignments are located in the Fire and Medical Priority Dispatch Manuals

Section 1: Automatic Alarm Devices, (no smoke or fire evident) ex. Fire alarm, Water flow alarms, CO Detectors, Smoke Detectors

A. The station officer shall have discretion to respond with any equipment from his/her station deemed necessary and shall have authority to request any additional equipment from other stations.

B. If the first due engine is out-of-service, and there is a truck in that first due district, then dispatch will alert that truck company.

Example: Engine 17 is out-of-service. Upon receipt of a fire alarm in any 17 box, Truck 17 will be dispatched.

C. Units will respond non-emergency on their Divisional talk group.

D. Upon confirmation by dispatch of a false alarm due to circumstances such as, “pulled by a juvenile – no fire or smoke”, “cannot shut-off alarm”, etc., Volunteer Stations may respond with a Non-Major piece of apparatus with a minimum of two personnel.

E. Upon confirmation of a false alarm with reception of “Proper Code” from the subscriber by the alarm company, Fire Dispatch will notify the responding equipment of the false alarm; the company officer has the discretion to cancel their response. After dispatch of an automatic alarm and with confirmation of a false alarm with “Proper Code” from the subscriber by the alarm company is received prior to the response of apparatus, Fire Dispatch will cancel the call.

Section 2: Working Fire, RIT Task Force, Structure Fire with Rescue Dispatch Procedures

A. When a first alarm assignment has been dispatched, and units at location advise that they have a "Working Fire" the following equipment will be automatically dispatched;

1. The first due Medic (At Medic Level of Care)

2. The first due Air Unit

3. A Rapid Intervention Task Force – RITF.

4. The first due Rehab Unit.

5. If the first due Squad/Floodlight Unit is unavailable or has not responded, upon declaration of “Working Fire”, the next due Squad/Floodlight Unit will be automatically dispatched.

B. If the Incident Commander requests a RIT Task Force Response, or a RITF is dispatched for a working fire or greater alarm, the following equipment will automatically be dispatched:

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1. First due Engine.
2. First due Truck or Squad/Rescue Unit.
3. First due Advanced Life Support Medic Unit.

- C. In addition to the standard First Alarm running assignment for a structure fire with occupants trapped by fire, Fire Dispatch will dispatch the next due Engine or Truck or Squad/Rescue Unit, ALS Medic Unit, and EMS District Officer.

Section 3: Vehicle Fires

- A. Vehicle fires on limited access highways.

Dispatch one engine in the lane of incident and one engine in the opposite lane.

Section 4: Dive Unit 528 - Divers

- A. Dive Unit 528 and divers are assigned to respond to ALL water rescues, drownings, or suspected drownings within the limits of Baltimore County.
- B. For incidents occurring west of Perring Parkway, the Dive Master of Company 52 may request activation and use of the Maryland State Police Helicopter.
1. The response of one boat is required at a minimum.
- C. If Dive Unit 528 and divers have been alerted, and their response is no longer necessary, or the situation has been placed under control (body recovered, search called off, etc.), Station 52's pagers will be activated and all members will be advised the appropriate information.
- D. The Dive team from Gamber, Carroll County will be dispatched for all incidents to which they are closer, and will be backed up by Dive Unit 528 and their divers.

Section 5: Advanced Tactical Rescue (ATR) Team

- A. Advanced Tactical Rescue Team will be dispatched on the following incidents:
1. All swift water rescue.
 2. All confined space rescue.
 3. All tactical rope rescue (e.g., towers, bridges, cliffs, high-rise buildings-window washers).
- B. ATR and Swift Water Rescue Teams will be dispatched on the following:
1. Any type of response where victims are in need of rescue or evacuation from an area that involves moving water, i.e., rivers, streams flooded areas.
 2. Any type of response that involves dams (regular or lowhead)
 3. Any type of response that involves a body recovery from the above mentioned situations.
- C. ATR Units will be dispatched on the following incidents:
1. Trenching accidents involving any type of entrapment.

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2. Cave-In.
3. Construction Collapse.
4. Structural Collapse.
5. Building Collapse.

D. Out of County Responses

The ATR and Special teams will be dispatched out of county only after obtaining permission. The ADO will call:

1. The Assistant Chief.
2. The Division Chief of Special Operations.
3. On duty Division Chief.

Section 6: Squad or Floodlight Firebox response.

- A. The first due Squad or Floodlight will be dispatched on all first alarm Fireboxes meeting the following criteria;

Night Time Response Hours:

1. May 1 - Sept. 30, 20:00 - 06:00.
2. Oct 1 - April 30, 17:00 - 06:00.

- B. Only the first due Squad/Floodlight will be automatically dispatched. If the first due Squad/Floodlight is not available, or if the first due Squad/Floodlight does not respond, no back up will be automatic unless the incident commander requests a back up. Response check on Talk Group One only.
- C. If the first due Squad/Floodlight is not available, or has not yet responded, and the incident is determined to be a "Working Fire", the next due Squad/Floodlight will be automatically dispatched.
- D. The first due Squad/Floodlight/Rescue will be dispatched on all first alarm Special Hazard Fireboxes on a 24 hour basis. Any late/non-responding unit will be automatically backed up.

Section 7: Mutual Aid Responses.

- A. When assigning out-of-county mutual aid equipment to incidents in Baltimore County, the following criteria will be followed;

1. Engines – Mutual Aid engines will be dispatched in running assignment order. Four Baltimore County engines will always be dispatched on first alarm Firebox assignments, in addition to mutual aid engines.

Mutual aid engines dispatched to local firebox, medical, rescue, hazmat, and other responses are to be backed up with Baltimore County engines. Mutual aid engines can be dispatched without back up under the following circumstances; second or greater alarm, when filling in a Baltimore County station, when special called by COMMAND, and on limited access highways.

2. Trucks - Mutual aid trucks will not be backed up on first alarm fire boxes or on limited access highway. In the event the out-of-county truck fails to respond in the prescribed time, the next recommended truck will be dispatched. Mutual aid trucks, not rescue equipped, are not to be dispatched to rescue calls. Upon response of the mutual aid truck, Fire Dispatch will ascertain the crew staffing level on the truck; if the crew staffing level does not meet Baltimore County minimum manning levels (4), the mutual aid truck will be backed-up with the next due truck.

On two truck assignments, where one or both trucks fail to respond, the third due truck will be alerted. Dispatch will not go past the third due truck in order to satisfy a two truck requirement.
3. Rescue/Squads - Mutual aid Heavy Duty Rescue Units can be dispatched without back up. All other types of Rescue units will be backed up.
4. Others - All other mutual aid units including, but not limited to, Medics, Brush units, Tank trucks, Air units, Floodlights, Special units, Crash trucks, Hazmat units, Foam units, etc. may be dispatched without back up.
5. Units responding to jurisdictions who's talk groups are in Baltimore County radios will:
 - a. call enroute on their Divisional Talk Group
 - b. receive the appropriate out of county Talk Group from the Divisional Talk Group operator
 - c. operate on the appropriate Talk Group using the proper terminology for that jurisdiction
 - d. clear the call on their Divisional Talk Group
 - e. return to Talk Group One
6. Calls with Mutual Aid units due will be dispatched in Baltimore County while the Mutual Aid units are being requested. This will allow assistance to be started without further delay.
7. Mutual Aid companies will notify their dispatch centers when their stations are attended and with what type of apparatus. The Mutual Aid dispatch center will be requested to notify Baltimore County of the availability from those stations when assistance is requested.

Section 8: Tanker Strike Team (Formerly known as Tanker Group) Dispatch

- A. A Tanker Strike Team can be requested for any incident requiring a large amount of water. A Tanker Strike Team consists of;
 1. Three (3) Tankers - 1,000 gallon water capacity minimum.
 2. One (1) Large Capacity Tanker - 2,500 gallon water capacity minimum.
 3. One (1) Tanker Support Unit - Mini-pumper or other unit capable of drafting water at a water source, and/or refilling tankers
- B. Units which have already been dispatched to the incident are not to be included in the Tanker Strike Team.
- C. In times of severe drought, the Governor having declared Phase III Water Restrictions, the Officer in Charge of Fire Alarm will upgrade the Tanker Strike Team to the following:
 1. Four (4) Tankers – 1000 gallons water capacity minimum
 2. Two (2) Large Capacity Tankers – 2500 gallon water capacity minimum
 3. Two (2) Tanker Support Unit – Mini-Pumper or other unit capable of drafting water at a water source, and/or refilling tankers

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It will be the responsibility of the Officer in Charge of Fire Alarm to return the running assignment above to that of item A at the conclusion of the drought restrictions.

Section 9: Trucks replaced by Reserve Engines

- A. Whenever a reserve engine is utilized to replace a ladder truck, the reserve engine will be backed up by the next due truck. A reserve engine replacing a truck is considered a Ladder Support Unit (LSU) and functions as a ladder company. On rescue assignments, where a LSU is due, a backup truck is not dispatched.

Section 10: Dual Dispatching and Backup of Equipment

Specified volunteer equipment will be automatically backed-up with the next due like unit at the time of dispatch. The following criteria will guide the dual dispatching procedures;

- A. Units will be dual dispatched according to the current list of units to be dual dispatched maintained by the ADO.
- B. Any volunteer Fire/EMS unit which is on-the-air with a short crew, and recommended for response will be backed up with the next due unit.
- C. Anytime a volunteer engine responds short crew on a firebox, that engine will be backed up unless the first unit on the scene advises that a "Nothing Evident" situation exists. A volunteer truck is not affected by this procedure and the volunteer truck is required to be backed up if responding short crew.
- D. Anytime a volunteer Fire/EMS unit is responding short, and another unit responds from the same volunteer station with sufficient personnel to upgrade the short unit to full crew, the back up unit may be placed in service, unless the back up unit is closer to the call. Units from another station will be allowed to upgrade units responding short.

Section 11: Adjustments in Running Assignments

- A. Modification of Running Assignments may be made during adverse weather conditions (severe thunderstorms, blizzard, hurricane). The ADO in concert with the CSS may make adjustments to response profiles based on his/her professional judgment and information obtained about an incident.
- B. Reduced Responses will be as follows:
 - 1. One Engine - All Automatic Alarms.
 - 2. Three Engines, Truck, Division Chief/Battalion Chief - dwelling fires.
 - 3. Normal Assignment - All building fires, and Special Hazard Fireboxes.
 - * Storm Update - Dispatch shall contact the National Weather Service to determine extent of the storm (severity, direction of travel), announce same on Main-1/Fire-1, and send a message over the CRT to all stations.
 - * Dispatch will notify all stations that reduced responses will be in effect prior to being initiated.
 - * Dispatch will notify the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

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- C. Temporary alternatives to Running Assignments due to water main breaks, standpipe/sprinklers out-of-service, road/bridge closures, etc., will be made only by authority of the Field Operations Division Chief/Battalion Chief responsible for the area in which the situation is occurring.

Section 12: Volunteer Major Unit Response

- A. When an ENGINE responds, that station will be placed out-of-service for additional ENGINE responses until that station advises they are attended.
- B. When a Truck, Squad, Floodlight, Rescue, Utility, etc. responds, it will not affect the status of ENGINE(S) housed in that station.
- C. When a station has been alerted for a Major Unit (Engine, Truck, Squad, Floodlight, Rescue), and fails to respond the unit, or the unit responds short, that station will be unavailable for the response of additional Major Units until that station advises they are attended, or the incident for which they have been alerted is placed under control. This does not preclude the initial alerting of the station for more than one (1) Major Unit at the time of dispatch. This also does not affect the status of units other than Major Units, or EMS transport vehicles.
- D. As defined in Section 15C. of this document, there are certain CAD Event Types when a volunteer major piece will be dispatched, however, a non-major piece with a minimum of two qualified personnel will be a sufficient response from the volunteer station.
- E. Fire Dispatch will document in CAD Event History when a volunteer major piece fails to respond, responds late (greater than three minutes from time of dispatch to time of response), or responds with less than a full crew on a dispatched event.

Section 13: EMS Incidents

- A. Emergency Medical Services Units will be dispatched to incidents in accordance with the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) procedures. EMD procedures are based on the patient's chief complaint and are used to determine the level of care and type of EMS response required for an incident. This tiered response consists of transport vehicles (BLS and ALS), EMS Supervisors, and first responders. A transport vehicle may be required to respond at any one of the following four levels of care;
 1. Ambulance - Basic Life Support unit staffed by a minimum of one (1) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). This unit's radio ID is Ambulance + unit number, i.e., "Ambulance 285."
 2. IV - Advanced Life Support unit staffed by a minimum of one (1) EMT-IV Technician. This unit's radio ID is IV + Unit number, i.e., "IV 285."
 3. Medic - Advanced Life Support unit staffed a minimum of one (1) Cardiac Rescue Technician (CRT). The CRT MUST be in the patient compartment when advanced life support procedures are required. This unit's radio ID is Medic + unit number, i.e. "Medic 285."

NOTE: If a Medic develops an advanced life support equipment failure, its radio ID will be IV + unit number.
 4. Paramedic - Advanced Life Support unit staffed by a minimum of one (1) Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P). The EMT-P MUST be in the patient compartment when Paramedic procedures are required. This unit's radio ID is Paramedic + unit number, i.e., "Paramedic 285"

B. Volunteer Medic/Ambulance Unit Response

1. Volunteer units will notify Fire Dispatch via Talk Group 1 or via phone 410-307-2016 when they are attended and when they are unattended. Volunteer units will report at which Level-of-Care, Ambulance, IV, Medic, Paramedic, the EMS Units is attended. When a volunteer EMS unit is attended below the Level-of-Care required for a call, the volunteer station will be toned for an upgrade from station personnel. For example, Ambulance 203 is attended. An EMS call is received for an ALS call where A203 is due. Ambulance 203 will be dispatched and Station 20's Medic Function will be toned. The Dispatcher will announce, "Alert Ambulance 203, Station 20 for an ALS Upgrade...". The same procedure will be used for BLS calls; for example, "Alert Ambulance 203, Station 20 for an IV Upgrade".
2. When unattended, volunteer stations will be toned (notified) for all EMS calls where their unit is CAD recommended as first due, unattended EMS Unit. The unattended, volunteer EMS Unit will be cleared from the Event and placed AIQ in CAD after dispatch.

C. Medical Box (Volunteer Engine First Due)

1. Anytime a volunteer unit is recommended first for a Cardiac/Respiratory arrest two units will be dispatched. If the first unit responds, the second unit may be canceled.
2. A back-up unit is NOT necessary if:
 - a. One volunteer unit responds within three minutes with an appropriate crew and a second volunteer unit either fails to respond or responds short crew.
 - b. The first due volunteer station is attended with a crew.
 - c. The assignment is one volunteer unit and one career unit and the volunteer unit either responds late, fails to respond, or responds short crew.

D. Single Unit Response (First Responder)

1. Limited Access Highways
 - a. EMS incidents on a limited access highway will require a First Responder Unit to be dispatched in the lane of incident along with the appropriate EMS unit(s). A First Responder Unit on a limited access highway must be a Major Piece with minimum crew for volunteers of two personnel.
 - b. For certain EMS incidents on limited access highways, a First Responder Unit (Major Piece) will also be dispatched in the Opposite Lane of Incident. These EMS Incidents include all CAD (E) Echo responses and all classifications of Motor Vehicle Accidents. On EMS/Medical responses on Limited Access Highways, the major piece that is dispatched in the opposite lane of incident will be from the first due station ONLY. If that major piece fails to respond or is on volunteer dual dispatch, it will not be backed up.
2. Local Streets
 - a. All classifications of Motor Vehicle Accidents on local streets requires a First Responder Unit to be dispatched along with the appropriate EMS unit(s). The Company Commander may respond with any unit from their station that meets the minimum manning and equipment requirements. The minimum crew for volunteer units is two personnel. Fire Dispatch will only dispatch the First, Second, or Third due First Responder to satisfy the First Responder requirement.

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3. The following procedures are utilized to dispatch a Non-Emergency Patient Assist and Non-Emergency Automatic Medical Alarms:
 - a. If the station houses a Medic and it is in service, the Medic will handle the call. If the Medic is out of service, the suppression apparatus will handle the call.
 - b. If the closest station does not house a medic, that station will be alerted for a suppression unit.
 - c. If the volunteer station is on dual dispatch, then all appropriate dual dispatch criteria will be used when determining the running assignment.
4. A First Responder Unit will be dispatched on all EMS calls when the CAD recommended EMS units in Station Order is the Fifth Due EMS Unit. A First Responder Unit can be dispatched anytime that there is a significant distance or travel time between the responding EMS Unit and the location of the incident.
5. A volunteer station may respond on any EMS call in their Engine's First Due Phantom Box area. If a volunteer station elects to respond to a non-mandated First Responder call, Fire Dispatch will activate the volunteer station's Fire Function and announce that unit's response. For example, Medic 6 is responding to an injured person in Station 27's First Due Phantom Box Area. Station 27 elects to respond Utility 277 on the call as a First Responder unit. Upon U277's response, Fire Dispatch will activate Station 27's Fire Function and announce, "Utility 277 responding to assist Medic 6, Box Area 27-4, 214 Wise Avenue".

E. Medical Box Assignment/First Responders

1. If the first due career engine is out of service and there is a career truck assigned in that station, then that career truck will be dispatched as the first responder ahead of the second due engine.
2. A station may respond as a First Responder with any type of EMERGENCY vehicle and a minimum of two (2) personnel.

F. Medical Assignments

1. ALS Strike Team. Four (4) Advance Life Support staffed transport units, an EMS Supervisor, and one (1) Engine Company. NOTE: If a Division Chief/Battalion Chief is not on the scene, a Division/Battalion Chief will be dispatched.
2. Medical Strike Team. Four (4) EMS transport units with any staffing configuration, an EMS Supervisor, one (1) Engine Company and a Division Chief/Battalion Chief if a Division Chief/Battalion Chief is not on the scene.
3. Medical Task Force. Four (4) EMS transport units with any staffing configuration, an EMS Supervisor, one (1) Engine Company, one (1) Rescue Squad and a Division Chief/Battalion Chief if a Division Chief/Battalion Chief is not on the scene.

SORT 50 is a resource which is available by request for medical incidents which escalate and the need for additional logistical support is identified. Incident Commanders should consider calling for this resource early

G. ALS Suppression Equipment

Certain designated Suppression Equipment have been equipped with ALS equipment and staffed with appropriate personnel (EMT-P's who also have Firefighter II Certification). When staffing permits these units will be designated Paramedic (Engine, Utility, Truck) (number). These units will be dispatched using the following procedures;

1. Dispatch will be made aware of the Unit's ALS staffing. ADO will be advised of any ALS staffing change.
2. When the first due Medic from that Unit's station is not available for a Priority One (1) or Priority Two (2) patient, the Paramedic Unit will be dispatched along with the next due Medic.

i.e., A call is received for severe trouble breathing in Station 7's first-due area, and Medic 7 is unavailable. Dispatch will alert Paramedic Engine 7, the next due Medic, and the EMS Supervisor. M203 is on a call. Station 20 places Paramedic Utility 205 in service. PM UT 205 and the next due Medic should be dispatched on a call in their first due district.
3. Whenever it may be in the patient's best interest, Company Commanders, Medics, and EMS Supervisors, ADO and Civilian Shift Supervisor have the authority to dispatch the Paramedic Unit.
4. Upon being alerted as a Paramedic Engine, the Officer in Charge will obtain the location of the EMS unit and determine whether or not due to travel distance and time the Paramedic Engine will respond notifying dispatch of the same.
5. The Paramedic on Engine 60 at the discretion of the Company Officer may upgrade a volunteer EMS transport unit.
6. When Medic 60 is unavailable, Engine 60 will be dispatched as a Paramedic Engine on all EMS calls where Medic 60 is first due.

H. EMS Supervisor Response Criteria.

1. EMS Supervisors will not be dispatched beyond the second due unit with the exception of Cardiac/Respiratory Arrest or Unconscious Subject incidents.
2. EMS Supervisors may upgrade EMS units responding with short or insufficient crews under the following criteria.
 - a. The EMS unit must have two Emergency vehicle drivers.
 - b. The EMS Supervisor must be within ten minutes or less of the scene.
 - c. The crew must have at least one (1) EMT on board when upgrading to ALS level.

NOTE: If the unit does not meet the above criteria, the backup unit will be dispatched.

3. EMS-7 will be notified by Fire Dispatch anytime Medic 60 transports to the hospital and Paramedic Engine 60 is not-in-service.
4. EMS Supervisors will be dispatched upon the dispatching of three (3) EMS units at the scene of a 10-50 PI, unless units on the scene specify the Supervisor is not necessary.

5. EMS Supervisors will be recommended in CAD for three types of emergency responses based on EMS CAD Event Types. The three types of emergency responses are:
 - a. Mandated Responses – In CAD, this type of mandated response will be denoted as PM. The CAD recommended EMS Supervisor will be dispatched.
 - b. Mandated Responses (Only First or Second due CAD recommended. EMS Supervisor based on Station Order) – In CAD, this type of mandated response will be denoted as P.
 - c. Optional Responses (Only the First due CAD recommended EMS Supervisor based on Station Order) – In CAD, this type of EMS Supervisor response will be denoted as PO. Fire Dispatch will activate the First Due EMS Supervisor's tone. The Alert Message for the EMS Supervisor that is CAD recommended as PO will be as the following example: "Alert Medic 17, ADVISING EMS-7. Chest Pains..."

Section 14: Running Assignment Variations

It is recognized that all possible types of different running assignment combinations cannot be predicted. Therefore, to best serve the citizens of Baltimore County, this Standard Operational Procedure must be used as a guideline and it must be flexible enough to allow Fire Dispatch to dispatch equipment to incidents, based upon the information received from 911.

Section 15: Non-emergency Suppression Responses

A. Policy

1. For specific types of events, which are outlined in detail below, units shall proceed to the incident scene in a non-emergency response mode. Officer discretion may always be used to alter a unit's response mode when Fire Dispatch gives additional information regarding the event. This non-emergency response mode to specific event types will apply to All Personnel and Mutual Aid Companies operating in Baltimore County.

B. Procedure

1. It is the responsibility of the Baltimore County Fire Department and the Member Companies of the Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen's Association, the combination of which is hereafter referred to as the Baltimore County Fire Service, (BCFS), to respond to the needs of the Citizens of Baltimore County in a safe and efficient manner without causing harm to either citizens or firefighters on the way to the scene of an event. By proceeding to the scene of an event in a prudent manner based on the event type, the BCFS accomplishes this task without compromising its ability to promptly serve the public.
2. Responses shall be designated as either emergency or non-emergency responses based upon the information available to the responding unit(s) from Fire Dispatch.
3. A non-emergency response may be upgraded to an emergency response based upon:
 - a. additional information given to responding unit(s) from Fire Dispatch,
 - b. the past experience at the particular location by the responding Officer,
 - c. information developed by responding unit(s) upon their arrival at location,
 - d. and other appropriate information.
 - e. the officer in charge shall notify Dispatch if they upgrade to an emergency response.

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C. Event Types that Warrant a Non-emergency Response Mode

1. Event Types

- a. ASSIST, request by BCFS units, BCoPD, or others for non-emergency assistance.
- b. COD, carbon monoxide detector activation – no EMS needed.
- c. ELEV, stuck elevator – no EMS needed.
- d. FIREA, fire alarm activation – no fire.
- e. FIREAHR, fire alarm activation, high risk occupancy – no fire.
- f. HAZCON, fluid on roadway; i.e., wash detail.
- g. LIGHT, non-emergency flood light detail.
- h. LOCKI, person locked inside a dwelling- no EMS needed.
- i. LOCKO, person locked outside of a dwelling.
- j. POLE, pole fire – non hazardous conditions present.
- k. PTASt, non-emergency patient assist.
- l. PUMP, pump detail>6” water present – no hazard present.
- m. SMOKED, smoke detector activation, no fire or smoke.
- n. STANDBYA, non-emergency EMS standby detail.
- o. STANDBYF, non-emergency standby detail.
- p. TRANSFORM, transformer fire – no hazard present.
- q. WFA, water flow fire alarm – no fire.
- r. WIRE, wires burning in tree – no hazard present.
- s. 9B1CA, expired patient.
- t. 32B2UNK – automatic medical alarm.

2. The following Non-Emergency event types can be handled by a non-major piece.

- a. ASSIST
- b. HAZCON
- c. LOCKI
- d. LOCKO
- e. PUMP

3. Responses

All responses will be on the appropriate Divisional Talk Group unless specified by the Talk Group One operator due to an increased activity. Post mitigation of the call, the unit will clear on the Divisional Talk Group and return to Main One to monitor.

Section 16: Response to Animal Assistance Calls

Upon receipt of a request for assistance, the Call Takers will notify Animal Control. On weekends and evenings the on-call Animal Control Officer will be notified. If the Call Taker has information that a life hazard exists, the Call Taker will create a call to be dispatched. The closest piece of equipment will be sent non-emergency to investigate the situation. It will be the decision of the Officer on location to make the determination as to whether or not the Fire Department will intervene and mitigate the incident.

Section 17: Out of County Unit Manning

When Dispatch is informed of an out of county unit response for fill in or emergency call, the dispatcher will ascertain their level of staffing. If the unit does not meet the Baltimore County minimum staffing levels.

- 1. Emergency calls – back up the short crew apparatus with the appropriate unit.

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2. Fill ins – the short crew unit will continue on the fill in. Dispatch will back up the unit for all emergency calls.

Section 18: Two Truck Fire Box Responses

On a two truck first alarm, Fire Box assignment, Fire Dispatch will not dispatch greater than the third due truck to satisfy the two truck response criteria on the first alarm. On a two truck first alarm Fire Box assignment, the first due truck will always be dispatched regardless of Station Order position.

Section 19: Dispatch Criteria for Engine 60

1. Response Profile

- a. Engine 60 will co-respond in northern Baltimore County on all Phantom Box Areas as designated by CAD.
- b. Engine 60 will be dispatched as part of a normal first alarm assignment. Engine 60 will not be considered an addition to the normal four (4) Engine response, but rather count as one (1) of the engines on the assignment.
- c. It is permissible for either Engine 60 or other volunteer fire units to cancel each other on single engine responses. This is the responsibility of the field units and NOT Fire Dispatch.