

	Standard Operating Guideline – West Fargo Fire Department		01.009
	Subject: Citywide Coverage During Training		
	Section: Deployment and Safety		
	Date Authorized: 12/1/2019	Authorized by:	
Date Reviewed: 10/1/2020	Chief Daniel Fuller		

Intent

The intent of this guideline is to provide a standardized method to ensure citywide coverage of fire department units during training exercises. It is necessary to ensure that an effective level of service is always the top priority of the department.

Reference

National Fire Protection Association 1710 Standard for Delivery of Fire, Emergency Medical Services, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments

Definitions

Reaction Time: the time that passes between the dispatch of the alarm and the time a firefighting unit is responding. For EMS calls, reaction time is 60 seconds, 90% of the time. For FIRE calls, reaction time is 90 seconds, 90% of the time.

In Service Training: units attending in service training are capable of still responding to call within the time frames required by policy

Out of Service Training: units attending out of service training are not capable of responding as normal, due to delayed reaction time or their apparatus being out of service due to the training.

Guideline

1. When scheduling training events, the Training Officer should identify those training events and exercises where reduced coverage will result and coordinate with the on-duty Battalion Chief to pursue other alternative options or backfill the units involved.
2. Training that is likely to reduce coverage include but are is not limited to
 - a. Multi-agency training
 - b. Large scale drills
 - c. Events that are not within the city limits of West Fargo, excluding the Fargo Public Safety Building and Fargo Fire Station 7
 - d. A combination of training, drills or events that occur within the same block of time in a day
3. Once a training event, class, drill, etc is identified as reducing the coverage of West Fargo, a determination should be made as to the most advantageous method of participating in the training while covering the city. Considerations include:
 - a. Relevance of the training to improve services to the city
 - b. If the event is required for certification
 - c. Frequency of training (available at another time vs one-time opportunity)
 - d. Fiscal cost of backfilling coverage

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4. Criteria for triggering consideration of adding additional personnel to cover the city include:
 - a. The staffed unit is assigned out of service training
 - b. Two units are assigned out of service training
 - c. Large area of the city is without coverage

5. Final determination on if the training will be held will be made by the Deputy Chief of Professional Standards

6. Options for mitigating a protentional negative impact on response times
 - a. Utilizing a backup apparatus for either the training scenario or ready standby for the on-duty crew to use for response
 - b. Calling in backfill to staff the station while a part of the crew attends the training
 - c. Utilizing automatic aid with Fargo to cover the city while the on-duty crew participates in training

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