



## Rogers Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures

<b>Policy Title:</b>	Multiple Alarm Incidents		
<b>Policy Number:</b>	405	<b>Volume:</b>	Command
<b>Approved By:</b>	Tom Jenkins	<b>Last Updated:</b>	September 2021
<b>CFAI Reference:</b>	5E.1, 5E.2	<b>CAAS Reference:</b>	N/A
<b>Revision Summary:</b>	Created – March 2011 Formatted – May 2012 Edited – August 2012 (NWA Regional Haz-Mat) Revised – March 2014 (DFC-FOD) Revised – October 2018 (CPSE references, unit terminology) Revised – January 2021 Revised – September 2021 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Alarm Resources)		

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide for systematic notification or callback of resources for escalating emergency incidents. Dispatchers shall be familiar with this policy and the specific equipment needs of the region. This policy shall serve to provide specific methods for activating mutual aid and RFD resources in the event of major incidents. Tour Commanders and Company Officers shall be familiar with the particular workings of this policy to ensure clarity of communications and common expectations.

### POLICY

On structural fires, the incident commander (IC) shall request additional resources through the activation of greater alarms. Requests occurring outside of additional alarms shall be referred to as “special calls”. Special calls should only occur in exceptional situations that do not fit the normal circumstances of structure fires. An example of a common special call circumstances would be a request for water tenders in areas without hydrants. Incident commanders may deviate from this policy based on circumstances and resource needs at the incident scene. Activation of the resources described in the chart below will occur by the IC simply contacting dispatch and stating the need for an additional alarm.

Example:

IC: “9<sup>th</sup> Street Command to RCD”  
Dispatch: “Go Ahead”  
IC: “Make this a 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm”  
Dispatch: “Copy 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm”  
IC: “That’s Affirmative”

A "Working Structure Fire" shall be declared automatically by dispatch when any of the following criteria are met:

- Multiple 911 calls reporting a structural fire
- Responding units report smoke or flames showing
- On scene units report they are "laying a line" or commencing fire attack in a structure

It is dispatch's responsibility to make "Working Structure Fire" notifications after identification of the appropriate criteria. For fires involving multiple alarms, the resources necessary for response are programmed into the Computer Aided Dispatch System (CADS) and are summoned automatically once the recommendation is accepted. Mutual aid resources are activated once RFD resources are exhausted in the CADS or as programmed due to special circumstances or response plans.

Terminology	Resource Activation	Total Additional Resources
"Working Structure Fire"	1. Notify Fire Chief and Deputy Chief of Field Operations. 2. Notify Utility Companies.	Utilities Fire Chief Deputy Chief FOD
"2 <sup>nd</sup> Alarm"	1. "Working Structure Fire" Level Activation, and: 2. Dispatch <b>TWO</b> additional fire companies and <b>ONE</b> ambulance to respond to the incident 3. Notify off-duty Field Operations Division Battalion Chiefs. These Chiefs are to handle in-city coverage and potential callback of personnel to staff reserve apparatus. 4. Notify Training Division staff.	2 Additional Companies 1 Additional Ambulance Off-Duty BC Training Div. Fire Chief Deputy Chief FOD Utilities
"3 <sup>rd</sup> Alarm"	1. "2 <sup>nd</sup> Alarm Fire" Level Activation, and: 2. Dispatch <b>TWO</b> additional fire companies and <b>ONE</b> ambulance to respond to the incident. 3. Notify Risk Reduction Division.	4 Additional Companies 2 Additional Ambulances Off-Duty BC Training Div. Risk Reduction Div. Fire Chief Deputy Chief FOD Utilities
"4 <sup>th</sup> Alarm"	1. "3 <sup>rd</sup> Alarm Fire" Level Activation, and: 2. Callback of <b>ALL</b> Rogers Fire Department Members. 3. Dispatch <b>FOUR</b> additional fire companies .	RFD Callback – ALL Off-Duty 8 Additional Companies 3 Additional Ambulances All FD Staff Utilities

Incidents requiring resources in excess of a 4<sup>th</sup> Alarm require the Incident Commander to designate the needed resources. Requests of this magnitude could include neighboring volunteer and combination fire departments, as well as larger departments from outside Benton and Washington Counties.

Requests for additional companies to respond to the incident scene shall originate from the Rogers Fire Department, first, and then spread to surrounding agencies in the following order using an internal algorithm in the CADS. Only career departments with three-person minimum company staffing are included in the algorithm for safety purposes during normal circumstances.

### **Mutual Aid Requests**

Under some circumstances the Rogers Fire Department may request mutual aid for specialized incidents other than structure fires. These specialized incidents can include, but are not limited to:

- Technical Rescue Incidents
- Wildfire Incidents
- Hazardous Materials Incidents

### ***Technical Rescue Incidents***

In the event that assistance is needed on technical rescue calls, assistance will be requested from either the Springdale Fire Department or Fayetteville Fire Department.

### ***Wildfire Incidents***

In the event that assistance is needed on wildfire calls, assistance will be requested from neighboring fire departments with sufficient firefighting capability.

### ***Hazardous Materials Incidents***

In the event that assistance is needed on hazardous materials calls, assistance will be requested from either the Springdale Fire Department or Fayetteville Fire Department.