

Campbell County Fire Department Standard Operating Procedure		
Operations	Apparatus Staging	<i>400.01</i>

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this procedure is to provide a standard system of initial placement for responding companies prior to assignment at tactical incidents.

II. SCOPE:

This procedure applies to all Campbell County Fire Department (CCFD) firefighting personnel.

III. PROCEDURE:**1. Effective utilization of this procedure:**

1.1 Will prevent excessive apparatus congestion at the scene.

1.2 Will allow time for Command to evaluate conditions prior to assigning companies.

1.3 Will place apparatus in an uncommitted location close to the immediate scene to facilitate more effective assignment by Command.

1.4 Will produce more effective communications by virtue of reducing radio traffic during the critical initial stages of fire operations.

2. Command and staff vehicles will not stage on arrival at an incident. These vehicles will be parked in a location where they will not restrict access to the scene.

3. Staging will involve two levels: Level-1 and Level- 2**3.1. Level 1 – Staging**

3.1.1. This procedure will automatically apply to all multiple unit responses and will involve the first arriving engine and ladder company responding directly to the scene and operating to best advantage.

3.1.2. All other units will stage in their direction of travel, uncommitted, approximately one block from the scene until assigned by Command. A position providing a maximum of possible tactical options with regard to access, direction of travel, water supply, etc. should be selected.

3.1.3. Once reporting “staged” companies will stay off the air until orders are received from Command, unless they believe they may be forgotten by Command; in such cases, after a reasonable amount of time, they will contact Command and re-advise him of their standby status.

3.1.4. These staging procedures attempt to reduce routine traffic, but in no way should they reduce effective communications or the initiative of officers to communicate. If staged companies observe critical tactical needs, they should advise Command of such critical conditions and their actions.

3.1.5. Companies should continue response to the scene until the first company reports on the scene.

Initial Approval: July 2008 Revision Date:	Page 1 of 2	Don Huber, Fire Chief ORIGINAL SIGNED
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- 3.1.6. When the first company reports on the scene, Level I staging will begin within these guidelines.
 - 3.1.7. Pre-fire planning may identify exceptions to Level I staging with regard to the special tasks that must be performed in that particular occupancy (sprinkler, standpipe hook-up). In the absence of such tasks, regular Level I staging procedures will automatically apply.
- 3.2. Level 2 – Staging
- 3.2.1. Level 2- Staging relates to large complex-type situations requiring an on-scene reserve of companies and involves formal staging in an area designated by Command. The Staging Area should be away from the Command Post and from the emergency scene in order to provide adequate space for assembly and for safe and effective apparatus movement. When Command announces a formal staging area, all responding companies will report to, and remain in, the Staging Area until assigned. When going to Level II, Command will formally announce: "Level II Staging" and will give approximate location of the Staging Area.
 - 3.2.2. Command will normally designate a Staging Officer who will be responsible for the activities outlined in this directive. In the absence of such an assignment, the first company officer to arrive at the Staging Area will automatically become the Staging Sector Officer. They will notify Command on arrival and will assume command of the Staging Area.
 - 3.2.3. All responding companies will respond directly to the designated Staging Area, and report (in person) to the Staging Officer. They will standby their unit, with crew intact until assigned.
 - 3.2.4. When requested by Command, the Staging Officer will verbally assign companies to report to specific sectors, telling them where to report.
 - 3.2.5. The Staging Officer will also be responsible for the following functions:
 - 3.2.5.1. Coordinate with the Police Department to block streets, intersections, and other access required for the Staging Area.
 - 3.2.5.2. Insure that all apparatus is parked in an appropriate manner.
 - 3.2.5.3. Maintain a log of companies available in the Staging Area and inventory all specialized equipment that might be required at the scene.
 - 3.2.5.4. In some cases, the Staging Officer may have to indicate best direction of response and routing for responding companies to get into the Staging Area.
- 3.3. Ambulances responding to incidents where Level II Staging has been established will be dispatched to the Staging Area. The Staging Officer will acknowledge the arrival of the ambulances with Dispatch and will give instructions to the ambulance personnel, as requested by Command.

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Page 2 of 2

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