

2017-205 Rescue Assist with Engine Crew



Westbrook Fire & Rescue Department

Standard Operating Procedure

Section: Emergency Operation	TOPIC: Rescue Assist with Engine Crew
NUMBER: 2017-205	ISSUE DATE: December 1, 2004
	REVISED DATE: November 14, 2017
POLICY REFERENCES: Collectible Bargaining Agreement	APPROVED BY: <hr/> Andrew R. Turcotte Chief of Department

Purpose:

To establish minimum standards to ensure availability of fire units in the event on-duty crews are needed to assist the ambulance during transport to the hospital.

Scope:

To establish a written procedure for officer in the department to follow when staffing level are decreased to below the minimum acceptable levels.

Policy:

The Westbrook Fire & Rescue Department strives to provide the best customer service possible. At times, this requires personnel assigned to fire apparatus to assist the ambulance and transport to the hospital. Although it is impossible to include every possible situation that may transpire, this SOP will outline the most common occurrences. The goal of this policy is to maintain a minimum staffing of 3 firefighters on Engine 4 and 2 firefighters on Engine 3.

Engine 3

- I. In the event a third person is needed to assist the ambulance during transport and Engine 4 staffing is at the minimum, a House Call will be requested. Engine 3 will return to Station 3 and meet up with a crew from the call company.
- II. In the event that staffing on Engine 4 is more than the minimum, one or more firefighter(s) will be sent with the service truck to Station 3 and cover Engine 3 until the firefighter(s) returns with the ambulance.
- III. In the event that both staff from Engine 3 are needed to assist. Engine 4 will respond to the scene and pick up Engine 3. The officer will conduct an Emergency Call back as well as requesting a House Call. The House Call will remain until the full-time apparatus returns to normal staffing levels. Engine 4 will be the primary apparatus throughout the city until Engine 3 staff returns.

Engine 4

- I. In the event that Engine 4 staffing is at the minimum of 3 and 1 firefighter must transport with the ambulance. Engine 4 will operate with 2 firefighters temporarily. A House Call will be requested for any available firefighter to assist with the staffing of Engine 4. Staff will remain in place until Engine 4 staffing is back to minimum levels.
- II. In the event that staffing is over the minimum of 3 firefighters on Engine 4 and one person is needed to transport with the ambulance, there will be no need for a house call or emergency call back.

Emergency Call Back

- I. In the event the entire crew from the fire apparatus is needed to assist the ambulance, an emergency call back will be used immediately. The number of employees needed will be dependent on the piece being covered. Engine 4 will require 3 firefighters and Engine 3 will require 2 firefighters.
- II. Employees responding to the Call Back will be required to stay for the full 4 hours as outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement or throughout the entire incident, whichever is the longer period.

House Call

- I. The House Call is a term used to request additional staffing from the call company. A House Call may be requested any time staffing of the two engines drop below the accepted minimum staffing level while assisting the ambulances or when one of the primary staffed apparatus is requested to respond out of town to provide mutual aid. The House call may also be used when staffing drops below the minimum due to injuries or illness until a Full-Time employee is able to respond and fill the vacancy.
- II. House Call notification will be made through the paging system as well as over the air on Westbrook Primary.
- III. Full-Time and Per-Diem members will be eligible to respond and provide coverage during a House Call.

