



**ARCADIA FIRE DEPARTMENT
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE**

**OBSERVING AN EMERGENCY
WHILE RESPONDING**

Number: 120
Revision Date: 11/08/2012
File Name: Observing Emerg

Review Date: 03/25/2017
Approved: _____
Michael E. Lang, Fire Chief

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a guide for Department personnel who observe a second emergency incident while responding to an incident.

RESPONSIBILITY

Department members who observe a second emergency incident while responding to an emergency incident shall evaluate the circumstances and determine which incident is of greater need of fire department services. In most cases the original incident will remain the first priority when department members are faced with the decision of deciding which incident to respond to.

PROCEDURE

If a single unit is responding to an incident, it will be the responsibility of the highest ranking officer/member to assess and determine one of the following.

- 1) The responding unit continues to the original incident and notifies Dispatch to assign appropriate resources to the observed incident, i.e. APD for a non-injury T/C.
- 2) The unit chooses to remain at the scene and notifies Dispatch to assign additional resources to the original incident.

If multiple units are responding together, it will be the responsibility of the highest ranking officer to assess and determine one of the following.

- 1) All responding units continue to the original incident and notify Dispatch to assign appropriate resources to the observed incident, i.e. APD for a non-injury T/C.
- 2) Split the responding units so one unit remains at the scene of the observed incident and another continues to the original incident. Dispatch shall be notified to assign additional resources as necessary.
- 3) All units to remain at scene and notify Dispatch to assign additional resources to the original incident.