



**ARCADIA FIRE DEPARTMENT  
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE**

**STAGING OPERATIONS**

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**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**PURPOSE**

To provide a standard system of initial placement for responding apparatus, personnel and equipment prior to assignment at incidents

**PROCEDURE**

- I. Level I – Staging Procedures
  - A. Level I Staging applies to normal day to day alarms which are usually handled by the initial assignment.
  - B. The first Engine Company and Truck Company (including RA's) will respond directly to the scene and operate to best advantage. The first-in officer will assume position of IC and maintain this position until relieved.
  - C. All other units, i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> engine, will stage in their direction of travel, uncommitted, at the nearest corner of uncommitted hydrant, or at a location that conforms to the intent of these procedures to maximize effective operations.
  - D. Staged units should choose a location providing a maximum of possible tactical options with regard to:
    1. Access
    2. Direction of Travel
    3. Water Supply
    4. Other Factors
  - E. Staged units will, in normal response situations, report company designation on scene and their staging location i.e. "Engine 105 on scene, staged at Camino and First."
  - F. Staged units will stay off the air until orders are received from IC/Operations. If it appears that the IC/Operations has forgotten the staged units, after a reasonable amount of time, the staged units will contact IC/Operations and re-advise of their standby status.

- G. These staging procedures attempt to reduce routine radio traffic, but in no way should reduce effective communications or the initiative of officers to communicate. If staged companies observe critical tactical needs they should advise IC/Operations.
- H. Companies should continue response to the incident until a company report “on-scene”. When a first arriving company reports “on-scene”, Level I Staging will begin within these guidelines.
- I. It shall be the responsibility of Dispatch to confirm the arrival of the first unit on scene.
- J. Pre-fire plans and SOG will identify exceptions to Level I Staging with regard to the special functions that must be performed in that particular occupancy. In the absence of such tasks, regular Level I Staging procedures will automatically apply.
- K. When in Level I Staging, all unit members shall remain on board the apparatus in full safety gear and breathing apparatus when possible. Company officers shall be held strictly accountable for enforcing this rule.