

**FELTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

**ARTICLE: I**

**SOP: 1401**

**SECTION: 1400**

**GENERAL ORDERS**

**SUBJECT: POLICY CONCERNING CHILDREN AT THE SCENE  
OF AN EMERGENCY OR AT THE FIRE STATION**

**PURPOSE:** To provide Fire District personnel with guidelines for the proper care of your children while attempting to serve as a fire fighter.

**SCOPE:** All FFPD personnel.

**PROCEDURE:**

The intent of this SOP is to cause the Felton fire fighter give the care and welfare of his/her children first priority and his/her desire to fight fires second. There are numerous ways in which a child may be injured, lost, or in a place where they should not be at the scene of an emergency or at the fire station.

It seems to reason that a fire fighter cannot devote him/herself to the duties of fire fighting and parenting at the same time. One or the other will be neglected. Lack of attention can be dangerous for the fire fighter on scene and lack of attention could lead to harm for the child.

The following items will be adhered to by all FFPD personnel.

1. No children are to be brought by the fire fighter to the scene of an emergency.
2. If the fire fighter responds to the station with his/her children, the fire fighter may not leave the child unattended at the fire station.
3. The fire fighter may leave his/her child in the care of another fire fighter who will take responsibility for the care and well being of the child until the fire fighter returns to the station.
4. Children who are deemed by his/her parent to be able to care for themselves, may not "hang out" at the station unattended. These children should remain in the car, or if possible use the phone to call home for the other parent to come and pick them up.

Fire trucks, fire stations, fire fighters are heros in the eyes of all children. Children are always welcome at FFPD. The intent of this policy is to keep the children safe while the fire fighter is carrying out his/her duties, not to keep children away from the fire station.