FELTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

ARTICLE: II SOP: 2403

SECTION: 2400 Response Procedures

SUBJECT: Mutual Aid Response(s)

PURPOSE: To provide for the standardization of apparatus and personnel assignments for mutual aid request to all incidents inside and outside of Felton Fire District.

SCOPE: All personnel.

PROCEDURE:

1. Felton Fire District follows the policies of the Santa Cruz County Fire Chief’s Association. Felton Fire SOP #2407 contains these policies. Policy #’s 3101, 3102, 3103, 3104, 3105, 3107, 3108, 3109, 3110, 3111, 3112, 3113 and 3114 contained in SOP #2407 are policies addressing mutual aid responses.
2. The dispatch center utilizes a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. Information from each fire agency in Santa Cruz County is downloaded into the CAD. Based on location and incident type, a recommended dispatch of apparatus is generated. What apparatus is sent or received depends on the type of incident.
3. There is a policy of the State of California titled “Master Mutual Aid Agreement.” In summary, this agreement says that each participating fire agency will mutually assist another fire agency. This aid is generally free of charge. Certain larger incidents, namely large brush fires, have a separate agreement that addresses reimbursement for personnel and apparatus sent to assist.
4. When a mutual aid request is received, the fire chief or officer-in-charge should not send apparatus that is not properly staffed. The crew must be properly trained and have experience helpful for the situation.
5. As a general rule, no more than 2 pieces of apparatus should be out of the fire district on mutual aid assignment at one time. Two or more gone at any one time will cause a draw down in our resources.
6. Staffing should consist of a minimum of three personnel. Ideally, an officer, engineer and fire fighter(s) will respond.
7. Mutual aid requests outside of Felton Fire District and within the County of Santa Cruz are considered “Immediate Need” responses. The apparatus is to respond directly to the scene, check in at the Incident Command Post and receive their assignment.
8. Felton Fire District is dependent on the assistance of other fire agencies. Our mutual aid gesture is to return assistance to our neighboring agencies as requested.

Revised: January 2014