
310 POLICY: Emergency Recall

Approved: 2018-12-17
Approval: BOFC

Reviewed:
Reviewer:

Revised:
Revision Approval:

Revision #

310.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the right of the Orcas Island Fire & Rescue to recall off-duty employees and volunteers in the event of a large-scale or protracted emergency, natural disaster or other unusual situation that depletes on-duty resources. The policy also establishes the procedures to be used to recall off-duty employees and volunteers, in accordance with state and federal laws and collective bargaining agreements.

310.1.1 Definitions

Definitions related to this policy include:

Automatic aid: Apparatus and emergency responders who are dispatched automatically by contractual agreement between two fire departments, communities or fire districts.

Mutual aid: Apparatus and emergency responders who are dispatched, upon request, by the responding fire department. Mutual aid is defined by a signed contractual agreement between the Orcas Island Fire & Rescue and neighboring jurisdictions.

310.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Orcas Island Fire & Rescue to provide sufficient resources at the scene of an emergency to reasonably provide for the safety of the employee's working at the scene, and to ensure adequate resources are available for additional emergency calls (NFPA 1710-8). In some instances, this may require the emergency recall of employee's.

310.3 PROCEDURES

The Fire Chief, or any other Chief Officer or Battalion Chief may initiate an emergency recall by providing Dispatch or other designated resource with brief information regarding the emergency, where members are to report for duty and the name or names of personnel required.

310.3.1 Triggering Incidents

The types of incidents that may require the initiation of an emergency recall include, but are not limited to:

- a. One major incident affecting a localized or widespread area
- b. Two or more incidents causing a high demand for resources at different locations
- c. Numerous incidents causing a peak demand on the entire resource system
- d. Any time designated by the Fire Chief or the authorized designee

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310.3.2 Comcenter Responsibilities

The Fire Chief or the authorized designee should be responsible for developing and implementing an emergency recall procedure that complies with state and federal laws and collective bargaining agreements. Dispatch or the other designated resource should follow the establish procedure when implementing an emergency recall.

310.3.3 Employee Responsibilities

After receiving an emergency recall notification employees should reply within 20 minutes with their status and estimated time of arrival, and, if applicable, report for duty with their personal protective equipment. Volunteers should follow existing response guidelines to their stations or a staging area, limiting radio traffic and phone calls to emergency communications applicable to the incident.

310.3.4 Exceptions

Employees may not refuse an emergency recall notice. Volunteers who refuse an emergency recall notice will be evaluated at a later date by their immediate supervisor and the Fire Chief or his/her designee. Employees and volunteers who receive an emergency recall notification and are under the influence of any impairment, such as medications or alcohol, should advise the caller of the impairment and should not report for duty.

310.4 OTHER RESOURCES

If sufficient resources cannot be assembled by an emergency recall, the District may consider other options such as:

- a. Automatic aid
- b. Mutual aid
- c. Additional Chief officers