

Yakima County Fire District 12– Standard Operating Guidelines
SOG 5-3 – Explosive Threats

1.0 General

1.1 Purpose. This standard operating guideline is intended to provide guidance and direction in the response to and mitigation of incidents involving the use or threat of explosives, military ordinance, improvised explosive devices and/or hoax devices.

1.2 Scope. This standard operating guideline shall apply to all members of Yakima County Fire District 12

1.3 Enforcement. Enforcement of this standard operating guideline is the responsibility of the District's officers. Any person deviating from the provisions of this guideline may be required, at the discretion of the officer in charge, to submit in writing, within five (5) calendar days, an explanation for such deviation to the requesting officer who will forward the explanation up the chain of command for further review.

2. Response

2.1 Upon the request from law enforcement to assist with a possible explosive threat, Control shall dispatch the closest engine company non-emergency

2.2 Units responding to a possible explosive threat shall not use their radios or cellular telephone equipment within 1000 feet of the incident site.

3. Safety Considerations

3.1 Under no circumstances shall Fire District personnel be utilized to search for any explosive device.

3.2 Fire District radios and cellular telephones shall not be utilized by district personnel inside the designated hazard zone.

3.3 Should personnel discover a suspected explosive device that has not been detonated, the Incident Commander shall withdraw all personnel from the area, secure the area, and notify law enforcement

3.4 Due to the possibility during any explosives incident of a secondary device, personnel shall be alert for secondary devices in an apparatus staging area or parking areas.

3.5 If a secondary device is located, the Incident Commander shall withdraw all personnel to a place of safety and notify law enforcement

3.6 Communications at the scene of explosives incidents shall be accomplished by the use of a runner or messenger.

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4. Initial Responsibilities of First Arriving Units

4.1 Establish Command.

4.2 Report to a location at least 1000 feet away from the reported location of the device.

4.3 Establish an outer perimeter with a minimum of a 1000 foot radius from the reported location of the device. Should the actual location be determined to be at another location, the perimeter should be adjusted accordingly.

4.4 Establish a Level 2 staging area for subsequent responding units at an appropriate location outside the perimeter. A Personnel Accountability System will be established at this location. This shall serve as the controlled point of entry for all personnel entering the hazard area.

4.5 Utilize runners for all communications within the hazard zone.

4.6 Provide a building pre-fire plan to the law enforcement commander, if a pre-plan is available.

4.7 Order an evacuation of the area, if appropriate

4.7.1 Evacuees should be steered away from automobiles, dumpsters, and other locations for secondary devices.

4.7.2 Direct evacuees to a location outside the danger area where they can be provided appropriate protection and services.