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**D-19 STRIKE TEAM DISPATCH PROCEDURES**

Strike Teams are defined as "Specified combinations of the same kind and type of resources, with common communications and a leader."

**Requests shall be identified by the following:****INITIAL ATTACK STRIKE TEAM:**

A strike team that is needed instantly. Initial Attack units are the five (5) closest units and the closest Strike Team Leader to the incident. Life and property is imminently threatened by an event. The closest available resources shall be selected and respond directly to the incident. Personnel can expect to be assigned and begin tactical operations upon arrival at the incident. Resource should respond instantly with a Code 3 response. The STEN shall be responsible to make contact with their resource upon arrival. The incident communication plan must be provided to units assigned.

**IMMEDIATE NEED STRIKE TEAM:**

Strike Teams that are needed for the protection of life and property that is imminently threatened by an event. The resources will be coming from your operational or adjacent operational areas. These units shall be chosen from the Strike Team Rotation Matrix. Resources shall respond as expeditiously as possible. Personnel can expect to be assigned and begin tactical operations upon arrival at the incident or within the current operational period. The STEN shall be responsible to make contact with their resource upon arrival. The incident communication plan must be provided to units assigned.

**PLANNED NEED STRIKE TEAM:**

Planned need is utilized when resources are needed for the next operational period. Planned need is a non-code 3 response. Planned incident arrival time determines departure time; units should be en-route to rendezvous within one (1) hour of request and travel together. Planned need mutual aid resources should arrive at the incident with enough time to rest, brief, prepare the team and prep for assignment. Mutual aid resources respond within the operational area, adjacent operational area, region or state, as needed for the next operational period or as determined by requesting agency.

HCFA has the authority to dispatch a total of one (1) Strike Team automatically. This can be either one (1) Type 1 Strike Team or one (1) Type 3 Strike Team. A second Strike Team may be dispatched with the approval of the Zone Duty Chief.

Note: The Type 1 and Type 3 Strike Team Rotation Matrix contained in Tables 1 & 2 of the Attachment to this procedure shall be utilized in selecting all Immediate Need or Planned Need Strike Teams.

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ZONE COORDINATOR

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OPERATIONS CHAIR

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Note: If Central Zone is working a wildland incident and the IC requests Strike Team(s), only one (1) Immediate Need Strike Team may be dispatched from the Central Zone. All other requests for strike teams will be processed through ECHO 1 (MVU).

**DISPATCHING OF STRIKE TEAMS:**

When dispatching a Strike Team, the Communications Center shall notify the units and announce the type of strike team response, followed by the units selected to respond. Strike Team Engines and the Strike Team Leader shall be supplied with the following information at the time of dispatch:

- Requesting agency                      \* Request Number
- Map coordinates                        \* Incident location
- Type of incident                        \* Radio channels – Command and Tactical
- Strike Team Number                    \* Incident Commander (IC)
- Order Number                         \* Incident Command Post / Staging

**Note: No more than two (2) units per any agency are to be sent on ST responses; if a 3<sup>rd</sup> unit is next in line to be sent out, permission must be given by the Duty Chief first.**

**STRIKE TEAM ASSIGNMENT**

The Type 1 Strike Team engine, Type 3 Strike Team engine, Type 1 Strike Team Leader, Type 3 Strike Team Leader, Agency Representative and OES Strike Team Leader rotation lists are contained in Attachment 1 to this procedure. Cal Fire maintains the rotation list for the OES Strike Team Engines. Cal Fire must specify which OES unit(s) they are requesting.

All rotation schedules start at 0800 hours on the beginning date of the rotation cycle. If for some reason the Strike Team Leader is unavailable, the next one due in rotation shall be dispatched.

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ZONE COORDINATOR

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