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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:**

Life and property is imminently threatened by an event. The five closest available resources and closest Battalion Chief shall be selected and respond directly to the incident. Resources should respond as if they are on the initial attack with a Code 3 response. Personnel can expect to be assigned and begin tactical operations immediately upon arrival at the incident. The STEN/TFLD shall be responsible to make contact with his/her respective resources upon the STEN's/TFLD's 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 may or may not be coming from your operational or adjacent operational areas. Resources shall respond as expeditiously as possible. Personnel can expect to be immediately assigned and begin tactical operations upon arrival at the incident or within the current operational period. The STEN/TFLD shall be responsible to make contact with their respective resources 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 reporting time should determine the departure time. Planned Need Strike Team/Task Force units should travel together and plan to arrive at least one hour prior to briefing for the next operational period (for which they are likely to be assigned). Mutual aid resources may respond within the operational area, adjacent operational area, region or state, as needed for the next operational period or as determined by requesting agency.

Note: Immediate or Planned Need Strike Teams shall be used for ALL Out-of-County Strike Team requests.

HCFA has the authority to dispatch a total of two (2) Strike Teams automatically. This can be either two (2) Type 1 Strike Teams - OR - one (1) Type 1 & one (1) Type 3 Strike Team. Any additional Strike Team requests would need to be approved by the Zone Duty Chief or Zone Coordinator.

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

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 3rd 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.

Strike Team/Task Force Leaders who are deployed out-of-county should communicate their status and conditions to the Operations Area County Coordinator (OACC) every 24 hour period.

(Reference: San Diego Operational Area Policy #14A "Resource Activation and Deployment Guidelines")

In addition to OACC, the Strike Team/Task Force Leaders should communicate their status and/or assignments to Heartland Communications Facility Authority (HCFA) as their home Zone communications center every 24 hour period or as situations change.

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