

# ***Proposal for Professional Fire Protection Services***



*For*

***The City of Falcon Heights***

## A Letter from Fire Chief Butch Inks



I was officially sworn in as Fire Chief on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and it has been an honor to serve as the Fire Chief of the city of Saint Paul. As a kid growing up in the Rice Street and Como area, I remember our trips to Falcon Heights fondly. Today my family and I live just across the border, adjacent to the city of Falcon Heights. I am excited to pursue a new partnership that ensures the safety and well-being of our collective residents and works in the interest of both cities. I am pleased to present this proposal to you.

In 2019, we responded to 50,092 calls for service from our residents and visitors to the city of Saint Paul. In reviewing the annual 140-160 calls for service in the city of Falcon Heights, I am confident that we can absorb these emergency responses and provide your residents a premium level service. Partnering with the Saint Paul Fire Department for Fire Protection Service will demonstrate to your residents that you have both their safety and best interest at heart, and your desire to be sound stewards of your city's resources.

In 2020, we have experienced unprecedented civil unrest after the killing of George Floyd. Our city and state have felt the global impact of the Corona Virus. Through it all, the Saint Paul Fire Department has continued to respond to any and all emergencies experienced by our residents, as well as responding to and assisting those experiencing emergencies within our county, region and state.

It's these unprecedented times that have required us to think outside the box to insure we can continue to deliver and maintain the highest quality of services for our residents during their time of need. I applaud your decision to pursue a contract for professional fire service protection and can assure you that the Saint Paul Fire Department is the very best.

In the last two years we have hired two of our largest classes in decades as well as our most diverse group of firefighters in the department's history. These women and men bring skillsets and language skills that allow us to better serve our residents. These staffing increases reflect not only our continued ability to staff and accomplish the mission, but also demonstrate SPFD's commitment to having a department that better reflects and better serves our community.

The Saint Paul Fire Department takes great pride in the service we provide to our community and are grateful for their support. The department sees this request for proposal as an opportunity to partner with your city to enhance public safety and deliver a service that benefits the safety of residents, businesses and visitors of the city of Falcon Heights.

Butch Inks  
Fire Chief

## The Saint Paul Fire Department

The Saint Paul Fire Department (SPFD) protects the people of Saint Paul and their property with emergency medical services, emergency response capabilities to address and mitigate all hazards, and community-oriented public education and prevention services. The SPFD works in concert with other city departments and our Ramsey County partner, always striving to lead in providing outstanding services efficiently and cost-effectively, while upholding the highest standards of professionalism, equity, and social justice.

## Department Mission and Core Values

### Mission

**We protect the people of Saint Paul with public education, fire suppression, rescue, and emergency medical services. We partner with the community to mitigate risks, and respond to all calls for service with skill, dedication, and compassion.**



***"We take great PRIDE in serving our community and that PRIDE is also reflected in our Core Values."***  
-Fire Chief Inks

### Core Values

**Professionalism** leads us to continuously improve our knowledge and skills, always striving to be "first in" with excellent service.

**Respect** guides every interaction, honoring the dignity of all persons.

**Integrity** demands that we do the right thing, no matter what. We are accountable for our commitments and our actions.

**Duty** calls us to selfless service in all our communities.

**Equity** is our call to uphold principles of fairness and justice, building a Saint Paul that works for everyone.

## Proposal for Professional Fire Protection Services

The Saint Paul Fire Department is honored to be presenting this proposal for fire protection services to the city of Falcon Heights. SPFD has been responding and providing Emergency Medical Service coverage for the city of Falcon Heights since 1997 and have been jointly responding to emergencies within your jurisdiction for decades. The department has professional fire service contracts that provide services for portions of your community today. These areas include the State Fair Grounds, the University of Minnesota's Saint Paul Campus and associated student housing, as well as the neighboring city of Lauderdale. SPFD has the utmost confidence in being able to absorb the annual fire service calls for Falcon Heights in addition to your medical response calls. This will enhance service delivery and experience to Falcon Heights residents, without a negative impact to the delivery of service to Saint Paul residents.

The Saint Paul Fire Department is excited about the opportunity to create a long-term partnership, seamlessly extending our full all-hazard resources to the residents of Falcon Heights. The organization has earned a reputation for excellent public service over decades of dedicated work for, and with, the diverse Saint Paul community and greater Ramsey County. Staff take pride in being recognized as a statewide and regional leader in Fire and Emergency Medical Service delivery and regularly meet or exceed national standards related to apparatus staffing and response times. The talented, professional and diverse workforce reflects the community and speaks their languages. Saint Paul's community first public safety model focuses on the needs of the community and ensures equitable services are provided to all residents.

The greatest strengths of the SPFD include broad and deep emergency response capabilities and a commitment to service exhibited by its personnel every day. The department provides advanced life support and basic life support emergency medical services, fire suppression, and a full complement of technical rescue capabilities. In addition, the department has certified and trained Fire Investigators that investigate and determine the cause and origin of all fires. Partnered with our Fire Prevention and Public Education services, the department's use of data helps identify and mitigate risks within the community, greatly contributing to the community's safety and vitality.

## Contract Evaluation Criteria

### **Anticipated Services for Contracted Fire Protection**

In the letter from the Falcon Heights City Administrator dated October 9, 2020 multiple areas were identified as evaluation requirements for contracted fire protection services. This summary will highlight items identified as evaluation requirements.

#### **1. Equipment and Personnel to Meet Fire/Rescue Response Needs**

The Saint Paul Fire Department proudly provides fire, rescue, emergency medical services, and all hazard response for the capitol city of Minnesota. The department has an authorized strength of 435 sworn personnel and operates out of 15 stations. Dedicated men and women protect residents with fire suppression, rescue and emergency medical services. The department provides regional and statewide response teams with the ability to mitigate hazardous material incidents, structural collapses and other technical rescue operations. Residents are protected with prevention education and fire investigations, which benefit community risk reduction. In addition, the department has a dedicated public safety garage to ensure equipment is in compliance with national standards.

**2. 24/7/365 Fire/Rescue and On-Scene Command Response Services**

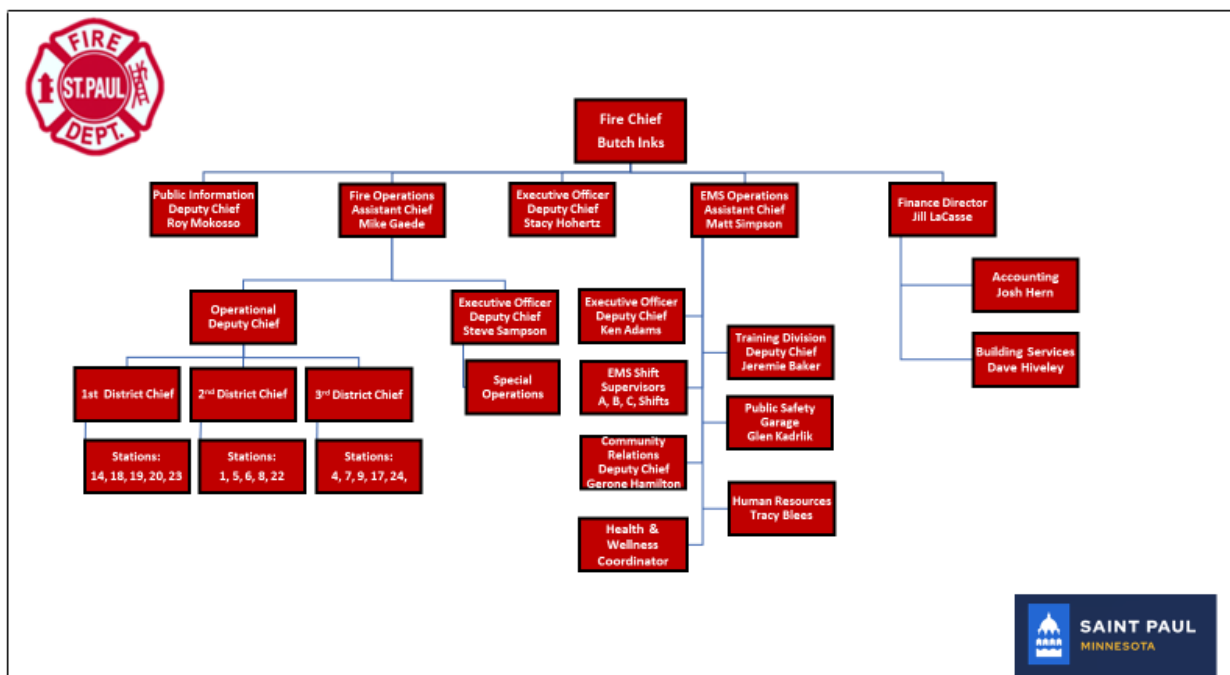
The Saint Paul Fire Department fully staffs all 15 stations, 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year. The 15 stations house 25 fire apparatus that are fully staffed. The average daily staffing for 2020 has been 114 firefighters. The department has three Fire Stations within four miles of the Falcon Heights City Hall and six Fire Stations within five miles. The combined fire resources at these six stations are six Engine Companies, three Ladder Companies, one Rescue Squad and one District Chief. Daily staffing for these resources' totals, 42 fulltime firefighters trained and ready to respond to all hazards and emergencies.

Distance	Fire Station	Resources/Apparatus	Daily Staffing
1.4 Miles	Station 23	Engine23, Ladder 23	8 Firefighters
2.0 Miles	Station 20	Engine 20	4 Firefighters
4.2 Miles	Station 14	Engine 14, Rescue Squad 2, HazMat 2	9 Firefighters
4.9 Miles	Station 18	Engine 18, Ladder 18, Chief 1	9 Firefighters
5.2 Miles	Station 22	Engine 22, Ladder 22	8 Firefighters
5.5 Miles	Station 5	Engine 5	4 Firefighters
<b>3.8 Mile Avg</b>	<b>Six Stations</b>	<b>6 Engines, 3 Ladders, 1 Rescue, 1 Chief</b>	<b>42 Firefighters</b>

**3. Professionally Trained and Certified Command and Response Personnel**

SPFD employs dedicated men and women that attain and maintain all professional certification requirement for the fire and emergency medical services. The department has a robust and progressive Training Division that is staffed by four fulltime personnel and is augmented by over 40 adjunct instructors, trained in dozens of specialties and disciplines. In addition, all members have access to Target Solutions, a training, tracking, delivery and record-keeping software program.

Following a four-month rigorous and accredited recruit academy, all employees are required to complete a three-year state certified apprenticeship program through the State of Minnesota that gives them significant advanced training and prepares them for response to all hazards. The promotional process from Equipment Operator, Captain and District Chief all require additional degree, educational requirements and certification. The Saint Paul Fire Department embodies what it means to be a true career department.



#### 4. Response Time to Calls in Accordance with National, State, Local and Industry Standards

The Saint Paul Fire Department takes great pride in answering calls to service from residents. The department aims to comply with the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) 1710 standards covering; staffing, deployment and response times.

##### NFPA 1710, Company Staffing (Crew Size)

- Engine = minimum 4 on duty
  - High volume/geographic restrictions = 5 minimum on duty
  - Tactical hazards dense urban area = 6 minimum on duty
- Truck = minimum 4 on duty
  - High volume/geographic restrictions = 5 minimum on duty
  - Tactical hazards dense urban area = 6 minimum on duty

##### NFPA 1710, Initial Alarm Deployment

- Low Hazard = 15 Firefighters
- Medium Hazard = 28 Firefighters
- High Hazard = 43 Firefighters

The department strives to meet, and regularly exceed, the performance objectives outlined in NFPA 1710, specifically; the standards related to initial response times, full alarm response times as well as control and mitigation of event times.

The department reviews response data and compares it to state, local and national standards. Great pride is taken in service and response times are continually evaluated in an effort to better serve the community.

Saint Paul Fire Department's average response time from dispatching of a confirmed fire assignment to arrival of first fire suppression unit on scene within the current responding jurisdiction for a structure fire:

- 2018: 3min 48secs
- 2019: 3mins 48secs

Saint Paul Fire Department's anticipated response time from dispatching of confirmed fire assignment to arrival of first fire suppression unit(s) on scene within Falcon Heights for a structure fire\*:

- North west Falcon Heights - 2077 Larpenteur Ave. W 55113 (*Falcon Heights City Hall*)
  - 4min 22secs
- North East Falcon Heights - 1543 Larpenteur Ave. W 55113 (*Jimmy John's Sub Shop*)
  - 4min 21secs
- South West Falcon Heights- 2143 Folwell Ave. 55108 (*Residential*)
  - 3min 51secs
- South East Falcon Heights- 1480 California Ave. 55108 (*Residential*)
  - 4min 34secs

*\*Please note: The NFPA Std 1710 also recommends a "Turnout Time" of 80 secs or less, 90% of the time for all confirmed structure fires. 80 seconds has been added to the above times to come up with an overall response timeframe for units to be dispatched, donning of all appropriate firefighting clothes, prior to travel and estimated on-scene time based on the first arriving fire suppression apparatus's (engine or ladder company) travel times.*

**5. Opportunities for FHFD to Continue to Serve**

Civil Service rules govern the Saint Paul Fire Department's hiring practices, and the city's Human Resources Department owns the application and testing process. SPFD has an active, certified hiring list and therefore the application period for firefighters is not currently open. However, if any Falcon Heights fire personnel are on the hiring list and are moved to the referral list, they will be interviewed and considered for employment during the next hiring process. In addition, the SPFD has recently created a pathway program that any current EMT would be eligible to apply for.

SPFD has several current or former Falcon Heights firefighters employed on the department and has several members that are residents of your city. Those members along with the members assigned to stations that border your city, respond to incidents in your city today and know your city well.

**6. Policy and Practices prioritizing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

As a department of the city that directly serves the people of Saint Paul every day, the SPFD explicitly embraces the city's values of **Equity, Innovation, and Resilience**. The department prioritizes and invest in equity initiatives that also strengthen the city's three Pillars of **Community-First Public Safety, Lifelong Learning, and Economic Justice and Inclusion**. We strive to reflect our community and are taking great strides to represent the demographics of our community. Respect and Equity are the pillars of Core Values.

**7. Department Training Programs Focused on Cultural Awareness in the Delivery of Services**

The department serves the capitol city and the most diverse community in Ramsey County. SPFD members resemble the community they serve, and members speak; Hmong, Spanish, Somali, Oromo and Swahili. The department's Equity Change Team is specifically tasked with identifying and strengthening cultural competencies and awareness of bias and inequities that impact residents' access to service. The department makes diversity, equity and inclusion training a priority for leaders and all members in effort to equitably provide service to all of residents.

**8. Contract Terms Clearly Stating Costs:**

\$165,000\*. The referenced price aligns with contracted JPA fire and rescue services provided for the city of Lauderdale per capita and per total square mileage of geographic coverage.



\*A detailed draft contract for 'Professional Fire Protective Services' is available upon request.

## Contract Evaluation Criteria

### **Anticipated Services for Contracted Fire Protection**

In the additional letter and email dated November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, from the Falcon Heights City Administrator, several specific areas were identified as evaluation requirements for contracted fire protection services.

This summary will highlight two specific items not previously captured.

**1. What if an unexpected crisis occurred such as unrest that Minneapolis experienced this year. How would you approach/react, and do you have a Plan?**

Unfortunately, the city of Saint Paul community has not been excluded from the recent upheaval. Many incidents that have occurred around the state have prompted the department to revamp its Civil Unrest SOP\*. Since its overhaul and subsequent adoption, the department has regularly trained on this standard and has had to utilize these guidelines in response to civil unrest witnessed most recently in several intense days following the death of George Floyd on May 25, 2020. The Saint Paul Fire Department's authorized strength, established protocols, consistent and specific training; city, county and state partnerships as well as its leadership and strong command presence all proved invaluable, ultimately saving millions of dollars in property and protecting the lives of residents.

**2. Statement providing the performance measurements to be utilized in defining service delivery and service outcomes.**

The NFPA sets the standards for national as well as international industry-accepted timeframes relating to fire and medical emergency responses for the fire service. SPFD relies upon Ramsey County Emergency Communications Center (RCECC) as the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). Fire uses Image Trend and Health EMS Mobile to collect and document run information for both Fire and EMS calls, respectfully. The department is excited about their recent partnership with the city of Saint Paul's Office of Technology & Communications which completed a thorough representation of all run data from the past 5 years. SPFD also works with their Human Resources Department for department metrics related to the equity and inclusion efforts as it pertains to the SPFD's recruitment, hiring, retention as well as their promotional exam process to thoroughly examine the workforce and ultimately the services provided for the community that we serve.

For greater transparency and sound stewardship of the resources devoted for this contract of Fire Protection Services, the SPFD will commit to providing a special annual report specifically for the residents and city leadership of Falcon Heights at the conclusion of first quarter of the calendar year.

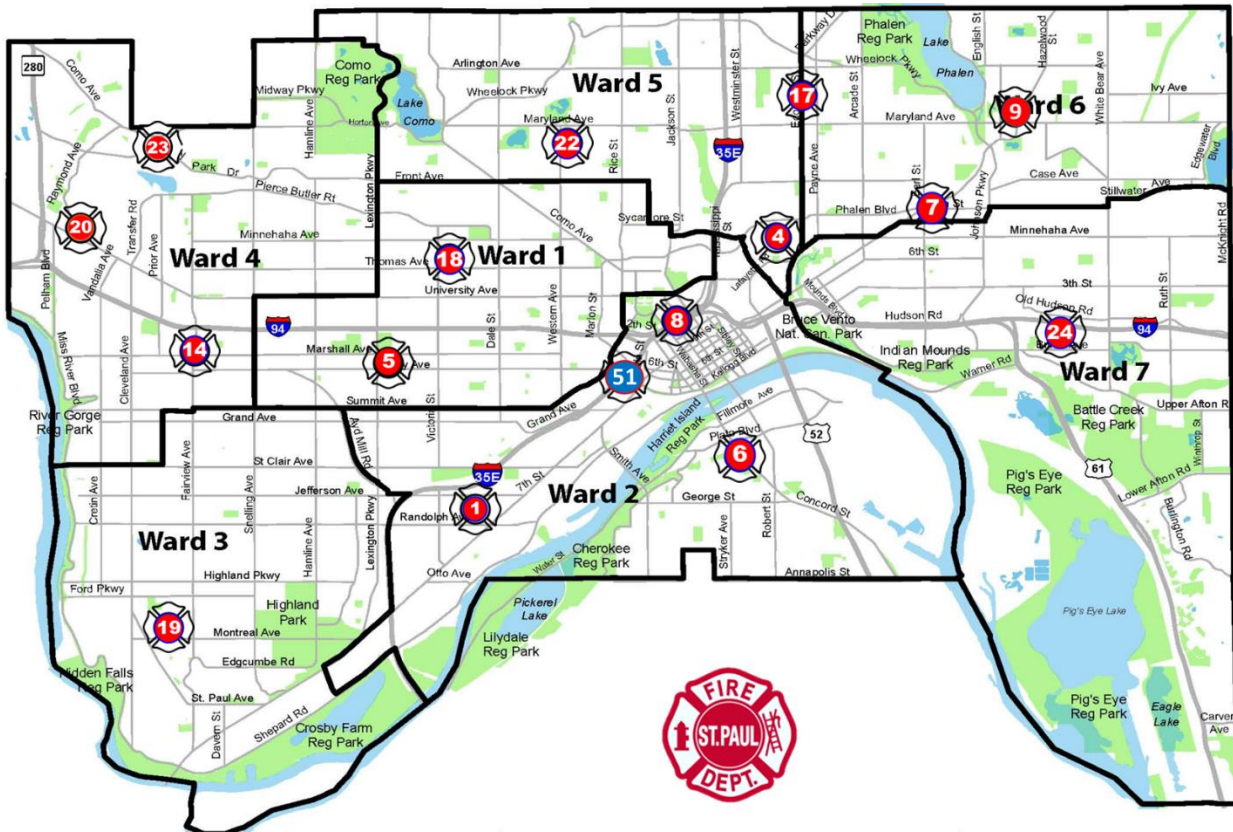
Please note: This proposal is for fire and rescue services for the city of Falcon Heights and not for rental and or commercial property fire inspections nor for emergency management services. The SPFD works in tandem with independent city departments, each with divisions that deliver both of these services. However, should an event occur in any jurisdiction that neighbors or borders the city of Saint Paul, SPFD would have the full support from the available resources from both Saint Paul's Emergency Management (EM) and Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI), to appropriately coordinate any additional resource that may be needed.

The Saint Paul Fire Department is proud of the partnerships with both the city of Saint Paul's EM and DSI departments and would be more than willing to facilitate conversations with the responsible parties should you be interested in pursuing a contract for those particular services.

*\*Please see 'Addendum A' SPFD SOP 403.1 "Response to Civil Unrest Situations"*




## St Paul Fire Stations Locations



Station	Address
Fire Station 1	1000 W. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Saint Paul, MN 55102
Fire Station 4	505 Payne Avenue Saint Paul, MN 55101
Fire Station 5	860 Ashland Avenue Saint Paul, MN 55104
Fire Station 6	33 Concord Street Saint Paul, MN 55107
Fire Station 7	1038 Ross Avenue Saint Paul, MN 55106
Fire Station 8	65 East 10 <sup>th</sup> Street Saint Paul, MN 55101
Fire Station 9	1624 Maryland Ave E. Saint Paul, MN 5510
Fire Station 14	111 Snelling Avenue N. Saint Paul, MN 55104
Fire Station 17	1226 Payne Ave Saint Paul, MN 55101
Fire Station 18	681 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55103
Fire Station 19	2530 Edgcombe Road Saint Paul, MN 55116
Fire Station 20	2179 University Avenue W. Saint Paul, MN 55114
Fire Station 22	225 Front Avenue Saint Paul, MN 55117
Fire Station 23	1926 Como Avenue Saint Paul, MN 55108
Fire Station 24	273 White Bear Avenue S. Saint Paul, MN 55106
Station 51 – Freedom House	296 7 <sup>th</sup> Street W. Saint Paul, MN 55102

Addendum A

	<b>Saint Paul Fire Department</b>	<b>SOP 403.1</b>
	Office of the Fire Chief	Page 1 of 6
	Subject: <b>Response to Civil Unrest Situations</b>	Date: 11/15/2016
	Approved: Assistant Chief Gaede	
	Approved: Assistant Chief Simpson	Revision Due: 11/15/2021

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this SOP is to provide direction for the safety of all Saint Paul Fire Department (SPFD) personnel when responding to and operating at non-violent, potentially violent, or violent civil unrest incidents.

Civil disturbances present unique situations not normally encountered in everyday Fire/EMS operations. These scenes require situational awareness, commonsense, and a high degree of concern for the safety of SPFD personnel.

**DEFINITION:**

This procedure defines the standard operating procedures to be employed at all SPFD/mutual aid incidents for the effective functioning of Fire/EMS/Hazmat/Special Operations at emergency incidents involving civil unrest situations, not limited to the following incident types;

Civil disturbances may range from small isolated incidents to major multiple confrontations. Rapid mobilization and deployment of SPFD units may be necessary, up to and including the establishment of Fire/EMS Task Forces—*defined later in the SOP.*

- Domestic violence incidents
- Fights/Violent crimes/ Suicide attempts
- Active shooter (see **SOP 814.1** for ASI specifics)
- Civil unrest (secondary to sporting events, natural disaster, protests)
- Standby for SPPD SWAT or police situation involving violence
- Reports of multiple injuries due to unknown causes
- Any other circumstance under which SPFD personnel may have reasonable concern for their safety

**SCOPE:**

This procedure applies to all SPFD personnel.

## **PROCEDURES:**

### **1. Safety Considerations:**

- RC-ECC to alert all Fire of Task Force Operations.
- RC-ECC to have all companies not on emergency calls, return to quarters.
- Assure appropriate number of law enforcement assistance and units within your assigned Fire/EMS Task Force (TF).
- Respond at a reduced speed and remain alert for individuals and obstacles that may pose a safety hazard and restrict the use of visual and audible warning devices that may incite crowds;
- Be aware of known areas or protest activity, communicate blocked routes, delayed responses, significant crowd increases, or any indications of violence or harassment.
- Operate only within your Fire/EMS Task Force (TF), and do not respond as a single unit;
- Do not permit self-dispatching/self-deployment;
- Do not stage resources in/near areas of civil disorder;
- Strategically position vehicles and establish a perimeter around the scene to protect personnel;
- Evaluate the risk, benefit, and consequence of responding into or operating in, areas where civil unrest may be occurring.
- If the IC and security determine the threat risk in the operational area is increasing, he/she may immediately remove companies from the area of risk.

### **2. Command:**

The primary responsibility for overall incident safety, security, and stabilization during a civil disturbance—in any stage from peaceful to violent—rests with the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction. SPFD and other fire agencies will play a supporting role in these types of events and must integrate into an established Command as a branch under Operations; **Unified Command** with law enforcement and other agencies is preferred.

The chief functioning as the Incident Commander (IC) must determine—with *agency partners*—the likelihood of disturbance escalation and implement this procedure as needed through operational discussions with senior department advisors and LE.

- Command functions may be pre-identified as in the case of a planned or ***suspected event***. For instances that are not a planned or suspected event, command and control may be established by the first arriving unit following the ICS framework and escalate to the activation of one or more EOC operations as the situation dictates.
- Command will operate under Hot/Warm/Cold zone considerations

### **3. Fire Operations:**

Fire ground operations will vary from normal SPFD operations to the implementation of Multi-Agency Fire/EMS Task Force response—as situations are identified and dictate that level of response. For the purpose of this SOP, a Fire/EMS Task Force—defined below— will be implemented, should multiple incidents occur simultaneously and overwhelm any single jurisdiction.

**With the establishment of Fire/EMS TF, no single unit will respond into an area of disturbance.**

- **Fire Task Force (TF):**
  - (2) Engines (at least 3 personnel per apparatus)
  - (1) Ladder (3-4 personnel)
  - (1) Chief: 1 \*IC—of Chief level rank, 1 Command Aide—if available)
  - (1) ALS Unit with a minimum of 1 Paramedic and 1 EMT
  - (?) L.E.—resource size will be driven by location/situation
- **Fire Task Force Assignments will consist of the following identification call signs;** Fire Task Force Alpha 1 – 4, Fire Task Force Bravo 1 – 4, Charlie, and Delta 1 – 4.

**4. EMS Operations:**

EMS operations will potentially vary from normal SPFD operations to the implementation of Multi-Agency Fire/EMS Task Force response. For the purpose of this SOP, a Fire/EMS Task Force—defined below—will be implemented, should multiple incidents occur simultaneously and overwhelm any single jurisdiction.

**When SPFD or Fire/EMS TF units are operationalized, no single unit will respond into an area of disturbance.**

- **EMS Task Force (TF)**
  - (2) Advance Life Support (ALS) transport units
  - (1) suppression unit
  - (?) L.E.—resource size will be driven by location/situation
    - **EMS Task Force Assignments will consist of the following identification call signs;** EMS Task Force Echo 1 – 30.
- **In the event that additional EMS resources are necessary, outside of normal mutual aid efforts, the State Duty Officer will be notified to request the MNAST (MN Ambulance Strike Team).**

**5. Hazmat/Special Operations:**

Hazmat operations and special operations that are utilized during a civil unrest scenario will follow SPFD operational protocols to include notification of the State Duty Officer and other requirements dictated by the use of state recognized teams.

**6. Response/Action Guidelines:**

Incident actions that solicit a response from a Fire/EMS TF will likely be unique situations, requiring the IC/Task Force Leader to consider the safety of personnel working in the area of the emergency. Depending upon low-risk or high-risk situations, the rules of deployment can be different and will likely be unified command driven with safety as the key consideration.

- Rules of Deployment:
  - A risk analysis should be performed before and during possible times of civil unrest in an effort to evaluate and determine areas of critical infrastructure, responder and civilian safety considerations, and response capabilities.
  - For purposes of civil unrest response, SPFD units—and Fire/EMS TF units as driven by the situation—will respond to fire calls as long as the area is deemed safe with security assistance. *Trash, rubbish, and refuse fires* will be considered very low priority and will be monitored by unified command.
    - These low priority fires may not be responded to by a Fire/EMS TF if those resources have been placed into service, due to other priority responses.
  - *Vehicle fires* will be responded to by SPFD units if the scene is deemed safe with security committed to the responding units. Vehicle fires provide several hazards to persons in the warm and hot zone areas of an event. In addition, vehicle fires that do not prompt a response may cause escalation by persons in the warm and hot zone locations, resulting in additional vehicle fires and potentially structures.
    - Vehicle fire response by a Fire/EMS TF will be inclusive of the full resource compliment that has been placed into service and treated as an appropriate priority.
  - Structure fires will be responded to by SPFD units if the scene is deemed safe by the incident commander with assistance from the UC—and committed security. Structure fires pose many threats to life and additional property and should be suppressed effectively and efficiently by the assigned units—Fire/EMS TF units. Additional information regarding tactics and fire suppression are outlined in *Fire Attack Tactical Considerations*.
- Fire Attack Tactical Considerations:
  - Safety of all responders—SPFD or Fire/EMS TF units—is the catalyst to beginning fire attack operations. If the scene is deemed safe by both L.E. security and the IC, fire attack operations can commence.
  - The primary tactical objective is to knock down the fire from the exterior (Blitz Attack), protect immediate exposures, and quickly exit the impacted area immediately with little to no overhaul performed; fire investigations can be disregarded until the area is deemed safe at a later date and time. When and where appropriate, a heavy stream application followed by a rapid withdrawal should be performed. Attaching supply lines to a hydrant impedes the immediate withdrawal of units; the use of hydrants will be with the expressed permission of the IC. Engine Co.'s should expect to attack and suppress the vast majority of fire by utilizing tank water.

- Ladder operations may be limited in the disturbance area. The purpose is to prevent firefighters from becoming targets while operating on ground ladders/elevated ladders/platforms. As it is difficult to quickly suspend operations for a rapid withdrawal if threatened, the IC shall make the determination of which ladder operations are conducted in the disturbance area. As a reminder, routine salvage, ventilation and overhaul practices may be limited or discontinued as determined by the activity in the area.
- SPFD and Fire/EMS TF units are reminded of building collapse concerns with well-involved fires; an immediate rule is a least 1.5x the height of the structure involved. At all times (responding to and from), full PPE shall be worn with the exception of SCBA.
- EMS Response:
  - SPFD units will enter the hot zone for response to law enforcement or fire personnel emergency needs under the direction and coordinated protection of L.E. as the situation allows.
    - Fire/EMS TF units will be inclusive of the full resource compliment that has been placed into service and respond to EMS requests as situations allow.

**When SPFD or Fire/EMS TF units are operationalized, no single unit will respond into an area of disturbance.**

## **7. Communications:**

Op's channels for emergency response will be assigned per normal RC-ECC dispatching procedures. Should an event escalate to a level necessary to assign/patch specific or additional channels with mutual aid agencies, RC-ECC will work with the IC to establish that communication change. Proper and appropriate communications are vital for any incident, especially ones that are multi-jurisdictional.

If the event does escalate to a multi-agency mutual aid response, a County wide notification Everbridge group will be contacted in an effort to quickly notify appropriate command staff from participating Ramsey County Fire Departments. This group will be called "Ramsey County Fire Senior Command Group." The members included in the communication group shall be determined by the individual departments.

### **Multi-Agency Task Force (TF) Implementation Communications Plan:**

- At least two radio channels will be established for the fire ground; one channel for on-scene operations and one channel for notification and communication with TF units in staging and TF notification. In an effort to meet the communication needs of Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement involved in the incident, POOL channels should be utilized for the Fire and EMS response specific to the incident.

- RC-ECC should be prepared and ready to perform any channel patching from non-Ramsey County agencies that are responding and providing mutual aid with the incident. In instances of incident surge, the RC-ECC should be prepared to expand channel availability and dispatch monitoring.
- Familiarity with SPFD Radio Fleet Map is suggested.

**8. Debriefing:**

Post Incident Reviews (PIR) will be conducted for all situations to help determine if updates/revisions need to occur to the SOP. This PIR should include any agency—Fire/EMS/LE—that was involved in the incident.