

OPERATIONS

Index

1 of 1

History: Effective 4-1-11

Revised 3-22-11

Original: 11/00

- 601 Pinellas County Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures
- 602 Hurricane Procedures
- 603 Traffic Signal Preemption
- 604 Homeland Security Advisor System (HSAS)
- 605 Air Management

601 Pinellas County Fire Department SOP

1 of 1

History: Effective 01/01/04

Revised 5/03

Original: 11/00

Members of East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District will adhere to all policies and procedures defined in the Pinellas County Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures.

602 HURRICANE PROCEDURES

1 of 1

History: Effective 01/01/04

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Original: 11/00

1. Upon notification of a hurricane watch or warning affecting the Greater Tampa Bay area all personnel are required to notify the District Chief and provide a contact number for further instructions.
2. The Department will utilize the Pinellas County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) throughout its operation during storm conditions.
3. The Department will adopt a seven (7) phase checklist (Form 602.1) for operations during the storm.

Phase I - 48 hours	Phase V - Landfall of storm
Phase II - 36 hours	Phase VI - Recovery
Phase III - 24 hours	Phase VII - Normalcy
Phase IV - 8 hours	
4. The Primary Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the department will be Station 57. The Secondary EOC (used during most hurricane situations) will be Station 58.
5. The department will utilize an Alpha/Bravo Shift Assignment consisting of 12 hours which will be established in Phase III of department operations.
6. Station, Apparatus, and Vehicle Staffing will be assigned by the District Chief on-duty
7. The department will provide medical personnel to assist at the County Evacuation Shelter located in the district. The shelter(s) are identified as follows:
 - a. "Special Care" Shelter / Dialysis / Hospice Evac Center
East Lake High School
1300 Silver Eagle Dr.
Tarpon Springs, FL Capacity – 4450
 - b. Brooker Creek Elementary
3130 Forelock Road
Tarpon Springs, FL Capacity - 1500
8. Special needs residents will be notified of need for evacuation by department personnel. The department will provide personnel to assist with evacuation of special needs residents to proper shelters.
9. The department will provide provisions for basic food needs. Personnel are encouraged to bring any reasonable needs and wants.
10. Personnel will not be permitted to shelter family members or pets at any station.

603 TRAFFIC SIGNAL PREEMPTION

1 of 2

History: Effective 01/01/04 Revised 5/03 Original: 11/00

PURPOSE: To ensure a consistent policy for the use of traffic signal preemption devices; to provide a safer response for our highways motorists, pedestrians and our members; and to provide for a reduction in response times.

DISCUSSION: Traffic signal preemption is designed to provide an emergency vehicle, while responding to an incident, the ability to preempt a traffic signal in order to have the “Green” light in the direction of the responding vehicle. For our department’s purpose the signal will preempt to green in the direction of travel, to include all turning lanes if applicable and to red in all other directions.

The following is a list of department vehicles that will be provided with the preemption emitters. This list may be modified in the future as the need arises.

Engine 56 Squad 57 Engine 58

PROCEDURE: The following are the instances where traffic preemption devices are to be used or not used.

- A. Preemption will always be used when responding to emergency incidents while responding with lights and siren.
- B. Preemption will be used for responding to incidents without lights and sirens such as Alpha medical incidents and automatic fire alarms at the discretion of the Lieutenant.
- C. Preemption WILL NOT be used at anytime when not assigned to an incident. This includes following to any medical facility for paramedic pick-up after an incident.
- D. Preemption WILL NOT be used for station move-ups unless dispatched as an emergency move-up.

SPECIAL NOTES:

- A. Any problems noted with the signal or preemption process will be reported to the district chief then the fire chief upon completion of the incident.

603 TRAFFIC SIGNAL PREEMPTION

2 of 2

History: Effective 01/01/04 Revised 5/03 Original: 11/00

- B. If the signal preemption appears to be out of service, The district chief should also notify Pinellas county Signal Shop at 727-464-8909. As soon as possible notification should be made to other stations as necessary.
- C. Problems with vehicle emitters will be reported to East Lake 900.

604 Homeland Security Advisor System (HSAS)

1 of 3

History: Effective 01/01/04 Revised Original: 5/03

The Federal Department of Homeland Defense's HSAS has developed a series of levels to warn the country of impending threats of terrorism. The Levels of Threats and action to be taken by the members of East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District are as follows:

Low Risk of Terrorist Attacks (Green) Level. This condition is declared when there is a low risk of terrorist attacks. With this level East Lake Fire Rescue will continue normal day-to-day operations.

Guarded Risk of Terrorist Attacks (Blue) Level. This condition is declared when there is a general risk of terrorist attacks. With this level East Lake Fire Rescue members should review associated emergency response procedures accordingly.

Elevated Risk of Terrorist Attacks (Yellow) Level. This condition is declared when there is a significant risk of terrorist attacks. With the addition of the measures taken in the previous level the following actions should be considered by East Lake Fire Rescue personnel:

- Members should have heightened security awareness with their stations and apparatus.
- Members should have heightened awareness when responding to critical/sensitive locations.

High Risk of Terrorist Attacks (Orange) Level. This condition is declared when there is a high risk of terrorist attacks. With this elevation, in addition to the measures taken in the previous level, East Lake Fire Rescue will institute the following steps to provide increased security for our members and equipment. These actions will take effect immediately.

***Stations** will be in "lock-down" mode: All apparatus bay doors will remain closed unless the apparatus is entering/exiting the station or being checked out/washed.

- All other means of access will be closed and remain locked (the only exception will be the administrative office during normal working hours).
- All stations generators fuel sources (if applicable) should be checked for fuel levels. Appropriate steps should be taken to insure refueling is completed if needed.

***Apparatus** will not be left unattended for any reason except when the unit is on an emergency incident or is assigned to training.

- Vehicles and apparatus should be checked for fuel levels. All portable fuel tanks should be checked for fuel levels.

***Personnel** will prepare for possibility of increased security level to Severe Risk of Terrorist Attacks (Red). This includes:

- On-duty personnel:
 - Reviewing a list of predetermined supplies that may be required if elevated to Red level.

604 Homeland Security Advisor System (HSAS)

2 of 3

History: Effective 01/01/04 Revised Original: 5/03

- Should report any suspicious activity in or around the stations or apparatus to the district chief and PCSO immediately.-

Off-duty personnel:

- Should prepare for sudden notice of requirement to report to duty and have clothing and personal items to last for several days.

Severe Risk of Terrorist Attacks (Red) Level. This condition is declared when there is a severe risk of terrorist attacks. With this elevation, in addition to the measures taken in the previous level, East Lake Fire Rescue will institute the following steps to provide increased security for our members and equipment. These actions will take effect immediately.

***Stations** will continue all identified actions from the Orange Threat Level with the addition of the following:

- Access will be restricted to authorized personnel and visitors.
- All meetings/activities scheduled to meet at the station will be cancelled. The office manager will give notice of cancellation to the organization(s) as soon as possible. The only exception will be any Board of Fire Commission meeting at the discretion of the Chairman or his/her designee.
- All out of station training and scheduled activities by on-duty personnel will be cancelled and personnel will remain in their assigned stations unless authorized by the on-duty district chief or chief officer. The only exception will be emergency responses.
- Any deliveries or repairs to the stations will require a department member to accompany the visitor while they are in the station. All stations should notify the District Chief upon the arrival of any repairman at any station. If available, the D/C or a staff member will assist the crew to keep them available for emergency incidents.

***Apparatus** will continue all identified actions from the Orange Threat Level with the addition of the following:

- If staffing levels allow (4 personnel on unit) one member will remain with the unit on all situations. Personnel will request PCSO to respond to any emergency scene for apparatus and personnel security, if possible.
 - Will review PC Operations SOP sections 600-16 and 600-24.

604 Homeland Security Advisor System (HSAS)

3 of 3

History: Effective 01/01/04

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***Personnel:** will continue all identified actions from the Orange Threat Level with the addition of the following:

On-duty personnel:

- Should anticipate that they will be held over for several days if any actions should occur in the region and/or state.
- Will carry portable radios with them when out of the station and/or away from their assigned apparatus.
- Will review the procedures for using Level C isolation suits and Mark IV kits.

Off-duty personnel:

- Will immediately notify the on-duty District Chief of a contact phone number they can be reached at in the event that they are recalled to duty.
- They should anticipate that the recall will be immediate if called.
- Members should prepare to an extended work period if recalled and should consider preparing additional clothing and personal items.
- Members will refrain from consuming alcohol during this period.

All personnel:

- All pre-approved leave of any type is subject to cancellation. No requests for leave submitted after the Red threat level has been initiated will be approved until determined by the Fire Chief that it will not affect the operations of the department.

All above actions could be modified at any time and are subject to change by the Fire Chief or his designee.

605 Air Management

1 of 2

History: Effective 4-1-11

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Purpose

- The purpose of this document is to establish Air Management guidelines. Air Management is critical to the health and safety of our members. Firefighters need to manage their air supply similar to SCUBA divers. SCUBA divers are constantly aware of their air consumption and the amount of air they have left in their tank(s).
- *Firefighters should exit the fire building or hazardous atmosphere before their low air warning bell begins ringing. This gives them reserve air should something go wrong. A low-air warning bell ringing at an emergency scene should become an audible warning that a firefighter may be in trouble.*

Scope

- This guideline shall apply to all members of the East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District.

Definitions

- Air Management: An ongoing assessment of air consumption by individual firefighters and/or teams who are breathing air from their Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Firefighters in a hazardous atmosphere must continually check their pressure gauges to know how much air they have left in their bottle.
- The Rule of Air Management: Know how much air you have used, and manage the amount of air you have left in your bottle so that you leave the hazardous atmosphere **before** your SCBA low-air warning bell begins to ring.
- Hazardous Atmosphere: Any atmosphere which is oxygen deficient or which contains a toxic and/or disease-producing contaminant. These atmospheres can be immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH), or not.
- IDLH: Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health

Air Management Guideline

It is the expectation that all East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District members utilizing Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) will:

- Perform a READY check prior to entering the IDLH (Radio, Equipment, Air, Duties, Yes)
- Check their air levels before they enter the hazardous atmosphere. Members must have a minimum of 4050 psi in their cylinder in order to make entry into a hazardous atmosphere. This check can be done during the pre-entry READY check.

- Follow the Rule of Air Management when operating in any hazardous atmosphere.
- **When the first member of any team has their 50% capacity (2250 PSI) Heads-Up Display (HUD) light activate (two flashing amber lights), the officer/team leader shall radio to the proper ICS functionary (Command, Division, etc.) that the team is at 50% air. This allows the ICS functionary to pre-plan for replacing that team in the hazardous atmosphere.**
- If a team member works into their reserve air and their low-air warning bell begins to ring in the hazard area, the officer/team leader shall report over the radio to the proper ICS functionary (Command, Division, etc) their unit signature, their location, that a team member's low-air warning bell is ringing, and an estimation of how close they are to the exit.

How Air Management Works

- Air management is each firefighter's responsibility and is closely related to situational awareness. Firefighters must make sure that they have a full cylinder before they enter the hazardous atmosphere. Once inside the hazardous atmosphere, firefighters must look at their pressure gauges at intervals and inform their officer/team leader what their air situation is.
- The Officer/team leader should take the lead in air management. Officer's and team leaders must make the decision when to exit so that the team is out of the hazardous atmosphere before their team's low-air warning bells begin to ring. There are many factors that affect the duration of the team's air supply, such as: fire conditions, work rates, aerobic fitness of the team members, and stress.
- **Officers and team leaders must notify the Incident Commander (IC) or their ICS functionary (Command, Division, etc.) when their first team member's 50% HUD light activates or their bottle is at 50% capacity (2250 PSI). This allows the ICS functionary to be informed of the team's air situation and to pre-plan for replacing that team in the IDLH environment.**
- All firefighters are expected to be out of the hazardous atmosphere before their low-air warning bells begin to ring.
- If members hear a low-air warning bell ringing in the hazardous atmosphere, and there is not an immediate radio report from the team whose bell is ringing, that bell should be considered an emergency alarm until proven otherwise.

**EAST LAKE TARPON
SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT**

**STANDARD OPERATING
PROCEDURES**