

 Delran Fire Department 900 Chester Avenue Delran New Jersey 08075	Standard Operating Procedures	
	Subject: Emergency Vehicle Responses	
	SOP #: 100-14	# of Pages: 3
	Effective Date: 28 May, 2024	Revision Date:
Approved By: Chief Joseph M Cunningham Sr.		

1.0 PURPOSE:

- 1.1 The purpose of this procedure is to establish standard guidelines for driver operators and firefighters while responding to incidents in department emergency vehicles. These requirements are further designed to assure compliance with NJAC Title 39.

2.0 SCOPE:

- 2.1 This procedure shall apply to all Delran Fire Department personnel operating any department emergency vehicles and / or the use of audio and visual warning devices.
This document establishes:
- 2.1.1 Responsibility
 - 2.1.2 Procedure

3.0 Responsibility:

- 3.1 It shall be the responsibility of all department line officers, driver operators and firefighters to comply and enforce the regulations of this procedure.
- 3.2 Emergency vehicles, by law, are granted the "right-of-way" when responding to a fire or other emergency. Operators of emergency vehicles are permitted to disregard certain traffic laws and regulations in order to get emergency personnel and equipment to an incident in the shortest possible time. This privilege places a burden of responsibility on the emergency vehicle operator "to drive with DUE REGARD for the safety of his / her crew and other motorists and pedestrians."
- 3.3 It is the emergency vehicle operator's responsibility to always maintain control of the vehicle. When responding under emergency conditions, the operator will exercise due regard for the safety of the crew and the general public. All emergency vehicle operators will follow NJAC Title 39.

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4.0 Procedure:

4.1 **Emergency Speed-** Those incidents that pose a significant risk to human life or property. Emergency response requires use of all audios (siren and air horns) and visual (lights) warning devices. The use of the siren may be limited in certain situations, such as in the middle of night through residential areas, at the discretion of the officer. The initial response to the following types of incidents will be considered emergencies:

4.1.1 Structural Fires, Brush / Rubbish Fires, Vehicle Fires, RIC Incidents, Water / Ice Rescue, Technical Rescues involving Life, Motor Vehicle / Aircraft Incidents, Fumes, Assist EMS, Haz Mat & Lockouts (Life Hazard)

4.2 **Reduced Speed-** Those incidents that DO NOT pose a significant risk to life or property. Audio and visual warning devices WILL NOT be used during non-emergency responses unless ordered by an officer to upgrade to an emergency response. The initial response to the following types of incidents shall not be considered emergencies:

4.2.1 Fire / CO Alarms / Wires (other than the first due apparatus out of each station. Until confirmation is received that an actual emergency exists. Then the response shall be upgraded to an emergency response.

4.2.2 Washdowns / Roadway Hazards, Assist Police (non-Life Hazard), Cover Assignments, Investigation, Lockouts (Non-Life Hazard) Rescues, Bomb Scares, Cascade Assignments & Fire Police Assignments

4.3 **Utility Vehicle-** 2316, 2318, 2319, 2327 & 2328

4.3.1 Utility vehicles will respond at a **Reduced Speed** to all incidents (exceptions below) and when signing on radio, "responding", with central, will sign on at a reduced speed.

4.3.2 Utility vehicles will be permitted to respond at emergency speed at the direction of a company officer or only under the following conditions:

4.3.2.1 2316 Responding to Brush and Rubbish Fires

4.3.2.2 2318 & 2327 Responding with Boat or Rehabilitation Trailer to an incident. Responding an incident with SCBA qualified personnel on board.

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4.3.2.3 2319 Responding to a "all companies in service" in Delran with more than 1 SCBA qualified personnel on board.

4.3.2.4 2328 Responding to a Water / Ice Rescue incident.

5.0 DEVIATION OF POLICY:

5.1 This procedure acts as a guideline to follow. If situations during a response to an incident do not fit within these parameters, the incident commander of the incident shall have the authority to deviate as necessary to perform a successful outcome and ensure firefighter and public safety.

Official Approval

Name Joseph M Cunningham Sr.

Title: Chief of Department

Signature:  J.M. Cunningham Sr.

Date: 28 May 2024