

	Standard Operating Guideline – West Fargo Fire Department		01.004
	Subject: Response to Violent Incidents		
	Section: Deployment and Safety		
	Date Authorized: 11/2/2017	Authorized by:	
Date Reviewed: 10/2/2020	Chief Daniel Fuller		

Intent

The intent of this guideline is to establish standard procedures for response to violent incidents, and protection of fire department members on scene. Refer to SOG 04.006 for Active Shooter Hostile Event Response (ASHER). Refer to SOG 01.019 Operations during Civil Unrest for riots.

Reference

Definitions

Violent Incident – any incident where it is more likely than not that a fire department responder would encounter a violent person and bodily harm would ensue. This includes, but not limited to, fights, fights involving weapons such as blunt objects, knives, and guns, domestic situations and overdoses.

Guideline

1. Units dispatched to a call that has the potential to turn violent will be instructed by Red River Regional Dispatch (RRRDC) to stage and await law enforcement to clear the scene.
 - a. Fire department units should stage in the following manner
 - i. One block from the scene
 - ii. Emergency lights should be deactivated with the exception of rear traffic control if needed
 - iii. Out of the line of sight from the scene

2. While in staging, fire units should only approach the scene when cleared to do so from on scene police units.
 - a. RRRDC will contact the fire units and advise them, or
 - b. Police units will wave fire units onto the scene

3. At no point should firefighters enter a violent scene alone, always operate in teams of at least two. If the scene becomes unsafe, ie: violence or the threat of violence occurs, firefighters should:
 - a. Retreat from the scene
 - b. Board their apparatus
 - c. Return to a safe staging location
 - d. Notify RRRDC of the escalation of violence and of the actions fire units are taking

Responding to Violent Incidents	Deployment and Safety	01.004
---------------------------------	-----------------------	---------------