

**PHOENIX REGIONAL
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

ASSISTING OTHER AGENCIES

M.P. 205.18

03/09-R

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this management procedure is to document fire department response when agencies request assistance where hazardous materials, wastes, or substances may be present, e.g. search warrants.

The Phoenix Fire Department Special Operations Section has available multiple specially trained air scent dogs able to search disaster sites, urban settings, and rural areas for live victims that may be trapped and/or missing. These dogs are assigned to Phoenix Fire Department Canine Search Specialists and available to assist other agencies in locating missing non-violent adults and children.

A canine search specialist team for non USAR call outs will consist of two handlers, two canines, two PFD members as support personnel familiar with safety procedures, mapping, GPS, compass, canine search procedures, and sector operations, and a Phx PD or other sponsoring agency Liaison Officer.

DEFINITION

The term "agency/ies" includes, but is not limited to: The Phoenix Police Department, The Maricopa County Sheriff's Department, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the State of Arizona Attorney General's Office, and any other law enforcement agency.

POLICY

It is the policy of the Phoenix Fire Department to provide limited support to other agencies, when requested, at sites of search warrants and searches for missing/lost non violent persons. Support may consist of, but is not limited to: code enforcement, providing research and information on specific hazardous material, and decontamination of entry personnel. At no time will any Phoenix Fire Department canine search specialist teams and support personnel be used to conduct search operations involving criminal or violent subjects.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM URBAN SERVICES/TRT UNITS

Any agency requesting assistance from on-duty Special Operations personnel and/or the TRT units shall contact the Dispatch Supervisor at (602)262-7496.

A pre-incident meeting shall be scheduled between the requesting agency and the Special Operations Duty Officer. The agency that is requesting the assistance shall provide information on location(s), time(s), staging area(s), type(s) of products that may be involved, and the type of assistance that is needed. Based upon the information disseminated, the Special Operations Duty Officer may elect to have TRT units respond as a precautionary measure. Security of information will be strictly adhered to.

The Special Operations Chief, Shift Commander and Battalion Chief shall be notified. The Special Operations Duty Officer will initiate such notification. Security of information will be strictly adhered to.

The Special Operations Duty Officer may elect to have the on-duty Fire Prevention Specialist respond to the site for documentation purposes.

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REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM URBAN SERVICES/CANINE SEARCH SPECIALIST TEAMS

Any agency requesting assistance from Special Operations canine search specialist teams shall contact the Dispatch Supervisor at (602)262-7496. Call out by the Dispatch Supervisor will be made through the on duty Special Operations Chief.

DISPATCH ROOM NOTIFICATION

When deemed appropriate, the on-duty Fire Prevention Specialist or the Special Operations Duty Officer may notify Dispatch via telephone of the Agency request for assistance. An active incident number will be requested when Operations personnel or equipment are required at the site. The dispatch shall be "Assist Agency".

HEALTH AND SAFETY

No personnel shall enter a hazardous material, waste, or substance area without appropriate protective clothing and equipment.

Personnel showing any signs or symptoms of a chemical exposure during or after the administration of a search warrant shall be transported to Banner Good Samaritain, providing that the exposure is not a critical life threatening emergency. Critical life threatening injuries require transport to the closest appropriate hospital. All potentially exposed personnel and equipment shall be decontaminated. All potentially exposed fire department personnel shall complete a Hazardous Materials Exposure Report Form. Exposed equipment, especially protective clothing, may have to be properly disposed of. Notification of Health and Fitness Deputy, Exposure Control Officer, and Safety Officer shall be made.

ENTRY

Phoenix Fire Department personnel will not participate in an entry operation unless:

- (1) An emergency situation develops involving hazardous materials, wastes, or substances.
- (2) The safety of the Phoenix Fire Department personnel is not jeopardized.
- (3) A representative from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Emergency Response Unit is present.

Phoenix Fire Department personnel shall not make entry into the search warrant site until the appropriate law enforcement agency has deemed the site secured and "safe".

DOCUMENTATION

The on-duty Fire Prevention Specialist shall submit all reports generated as the result of the search warrant to the appropriate law enforcement agency.