

	<b>Terryville Fire Department Best Practices</b>	
	<u>Subject</u> <b>Alarm Response</b>	BP# 3-17
	<u>Authority</u> <b>Chief of Department</b>	Initiated 3/1/2023  Revised

**A. PURPOSE**

1. To ensure that members of the Terryville Fire Department respond in a safe and appropriate manner to emergencies and other incidents.

**B. DEFINITIONS & TERMS**

1. True Emergency – Any situation in which there is a high probability of death or serious injury to an individual or significant property loss.
2. Signal 4 Response – An alarm response in which Terryville Fire Department apparatus drivers shall comply with all NYS Vehicle & Traffic Laws. No lights or sirens shall be used.
3. Emergency Mode – An alarm response in which Terryville Fire Department apparatus drivers shall be given specific exemptions to traffic laws that apply to emergency vehicles when authorized for the response to a true emergency or report of same. Lights and sirens shall be used.
4. Specific Exemptions – When involved in emergency response, drivers may exercise the following privileges in accordance with the NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law:
  - Stop, stand or park in locations in which it is ordinarily prohibited to do so.
  - Proceed past a steady red signal, a flashing red signal or a stop sign, but only after slowing down or stopping as may be necessary for safe operation.
  - Exceed the maximum speed limits so long as doing so does not endanger life or property.
  - Disregard regulations governing directions of movement or turning in specified directions.

The foregoing provisions shall not relieve the driver of the responding emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver from the consequences of his reckless disregard for the safety of others.

**C. MUTUAL AID RESPONSE POLICY**

1. Requests for mutual aid to provide stand-by coverage at the station or a staging area will be dispatched as a General/Station Alarm. The department shall respond Signal 4. Should units be redirected to the scene, the response shall be in emergency mode.
2. Requests for mutual aid to provide resources to the scene will be dispatched as a General/Station Alarm. The department shall respond in emergency mode unless the dispatch information dictates otherwise (ALPHA Response, Signal 4 condition, etc.)

**D. INCIDENTS UNDER CONTROL**

1. When the IC gives a Signal 4, the incident is deemed to be under control, and he/she has determined that a true emergency does not exist. As such, apparatus already responding shall continue responding Signal 4 to the scene. Apparatus not already responding should stand-by in quarters unless requested.