
Fire Service Authority

100.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to affirm the legal authority of the Blue Ridge Fire District and the individual members.

100.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Blue Ridge Fire District to limit its members to only exercise the authority granted to them by law.

While the Blue Ridge Fire District recognizes the authority of members granted to them, members are encouraged to use sound discretion in the exercise of their authority and this district does not tolerate abuse of authority.

100.3 ORGANIZATIONAL POWERS

This district is authorized by Arizona law to perform fire suppression and related services including, but not limited to (ARS § 9-240; ARS § 48-805; ARS § 36-2207):

- (a) Fire prevention and fire code enforcement.
- (b) Fire suppression services.
- (c) Fire cause and origin investigation.
- (d) Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

100.4 FIREFIGHTER POWERS

Firefighters are sworn, appointed or elected members of this district and are authorized to exercise the following authority pursuant to applicable state law:

- (a) Participate in a wide range of emergency and rescue activities, including EMS, extrication and heavy rescue
- (b) Perform fire suppression duties, including the suppression of structural, aircraft, marine, wildland and other types of fires
- (c) Investigate the cause and origin of fires
- (d) Collect and preserve evidence when a fire is of a suspicious origin
- (e) Possess peace officer status when serving as a fire arson investigator or Fire Marshal (ARS § 9-500.01)
- (f) Perform specialty services, including hazardous materials response, technical rescue, water rescue and additional services as authorized by the Fire Chief
- (g) Provide fire code enforcement inspection and plan review services
- (h) Provide public education and fire prevention activities and services

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100.5 CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

When exercising their authority, members shall observe and comply with every person's clearly established rights under the United States and Arizona Constitutions.

100.6 SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY

Any BRFD officer may relieve a member under his/her command from duty when, in his/her judgment, an offense committed is sufficiently serious to warrant immediate action. A report of such action shall be made immediately through the appropriate channels to the appropriate Fire Chief, followed by written documentation of the charges, in accordance with district procedures. All such processes shall comply with established rules and regulations.