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# Emergency Recall

## 1009.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the right of the Blue Ridge Fire District to recall off-duty employees in the event of a large-scale or protracted emergency, natural disaster or other unusual situation that depletes on-duty resources. The policy also establishes the procedures to be used to recall off-duty employees, in accordance with state and federal laws.

### 1009.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Automatic aid** - Apparatus and firefighters who are dispatched automatically by contractual agreement between two fire departments, communities or fire districts.

**Mutual aid** - Apparatus and firefighters who are dispatched, upon request, by the responding fire department. Mutual aid is defined by a signed contractual agreement between the Blue Ridge Fire District and neighboring jurisdictions.

## 1009.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Blue Ridge Fire District to provide sufficient resources at the scene of an emergency to reasonably provide for the safety of the employees working at the scene, and to ensure adequate resources are available for additional emergency calls. In some instances, this may require the emergency recall of employees.

## 1009.3 PROCEDURES

The Fire Chief or any other chief officer, Captain or Incident Commander (IC) may initiate an emergency recall by providing Dispatch or other designated resource with brief information regarding the emergency, where members are to report for duty and the name or names of personnel required.

### 1009.3.1 TRIGGERING INCIDENTS

The types of incidents that may require the initiation of an emergency recall include, but are not limited to:

- One major incident affecting a localized or widespread area.
- Two or more incidents causing a high demand for resources at different locations.
- Numerous incidents causing a peak demand on the entire resource system.
- Any time designated by the Fire Chief or the authorized designee.

### 1009.3.2 DISPATCH RESPONSIBILITIES

The Fire Chief or the authorized designee should be responsible for developing and implementing an emergency recall procedure that complies with state and federal laws. Dispatch or the other

## *Emergency Recall*

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designated resource should follow the established procedure when implementing an emergency recall.

### **1009.3.3 FIREFIGHTER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Firefighters should reply to an emergency recall immediately or provide notification within 10 minutes with their status and estimated time of arrival. If applicable, they should report for duty with their personal protective equipment.

### **1009.3.4 EXCEPTIONS**

Members may not refuse an emergency recall notice. Firefighters who receive an emergency recall notification and are under the influence of any impairment, such as medications or alcohol, should advise the caller of the impairment and should not report for duty.

### **1009.4 OTHER RESOURCES**

If sufficient resources cannot be assembled by an emergency recall, the District may consider other options such as:

- Automatic aid
- Mutual aid
- Additional chief officers