

Standard Operating Guidelines

SCHOOL ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE

Guideline # 320.04

Date: 10/07 N

Purpose

The purpose of this guideline is to provide firefighters with the proper guidance and direction in response to an active shooter situation within any school facility. Active shooter shall also include any situation that may involve barricaded suspects with or without hostages, suicidal or distraught persons and snipers.

Policy

All active shooter situations shall be under the control of the Jackson Police Department. However an active shooter situation may initially come in as a fire alarm, as a false pretense to create more havoc at the facility and cause injury to first responders.

As first responders, in most likelihood we will be the first on scene, firefighters must use extreme caution by taking notice of surroundings while responding in and arriving on all fire alarms.

For example:

Is it what you expected for the situation?

People outside in orderly manner?

People running and screaming?

People lying on ground wounded?

No one is outside, false alarm or malfunction, lockdown or alarm pulled to draw people out from lockdown?

Smoke condition upon arrival but no one exiting, under lockdown, set to draw you in?

When in an investigative mode beware of the potential for improvised explosive devices in parking lot areas or other concealed areas meant to injure first responders.

The slightest indication after you have arrived that you have something other than a fire service call, evacuate the area if possible, otherwise move to a safe area of refuge and standby, advise other responding units to stage off site, advise dispatch and request Police assistance.

Procedures

For a response to a confirmed active shooter situation, or once confirmed after arriving on an alarm the following procedures shall be in effect.

If a unit(s) had already responded in they shall stay in a safe area and await assistance, otherwise, only the most senior officer shall respond to the area of the facility and await police arrival. The Fire Officer shall represent the Fire Department at the command post as part of the unified command structure.

All other responding units shall stage according to pre-designated sites for each school facility.

Units responding to designated staging areas will not pass directly in front of any facility while en-route. If necessary units will detour around the affected facility taking an alternate route keeping units out of sight.

Under no circumstances shall any fire personnel take any offensive actions without permission of command and until the site has been deemed safe or under police escort.

When given direction to respond in, apparatus officers must keep in mind parking of apparatus in heavy traffic areas such as parking lots and the potential for secondary devices.

Under no circumstances shall any member respond in a personal vehicle.

Under no circumstances shall any fire department personal be in plain street clothes. All members shall wear appropriate personal protective gear with proper identifiers to distinguish them as first responders.

Pre-designated landing zones have been established for each facility.

A copy of the Township Office Of Emergency Management School Annex shall be attached to this guideline outlining resources and responsibilities.

NOTE: Staging and LZ's will not be published rather they will be assigned by JPD and County dispatch to further protect first responders

Approved:

Date:
District Chief:

Date:
Company Chief