

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service

FIRE CHIEF'S GENERAL ORDER

NUMBER: 07-27

November 1, 2007

TO: All MCFRS Personnel

FROM: Fire Chief Thomas W. Carr, Jr. 

SUBJECT: Automatic Aid Responses

On August 29, 2006, MCFRS began a pilot program for Automatic Aid responses. Ensuing from that program, the procedures below are hereby **permanently** adopted.

1. ECC will make every effort to dispatch Montgomery County units to Automatic Aid events as soon as the need for that aid is recognized or requested.
2. When personnel receive a request for Automatic Aid by monitoring a neighboring jurisdiction's dispatch frequency, a response may be initiated. **As soon as the response is initiated, the Unit Officer *MUST* notify the Alpha Dispatcher.**
3. The Alpha Dispatcher will determine if another unrelated event is in Queue for that unit, and if none is in Queue, acknowledge the unit's response. ECC will then create the event in CAD, and make the appropriate status changes. However, Montgomery County events may receive a higher dispatch priority than Automatic or Mutual Aid events.
4. Once acknowledged by ECC, the Unit Officer will switch to the appropriate talk group for the Automatic Aid jurisdiction, and continue with normal operations.
5. If an event is already pending in Queue for that unit, the Alpha Dispatcher will advise the Unit Officer to stand by for another event. **A Unit Officer receiving this message must *IMMEDIATELY* cease the unit's response, remain on the Alpha Talk Group, and remain in-service for the event in Queue.**

NOTE: This Automatic Aid response procedure will be *SUSPENDED* when MCFRS is operating in Condition Red, Threat Level Red, or Level III or IV Disaster Operations.

For additional information, please call Division Chief Philip Guercio at 240 777-2471.

Issued:

Revised:

Rescinded: