


<b>SOG 2014-004</b>	<b>Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) Apparatus Diverting</b>	Page 1 of 2
	<h2>Cumberland County Fire Chief's Association</h2>	<b>REFERENCES:</b> NFPA 1500 – CCFCA SOG 119-1& 119-2 CCFCA Minutes/Vote Sheet August 25, 2014
		<b>FORMS:</b> N/A
<b>Apparatus Diverting</b>		
<i>APPROVED BY: CCFCA Board of Directors – Freddy L. Johnson Sr., President</i>		<b>EFFECTIVE: 10/01/14</b>

### 1.0 PURPOSE:

1.01 This policy outlines procedures for Fire Departments to use when diverting from initially assigned responses when available resources are insufficient.

1.02 Units responding to out of district alarms (automatic alarms, structure fires etc) may continue to receive and be dispatched to alarms or service calls within their district. These alarms may have higher precedence than their initial assignment (cardiac arrest versus a residential fire alarm). As a result, responding units divert and will respond to the higher precedence, in-district call.

1.03 During high volume call times, such as storms or disasters, units divert to calls within their respective districts while responding to out of district calls. Their district is their first priority and this commitment must be met. As always good judgment and good common sense must be applied.

### 2.0 SCOPE

2.01 This policy applies to all Cumberland County Fire Departments.

2.02 The policy applies to all responses that a unit may divert from to handle in-district incidents.

### 3.0 GUIDELINES FOR DIVERTING

3.01 It is important that diverting units notify dispatch that they are responding to another call other than their original assignment. This allows dispatch to assign additional resources to fill out the original assignment.

3.02 Units diverting must notify dispatch that they are diverting to a call within their respective district and to assign the next available unit to fulfill their initial assignment.

3.03. It is the Fire Department's responsibility to notify dispatch when all their organic resources have been depleted, and they are unable to respond to additional calls. It is also the Fire Department's responsibility to timely notify dispatch that they have sufficient resources back in service and available to respond to any new or pending calls.

3.04. Once automatic/mutual aid units have arrived at the incident scene they are **COMMITTED** to the incident and the Incident Commander. If an in district call comes in while at a working Incident Scene, automatically diverting is not an option and the D/O or Officer of the automatic /mutual aid unit must coordinate with the Incident Commander and **MUST** be cleared to leave the on-going incident.

3.05. Because of our increasing number of calls, as well as overlapping and simultaneous calls for service throughout the county, Incident Commanders of an on-going incident should release automatic/mutual aid units as soon as possible or as soon as the units/man-power are no longer essential or obligatory to the incident.

#### **4.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

4.01 An example of a unit diverting from their initial assignment to a more pressing, in-district call follows:

*Cumberland, 431 - **diverting to 1230 Muscat Road for a house fire.** **Send next available unit to the Station 21- Hope Mills' call.***

4.02 An example of a Fire Department who has no available units to respond to calls follows:

*Cumberland, Station 13 – **out of Service, call in the city / call in county / mutual aid call / no man-power etc.** **Send next available unit.***

4.02 An example of a Fire Department having units who have returned to service and are available for assignment follows:

*Cumberland, Station 13 - **available for all calls.***

4.03 Fire Departments must keep dispatch assessed of their respective status. Fire Departments must keep dispatch apprised of their special resources. This is critical during storm periods or disaster situations such as tornados and other acts of nature and or man-made disaster incidents.