



POLICE-FIRE COORDINATION

Operations Order

6.3.00

PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT

Rev. 02/27/26

PAGE 1

1. POLICE-FIRE COORDINATION

- A. To coordinate Police and Fire Department personnel as they work together to achieve the public safety goals of the City, Police and Fire personnel interaction will be guided by the policies in this order.
- B. At incidents where both Police and Fire Department personnel are present, the ranking officers of both agencies will consult with each other, as appropriate, under the circumstances.
- C. In all situations, Police personnel should take advantage of Fire Department resources and capabilities.

2. JOINT POLICE-FIRE RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Unknown Substance/White Powder Calls - All unknown substance/white powder calls will be worked as a joint operation between the Police Department's Bomb Squad and the Fire Department's Special Operations Section.

(1) Police Responsibilities:

- (a) Patrol - See TM14, Bomb Threats and Explosives, Unknown Substance/White Powder Calls.
- (b) Bomb Squad - Work in a unified manner with the Fire Department's Hazardous Materials Team to address the incident and mitigate the threat.

(2) Fire Responsibilities:

- Work with the Police Department's Bomb Squad to address the incident and mitigate the threat.
 - If evacuations are necessary, the on-scene Fire supervisor will work with the on-scene Police supervisor to ensure emergency responders complete the evacuation safely.
- * The Fire Department's Hazardous Materials Team will determine the hazard/evacuation zone.

3. BASIC FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Fire control
- Emergency medical services
- Basic life support - All Fire Department personnel are trained emergency medical technicians (EMTs)
- Advanced life support (paramedic units)
- Physical rescue of trapped or stranded persons
- Primary role for hazardous materials incidents
- Joint role with the Police Department's Bomb Squad in unknown substance/white powder calls
- Protection of private property from damage resulting from rain, windstorms, water leaks, etc., when feasible

4. SERVICES AVAILABLE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL OPERATIONS SECTION

- A. Special services may be obtained by contacting Fire Department Communications.



POLICE-FIRE COORDINATION

Operations Order

6.3.00

PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT

Rev. 02/27/26

PAGE 2

4. B. The Special Operations Section is trained and equipped to handle the following emergency incidents:

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL INCIDENTS	SPECIAL RESCUES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site hazard identification and planning • Atmospheric sampling for presence of toxic or flammable conditions • Field identification for hazard of unknown chemicals • Entry to contaminated atmospheres for rescue/hazard control • Hazardous site management /coordination (temporary) • Air model for plume dispersal of CN/CS gas needs sites 	<p><u>High Angle</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to and removal of injured/stranded persons from above-ground locations • On-scene treatment/stabilization • Mountain/building/helicopter rappelling • Below ground & confined space • Trench/excavation shoring • Rigging for raising and lowering operations • Patient treatment/stabilization and extrication • Air monitoring <p><u>Water Rescue</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited capacity for swift-water rescue <p><u>Heavy Rescue</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airbags for shoring, lifting, and cribbing • Light and heavy cutting equipment for wood, metal, concrete

5. **POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

<p>A. Fires</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers will assist the Fire Department in determining the location, size, type of fire, and any special information, which may help in determining the number of fire units necessary. • Officers will take appropriate action to rescue victims of fires but, if possible, will notify the Fire Department prior to any rescue attempt. • Officers' primary responsibility at the fire scene will be to control pedestrian and vehicular traffic as well as to prevent the interference with firefighters or officers at the scene. <p>NOTE: When persons disobey or interfere with a firefighter at a fire scene, they may be arrested in aggravated cases (refer to Phoenix City Code (PCC) 23-21.1 or Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) 13-2904.5).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers will contact the senior Fire supervisor at the scene for specific instructions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * When Command indicates a perimeter of the fire is necessary, Command will also indicate which areas are to be protected. * Officers will divert traffic, as needed, to limit congestion. * Special care will be taken to prevent vehicles from crossing fire hoses. * Officers will perform other police-related duties and functions as requested by the Fire Department. • When off-duty firefighters are required to report to a fire scene, they will be permitted to proceed immediately to the fire scene in their personal vehicles, if necessary, after properly identifying themselves. • The Police Department will not provide personnel for extended periods of time solely for the purpose of securing property at a fire scene. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Fire Department will be responsible for contacting a private security agency to secure the property.
<p>B. Traffic Accidents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire personnel will be called to accidents involving serious injury or possible fatalities. • Officers will protect the scene from unnecessary disturbances but will allow Fire personnel access in order to render medical aid. • Fire personnel will obtain approval from the investigating officer before turning off lights, cutting battery cables, or taking other actions that may alter the conclusions of the investigator, unless a delay will result in injury or loss of life and/or property. • Police/Fire Department vehicles will be parked so as to cause the least amount of traffic congestion and at the same time enable the vehicles to be utilized as needed.



POLICE-FIRE COORDINATION

Operations Order

6.3.00

PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT

Rev. 02/27/26

PAGE 3

5. POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES (Continued)

C. Suicides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Police Department is responsible for securing the scene to protect all evidence (including attempted suicides). Unless the victim is obviously deceased (such as a decapitated or decomposed body), efforts will be made to sustain life until a qualified physician pronounces the individual dead. * Paramedics are usually in contact with qualified physicians to facilitate this decision.
D. Medical Emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first unit to arrive on the scene will provide appropriate first aid and lifesaving measures. Officers should provide Police Communications with all available information, such as the type of incident, type of injuries, and hazards, to enable the Fire Department to respond appropriately. Officers will provide the Fire Department with symptoms the officer observed, along with any physical activities in which the person was involved in the officer's presence. Victim care will be turned over to Fire personnel upon their arrival. If an injured or sick person refuses medical treatment, the Fire Department is responsible for the evaluation of their condition. If the Fire Department determines the patient is incompetent and requires emergency treatment (the legal standard for forced medical care), officers may use reasonable force to enable the Fire Department to treat the patient. If the Fire Department determines the patient is competent and no crime has been committed, officers will not use any force to restrain the patient. * Officers may remain present to keep the peace. * Officers may only pat-down patients who are not under arrest when there is reasonable suspicion to believe the patient has committed or is committing a crime, and suspicion to believe the patient may be armed or dangerous. A Field Interview (FI) should be completed when officers restrain an incompetent patient; however, if the amount of force used requires a use of force report, a supervisor will be contacted as soon as possible. Appropriate documentation is required as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Name and assignment of Fire Department personnel who determined the patient's incompetence, such as Capt. Joe Smith, E44 "A shift" * Complete information on the patient * Description of restraint and amount of force used If the subject is a victim or a suspect in a crime, officers may request a specific hospital, such as County Hospital for a sexual assault victim. The Fire Department will decide which medical facility to take the sick/injured person.
E. Crime Scenes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Police Department is responsible for control of the entire situation. The Fire Department will be requested to respond for any victim, prisoner, or officer needing medical assistance. The crime scene will be protected from all potential sources of contamination or disturbance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Only those directly involved in medical treatment or necessary to the investigation will be allowed at the scene. * Fire personnel will be advised regarding potential evidence and will be instructed to avoid disturbing the scene more than absolutely necessary. * Items of evidence that may be of great importance will be removed by police officers, if possible. If a victim, suspect, or any evidence must be moved for medical reasons, the location of the person/item will be marked with yellow crayon. If a victim, suspect, or any evidence must be moved for medical reasons, the location of the person/item will be marked with yellow crayon.



5. **POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES** (Continued)

<p>F. Hostile Situations</p>	<p><u>Definitions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Casualty Collection Point (CCP)</u> – Staging location within close proximity of (or within) the warm zone, where the injured can be moved to be further triaged by Fire personnel prior to moving to the cold zone for additional medical assistance • <u>Force Protection Teams</u> – Assigned Police personnel responsible for protecting Fire personnel as they move into the warm zone to rescue injured victims <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Force protection teams should operate with a minimum of two Police personnel and identify a team leader from both Police and Fire. * Fire personnel will work within the warm zone to rapidly triage and transport victims to the CCP. • <u>Unified Command</u> – Incident Command System (ICS) COMMAND structure where incident leadership from both Police and Fire is coordinated face-to-face • <u>Zones of Coverage</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Hot zone - An area where officers believe there is still an active threat * Warm zone – An area of indirect threat, where law enforcement has either cleared or isolated the threat to a level of minimal or mitigated risk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will be secured and held by Police personnel * Cold zone – An area where rescue personnel wait for assignments (staging, unified command, etc.), which is safe from any potential contamination or threats <p>The Fire Department will be advised of the following information (prior to arrival when possible):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature of the situation explained in detail to the Police Communications operator • Exact location of the incident • Exact nature of the assistance required • Safest route to the scene • Advisability on use of warning devices (red lights, sirens, etc.) • The extent of danger to responding Fire personnel will be determined and classified as one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * <u>Unsafe</u> - Potential for risk to personnel who enter the area * <u>Safe</u> - Not hazardous to enter, to all practical extent <p>NOTE: The Fire Department Alarm Room will be notified of the classification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When practical, a Police unit will meet the Fire unit away from the hostilities to guide them to the scene and to brief the senior Fire official on the situation. • For extended situations, a Fire command officer should be requested to establish Unified Command with the Police ranking officer. • If it is not feasible to stage or otherwise use Fire personnel at a hostile situation, supervisors may request the Special Assignments Unit (SAU) provide EMT assistance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * SAU supervisors will request the personnel rescue vehicle (PRV) whenever SAU EMT personnel are requested. <p>If the Fire Department is at a scene that becomes hostile:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fire Department will conclude their duties as quickly as possible and depart at their discretion or at the direction of Police personnel. • If the continued presence of Fire personnel is aggravating the situation, they may be instructed by the ranking police officer on the scene to leave the area until order is restored. <p>NOTE: Only in aggravated situations should any personnel or equipment be ordered from the scene; doing so may aggravate the situation further.</p>
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5. **POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES** (Continued)

<p>G. Hazardous Materials</p>	<p>Includes spills, leaks, fires, vehicular accidents, and flammable, explosive, toxic, corrosive, poisonous, and radioactive substances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fire Department will assume primary responsibility for such incidents when a crime is not involved [Phoenix Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures Manual, No. M.P. 209.06]. • If a crime is involved, procedures from section 5.E of this order will prevail, unless the need to institute evacuation procedures is greater than the need to preserve the scene. • A Police supervisor will respond to the Fire Department command post to establish a liaison. • Pending arrival of the Fire Department, Police personnel should attempt to remove any persons in immediate danger to a safe location (generally uphill or upwind) but should avoid exposing themselves to the hazard. • Bomb Squad personnel are trained hazardous materials technicians and will respond on all suspicious substance/white powder calls or any other call involving hazardous materials when requested by a patrol supervisor or Fire personnel. • <u>Advisory</u> assistance may be obtained from the Laboratory Services Bureau (LSB) • If an evacuation process is instituted by the Fire Department, the Police Department will be responsible to provide the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * All responsibilities listed in sections 5.A and 5.D of this order * A ranking officer to the Incident Command Post and one to the Evacuation Sector/Evacuations Operations Post * A communications system for police resources * Traffic control and traffic routing * Perimeter and evacuation zone security * Specialized equipment * Transportation for consultant personnel requested by the Fire Department
<p>H. Mountain Rescue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fire Department is responsible for rescuing persons stranded in areas difficult to reach. • If a criminal act has occurred, every effort will be made to ensure the successful completion of both the rescue and the investigation; preservation of life is the overriding consideration. • The Police Department's responsibility is to provide crowd and/or traffic control, security, and air support; however, the pilot is the final authority in deciding if aircraft can be used safely.
<p>I. City Code Enforcement</p>	<p><u>Minor City Fire Code Violations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon receipt of a complaint or observation of a minor violation (such as a fire extinguisher in need of inspection or maximum occupancy plaque not posted), a memorandum outlining the violation will be submitted by the officer to the Fire Prevention Division of the Fire Department. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Fire Department will make all follow-up investigations and take any enforcement action. <p><u>Serious City Fire Code Violations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When a serious violation is observed (such as a locked door or severe overcrowding), the officer will request the Fire Department respond to the officer's location. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Fire personnel and the officer will consult before any action is taken. * A Case Report (CR) will only be completed upon request of the Fire Department. * An Arizona Traffic Ticket and Complaint (ATTC) will only be issued in an extremely hazardous situation at the request of the Fire Department. * Fire will be responsible for any additional follow-up investigations. <p><u>Fire Lane Parking Violations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fire Department has primary enforcement responsibilities for all fire lane parking violations, but police employees may issue a Notice of Violation (NOV) upon complaint when Fire Department inspectors are unavailable.



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PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT

Rev. 02/27/26

PAGE 6

6. FIRE DEPARTMENT LIAISON

- A. The Intelligence and Investigations Unit lieutenant in the Homeland Defense Bureau is the Police Department's liaison with the Fire Department.
- B. Questions or concerns about the Fire Department's operations should be forwarded in a memorandum to the Intelligence and Investigations Unit lieutenant.

Last Organizational Review:

02/27/26