

SECTION I: GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1.3 GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES DURING FIRE ALARMS

- 1.3.1 Response to the firehouse: While responding to the firehouse, all laws and rules of the State of New Jersey and the Township of Washington, or any other municipality through which a member may travel, shall be adhered to. The Fire District will assume no responsibility for driving negligence on the part of a member responding to the firehouse and will provide no monetary or legal assistance should such negligence result in a citation and/or accident. Any member who is cited for a traffic violation under these circumstances shall be suspended from any or all fire department activities. The duration of the suspension shall be determined by the Battalion Chief in accordance with Section VII of the Standard Operating Procedures.
- 1.3.2 Visible warning devices are allowed for use on privately owned vehicles through possession of the proper permit, as described below. No warning devices are authorized for use by firefighters on private vehicles other than those specified on the given permit.
- 1.3.2.1 The use of blue warning lights by firemen responding to alarms is permitted under N.J.A.C. 13:24-5.1 et seq. Authorized use of blue lights is dependent upon possession of the proper permit: members may use blue lights only if they have a permit.
- 1.3.3 Parking: When responding to an alarm, members should park at the firehouse in an orderly manner, allowing adequate space for others to park.
- 1.3.4 **REMOVED**
- 1.3.5 Securing the station: The driver of the last truck out is responsible for closing the bay doors. Under no circumstances shall bay door controls be activated before the apparatus is entirely clear of the bay.
- 1.3.6 Definition of an **"EMERGENCY"**: An **"EMERGENCY"** is a situation in which there is a high probability of death or serious injury to an individual, or significant property loss, and the action of the fire department may reduce the seriousness of the situation. Examples of this include, but are not limited to; any type of actual fire, motor vehicle accidents, rescue calls, alarm systems in buildings, hazardous materials spill, etc.

1.3.7 Definition of a **"NON-EMERGENCY"**: A **"NON-EMERGENCY"** is a situation requiring the services of the fire department in which there is no known threat of death or serious injury to an individual, and there is no known or perceived threat of property loss. Examples of a non-emergency include, but are not limited to; any previous emergency that has been **evaluated** and **determined** by a commanding officer from the Washington Township Fire Department that the criteria established in 1.3.6 is no longer applicable, any routine stand-by assignments, animal assistance when people and property are not at risk, cover assignments to other department fire stations, etc.