

SECTION II: FIREGROUND OPERATIONS AND FIRE RELATED DUTIES

2.20 RESPONSE TO FIRE PROTECTIVE SYSTEM ACTIVATIONS

- 2.20.1 All fire protective system activations shall be investigated as to causation. If credible information is received prior to arrival of fire department resources indicating that the activation is accidental in nature and does not require an emergency response, at least one fire department resource (i.e. chief officer, fire apparatus) shall continue to respond at a reduced rate of speed and shall confirm the nature of activation.
- 2.20.2 The first arriving fire department resource shall conduct an exterior size-up and shall establish command.
- 2.20.3 Personnel shall investigate the alarm activation and shall report their findings to the incident commander.
- 2.20.4 Additional responding apparatus shall stage in accordance with these SOP's.
- 2.20.5 The incident commander shall give due consideration for utilizing additional apparatus and personnel to investigate portions of structures not clearly visible from his/her location.
- 2.20.6 If the building is equipped with a fire sprinkler system and there is a fire department connection, one engine shall take a position adjacent to the FDC to support the sprinkler system.
- 2.20.7 The incident commander shall determine if the building has been evacuated and if confirmed, may order the audible alarms to be silenced. If the building has not been evacuated and depending on circumstances and the facility, the IC shall order such evacuation or other emergency precautions. Additionally, the incident commander shall determine if all occupants are accounted for from the building or facility representative.
- 2.20.8 Fire department personnel shall investigate the cause of the alarm activation. If the alarm was activated as a result of smoke, dust or other airborne particulate, the area shall be ventilated as necessary to remove the airborne particulate. If the alarm was activated by interruption of a projected beam, the obstruction shall be removed. Any accidental cause shall be remedied prior to restoration of the system.
- 2.20.9 If fire department personnel cannot determine the reason for the activation, the alarm system shall not be reset until such time as it can be determined what caused the alarm activation.
- 2.20.10 Fire department personnel should not reset any fire alarm or fire protective equipment, but may assist the building/facility owner/manager in doing so.

2.20.11 In the event that the fire protective equipment cannot be restored to an operative condition, or the reason for the alarm cannot be determined, the duty fire marshal shall be notified as follows:

- a). for sprinkler activations or range suppression system activations, utilize the communications center to request a response.
- b). in buildings used for Assembly, Education, or Institutional any system that is found to be inoperative and cannot be restored, utilize the communications center to request a response.
- c). in any building that has a required fire protective system (most facilities over 12,000 ft. sq.) utilize the communications center to request a response.
- d). in all other buildings that have a non required system that cannot be restored to an operative condition, the incident commander shall advise the building or facility representative to have the system restored to an operative condition and the incident commander shall notify the fire marshal's office. Notification to the fire marshal may be made by utilizing the interdepartmental electronic complaint forms.
- e). If the incident commander is unsure as to the facility requirements with respect to fire protective systems, the duty fire marshal shall be notified.

2.20.12 Fire department personnel shall not contract or authorize any fire alarm contractor, fire sprinkler contractor or any other contractor to restore, repair or test any fire protective system. This is the responsibility of the building or facility owner.

2.20.13 If any fire sprinkler system or range suppression system is activated, the fire department shall not interrupt or shut down any system until it has been determined that such action will not interfere with fire department operations and shall not jeopardize the safety of personnel. Before shutting down any system, the IC must give concurrence or give the express order to do so.

2.20.14 If it is required, the fire department shall support fire sprinkler systems via the fire department connection with a pressure of 150 psi.

2.20.15 If it is required, the fire department shall support standpipe systems with a pressure of 100 psi at grade level and an additional 10 psi per floor/story above grade.

2.20.16 Once it has been determined that the fire sprinkler system can be shut down, consideration shall be given to opening the drain valves to minimize further water damage.