

EXPOSIVES and BOMBS

PURPOSE

- To establish guidelines for the fire department for incidents involving bombs or explosives.

POLICY

- This policy shall be followed when the department receives a bomb threat for another location, explosives brought to the station, and for explosives encountered during routine operations.

BOMB THREATS

- The fire department will not respond on bomb threats when notified by the police department or by an anonymous caller unless a chief or fire officer gives permission..
- If an engine company is dispatched to standby, spot the apparatus well clear of the exact location.
- Make contact with the law enforcement officer in charge and coordinate with the same.
- Do not become involved in the police functions of search and evacuation unless there has already been an actual explosion.
- Do not become involved in bomb disposal operations.
- Coordinate with law enforcement personnel concerning the establishment of an operational perimeter. (Remember unauthorized persons shall not be allowed inside the operational perimeter).
- Standby and await instructions.
- If an explosion and/or fire occurs, be aware that secondary explosions will likely occur. Utilize any available protective cover during firefighting operations.
- In bomb threat situations, normally the decision to search for the bomb or to evacuate the building rests with the management of the occupancy and the law enforcement agency involved.
- Remember that the radio transmitter may initiate detonation of some types of explosive devices.
- During emergency operations and during overhaul, be alert for additional explosive devices (this could be anything that may seem out of place). If an object is suspected of being an explosive device, do not touch it or allow anyone else to touch it. Notify (not by radio) the Incident Commander immediately.

EXPLOSIVES BROUGHT TO THE FIRE STATION

- In the event that any person brings a suspected bomb, explosive device, or any amount of explosives into the Fire Station, Fire Department members shall be guided by the following:
 1. Secure the area around the device.
 2. Notify the 911 Center by telephone, not by radio.

3. Evacuate personnel and apparatus from the station.
4. Obtain identification and all pertinent information from the person(s) at the scene.
5. Do not use radios in the immediate area as they could possibly initiate Detonation of the device

EXPLOSIVES ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE ACTIVITIES

- Whenever explosives, suspected bombs or explosive devices are encountered during the course of routine operations, Fire Department personnel shall be guided by the following:
 1. Refrain from touching or moving the suspected device.
 2. Evacuate the immediate area and establish an operational perimeter.
 3. Allow no unauthorized personnel within the operational perimeter.
 4. Contact Fire Alarm (utilize radios only from a distance of at least two Hundred feet (200))
 5. If necessary evacuate the structure and set up defensive unmanned master streams