



Central Zone Operations

Alpine - Barona - Bonita - El Cajon - Lakeside - La Mesa
Lemon Grove - San Miguel - Santee - Sycuan - Viejas
Heartland Communications

D-5 UNIT STATUS

PURPOSE

To properly identify the current status of each single resource by utilizing a common process and terminology.

POLICY

It is the responsibility of each company officer, chief officer, paramedic, or other individual in charge of each single resource within the Central Zone system to keep the communications center constantly aware of their status. As soon as a unit can make themselves available for dispatch to a new incident, the status should be updated using the MDC, Tablet Command, or verbally when necessary.

DEFINITIONS

Status Changes

The process and terminology used to identify changes in status

Status changes typically communicated by MDC or Tablet Command (preferred):

- Enroute to assigned call
- At scene
- Transporting to the hospital
- Available
- In quarters

Status changes typically communicated verbally:

- Delayed
- Fourth responder
- Time specific (for training or other)
- In/Out of Service (verbally)
- Personnel
- When enroute to the hospital for personnel pick up
- Mechanical
- Training (provide approximate commitment time)
- Participating in live fire training
- When enroute to TOTF (Tom Owen Training Facility)



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- When enroute to IST (In-Service Training)
- Returning from TOTF
- Returning from IST

Training Status

Training Status for the purpose of this policy shall mean the resource is not available for immediate dispatch for up to 30 minutes.

The Zone Duty Chief (ZDC) or Zone Coordinator (ZC) may make units available for immediate dispatch during high incident activity.

Fires Only

A verbal notification to the communication center. The resource is not available for immediate dispatch unless the incident is fire related.

PROCEDURE

In order to assure accountability of Fire Department resources, the following guidelines will be followed:

GOING IN SERVICE - Any Fire Department resource that is GOING IN SERVICE after maintenance, replacing a front-line piece of equipment, or in addition to current resources will verbally confirm the following with the communications center:

- Correct unit identifier
- Correct radio alias

TRAINING STATUS –Fire Department resources will go into training status when scheduled for color group training at TOTF or other training that has been coordinated on a zone-wide basis. This can be accomplished by notifying Central Dispatch via Zone 1B talk group or by telephone. Information relayed to dispatch should include estimated length of training commitment. Units in “TRAINING STATUS” need to be able to become available for dispatches within 30 minutes.

Any department that wishes to designate any equipment as “Training Status” for reasons other than those previously scheduled as above should take into consideration District and Zone



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coverage. Duty Chiefs or neighboring jurisdictions should be contacted to coordinate and ensure coverage is available.

If for any reason the neighboring jurisdiction is unable to provide coverage, the agency will be responsible for providing coverage for their own training status equipment.

Agencies should avoid placing units into training status during the following conditions:

- Lack of coverage available to cover the appropriate area.
- High incident activity or large commitment of resources in the Zone.
- Conditions that would indicate increased call volume (Critical Weather, Large Events, etc.)

Company Officer shall notify Central Dispatch verbally when the unit is off training status and available for immediate dispatch.