



## **Roosevelt Fire District** Standard Operating Guidelines

**Section:**  
**Operations**

**Guideline #11:**  
**Fire Police**

**Purpose:** To minimize the risk of injury to all members engaged in fire police activity. To protect the accident scene and to provide safe and efficient traffic control as well as expedite the resumption of normal traffic flow.

**Scope:** This procedure is to be followed by all Roosevelt Fire Police personnel while engaged in traffic control activities.

**Safety:** As no two incidents are exactly alike, these procedures are to be used as a general guideline to operate safely. Road and weather conditions, vehicle traffic and time of day (day / night) will / may dictate the placement and use of traffic control equipment such as cones, detour signs and flares. The first consideration should be the safety and protection of the individual fire police members and secondly, the protection of the incident scene.

### **Procedure:**

Three types of accident scenarios will be covered in this guideline:

1. Accidents at intersections.
2. Side of roadway / off roadway accidents.
3. Accidents in the middle of roadways.

### **Accidents at Intersections:**

Upon arrival at the scene of an accident at an intersection, it will be necessary to divert the flow of traffic to the right or the left of the intersection rather than thru it. How to best accomplish this will be dictated by the position of the vehicles in the intersection. To ensure personnel and scene safety the first step will be to halt traffic in all directions. Secondly, traffic control devices such as cones, flares and detour signs should be placed in position after determining a proper course of flow around the scene. If the traffic flow would be a hazard to the incident scene, all traffic will be brought to a complete stop until a safe means of traffic control can be established. The first arriving fire police member should establish communication with the incident commander when arriving at the scene.

### **Side of the Roadway / Off Roadway Accidents:**

In most cases involving a disabled vehicle or an accident off the roadway surface, it will probably not be necessary to stop or divert traffic except to facilitate entry to the scene by emergency vehicles and personnel. It will be necessary, however, to establish a means of alerting oncoming traffic and slowing it down. It also may be necessary to halt traffic to allow emergency vehicles and personnel to exit the scene at the conclusion of the accident. In the case of a side of the roadway / off the roadway accident the priority should be to divert, halt or slow traffic and keep that side of the roadway clear.

### **Accidents in the middle of Roadways:**

In a middle of the roadway situation, the safest traffic control method available would be to stop all traffic from both directions prior to establishing a safe and orderly method of traffic flow. In some circumstances it may be necessary to follow the stop all traffic rule to allow access to the scene for approaching emergency vehicles.

If traffic is stopped, it will allow approaching emergency vehicles to proceed to the scene in the opposing lane of travel if necessary. In these situations, it is imperative that all fire police members are aware of this situation and acknowledge such by radio.

**General Response Rules:**

1. Never turn your back to oncoming traffic.
2. Use traffic control devices whenever possible.
3. Give motorists adequate warning
4. if only one lane is open give priority, to proceed, to the heaviest traffic load.
5. Be authoritative.
6. Be dignified.
7. Be courteous.

Board Approval:

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