

Operating Guideline # 518

Closing Roads at Scenes

October 9, 2019



**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this Operating Guideline (OG) is to establish guidelines to protect the public and department personnel from civilian traffic at emergency scenes.

**GUIDELINE:**

1. During the initial set-up phase of any emergency scene there is an increased potential for fire personnel or bystanders to be injured by uncontrolled vehicle traffic through the scene.
2. To prevent this potential, upon arrival at any emergency scene apparatus shall be positioned to block traffic movement through the scene. If during size-up of the emergency the Incident Commander determines that opening a lane(s) will not negatively impact the safety of personnel or the public, apparatus may be repositioned.
3. It is important to consider that the minor inconvenience to the travelling public is outweighed by the risks of injury to fire personnel.

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

It is the responsibility of all Emergency Operations Division staff to comply with the provisions of this Operating Guideline.