

Operating Guideline # 803

Staging Personnel

December 9, 2019



PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Operating Guideline (OG) is to establish guidelines for the staging of personnel and apparatus that are not committed to operational functions upon arrival at an incident scene.

ISSUE/RATIONALE:

Staging unassigned personnel in a common area serves to prevent freelancing at the incident site, supports accountability and allows the Incident Commander to have a better understanding of any tactical resources that are available and on-scene. Staging uncommitted apparatus in a common area prevents congestion at the emergency scene and allows for safer movement of vehicles at the incident site.

GUIDELINE:

1. Individuals or crews shall be restricted from wandering about the fire ground or congregating in non-functional groups. If firefighters have not been assigned to a Sector or Company Officer and do not have a necessary function to perform, they shall stage at the rear of the first-in pump or other staging area as designated by the Incident Commander (IC). Where possible, the IC should consider the appointment of a staging sector officer to supervise personnel in staging and to assign individuals to work crews as directed by the IC.
2. Similarly, apparatus that is not immediately required to operate at the incident should be parked/staged at a location that prevents congestion at the incident site while remaining available for assignment as the need arises.
3. A good rule of thumb is to radio your arrival and then wait for staging directions from IC upon arrival.

RESPONSIBILITY:

It is the responsibility of all members to comply with the provisions of this OG and particularly that Company Officers (supervisors) and firefighters (workers) ensure that they adhere to their duties in accordance with the provisions of this document and the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

REFERENCES:

- Occupational Health and Safety Act (RSO 1990, c. 0.1)
- MLFD OG 509 - Apparatus Positioning
- MLFD OG 802 - Apparatus Placement