



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS

Operations Manual

Approved by: *M. Moyer*
Mike Moyer, Interim Chief

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PURPOSE

This document provides guidance for combination Emergency Vehicle response (“tandem response”), responding from one station. Tandem response assures timely arrival of sufficient personnel and equipment to the scene. Staffing may not be optimal on either apparatus, but together can be safe and efficient once on scene. IamResponding will be utilized to determine volunteer/off-duty response for resource management.

Tandem response can include an Engine plus an Ambulance, an Engine plus a Tender, an Engine plus a Rescue, a Rescue plus an Ambulance or an Ambulance plus an Ambulance.

Jackson Hole Fire/EMS tandem response utilizes cross-trained personnel to provide resource depth for All-Hazards. If an apparatus has not been paged by Dispatch, Duty Officer shall be notified and specific apparatus requested.

Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Officers will utilize this guideline to help determine a sufficient level of *immediate* response while maintaining flexibility for assignments by diversion or by requesting first response apparatus from other stations.

SECTION I – APPARATUS TYPE and RESPONSIBILITIES

1. A tandem response Engine with an Ambulance will increase the number of personnel on the scene to assist in patient assessment, treatment and transport.
2. A tandem response Ambulance with an Engine will operate on fire alarms within an engine’s first due zone to maintain ambulance availability.
3. A tandem response Engine with a Tender will provide for a total of 3,750 gallons of water in a rural water supply scenario. Having this amount of water within the first few minutes can greatly improve chances of early fire control.
4. A tandem response Engine with a Rescue could be a benefit to a vehicle collision that has the risk of fire and the need for a blocking vehicle for traffic incident management.
5. A tandem Rescue with an Ambulance for a vehicle collision could help with extrication, vehicle stabilization and fill the need for a blocking vehicle for traffic incident management.

6. A Tandem Ambulance with an Ambulance for response where the call could have multiple patients or where the next call is anticipated to be a medical call and staffing of an ALS ambulance is not available.
7. Whenever an incident is judged controlled, company officers should call a tandem response unit “available on scene” as soon as possible.

SECTION II – SPECIFIC INCIDENT RESTRICTIONS FOR ENGINE WITH AN AMBULANCE TANDEM RESPONSE

1. Staffing level must be at 4 personnel in station for an Engine to tandem response on a medical call.
2. The incident must occur within the following geographical boundaries.
 - a. Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Station #1 will operate within the response zones 1-A and 1-B.
 - b. Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Station #6 will operate within the response zones 6-A, including Wilson proper (Fish Creek and Fall Creek not included).
 - c. Geographical boundaries may change. Changes will necessitate review and update to this guideline.
 - d. Geographical boundaries may be deviated with a request to the Duty Officer.
 - e. Tandem response is not indicated for staffed medical clinics.
3. Excluding personnel safety, patient care, and incident stabilization, a tandem response priority is readiness. Unless patient acuity or scene complexity otherwise dictates, a tandem response engine must stay staffed for immediate reassignment to incoming calls-for-service.
4. When incidents require shifting tandem response engine personnel to another apparatus, the tandem response engine’s company officer will notify dispatch that engine is unavailable/unstaffed.
5. A tandem response engine can divert from any assigned call to first respond to another incident if Officer or designee determines diverting will benefit total response capability because of rapidity of response for fire suppression, rescue, or emergency medical services. Diverting a tandem response engine to a medical call must weigh out the benefits of responding back to the station for response in an ambulance (i.e. multiple ambulance calls without a staffed ambulance available, driving past the station to get to the scene, etc.).
6. A tandem response ambulance can divert from any assigned call to first respond to another incident if officer or designee determines diverting will benefit total response capability because of rapidity of response for fire suppression, rescue, or emergency medical services.