

Staffing Response to Major Incidents

The St. Clair County Fire Chiefs Association recognizes that fires, hazardous material spills/leaks, natural or man-created disasters or other types of incidents that may occur in St. Clair County, Illinois are personnel/labor intensive in their control, suppression and/or mitigation. For this expressed purpose, the following operational protocols and guidelines have been developed for the benefit of furnishing and accepting additional staffing response to major incidents to the fire service that have jurisdictional boundaries in St. Clair County, Illinois.

At any incident where the host department requests a **Staffing Response**, the host department shall utilize the St. Clair County Fire Chiefs Association Incident Command System protocols and procedures.

During the event that a participating Fire Department desires to activate the **Staffing Response** for certain types of fires, hazardous materials, natural or man made disasters, within their jurisdictional boundaries, the Incident Commander shall make said request by notifying St. Clair County Central Communications(CENCOM).

The Incident Commander shall identify the type of incident, the designated personnel staging area and/or other special instructions to CENCOM. CENCOM shall then start the call out procedures.

Two firefighters from each participating Fire Department/District will respond to a **personnel staging area** for assignment to the incident scene. Assignments to the Incident Scene will be on an as needed basis, as directed by the Incident Commander.

The Fire Department requesting the **Staffing Response** shall designate a staging area location that shall be of sufficient size to accommodate all personnel responding. Additionally, the **Staffing Response** staging area shall be secure from elements and shall afford for the necessary amenities to the responding personnel. The staging area shall also serve as the rehabilitation area.

Each responding firefighter shall report to the Staging Officer, and shall be equipped with his/her own personal protective clothing, which shall consist of NFPA approved helmet, bunker coat, bunker pants, gloves and boots. Additionally, each responding firefighter shall be equipped with one approved 30- minute or greater, positive pressure, self-contained breathing apparatus (S.C.B.A.) and one spare air cylinder. Should other personal equipment be requested by the Incident Commander, it shall be so designated, in the call out procedure.

Personnel being relieved at the Incident Scene shall return to the **Staffing Response** staging area for a rest and rehab period of not less than 45 minutes. After such time has elapsed, they shall be placed back into the **Staffing Response**.

It is **strongly** recommended that the **Staffing Response** staging area have medical personnel present, if available. Shall the incident involve hazardous materials, medical personnel shall be present.