

GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guideline

GUIDELINE: CIVIL DISTURBANCE			SECTION: 205
WRITTEN 08/13/1990	REVIEWED	REVISED 08/25/2021	Page 78

APPLICATION

1. This procedure shall be utilized to coordinate and control firefighting operations in the event of mass demonstration or civil disorders.
2. This procedure is not intended to limit any supervisor or individual in the exercise of judgment or initiative, which might become necessary in an extraordinary situation.

PROCEDURE

1. The first company officer to arrive at the scene of this type of emergency is expected to use his/her best judgment in appraising the situation and in calling for appropriate action.
2. Upon notification or receipt of information concerning any active riot situation, the following shall be notified by telephone.
 - a. The Fire Chief
 - b. All Stations

Note: DO NOT use the radio to make notifications. At the direction of the Fire Chief or the Shift Officer, emergency call back of one complete shift shall be initiated.

3. Shift Officers shall be responsible for stripping fire equipment. All sharp instruments, tools, and appliances that can be used against personnel or apparatus shall be placed inside compartments or removed. All suppression personnel shall wear face shields, helmets, and full protective clothing.
4. No equipment shall respond into a **known** riot disturbance area unless pre-checked by police or fire department Incident Commander.
5. Response shall be made without the use of sirens or emergency lights. All traffic regulations shall be observed. Only headlights shall be used at night.
6. When advance information is not available and GFD responds into any area on regular alarm and a civil disorder exists or is developing, the shift officer shall maintain a minimum crew at the scene and order all other responding units to stage outside of the area.
7. Aerial equipment shall not respond on the first alarm into any known disturbance area until the need has been determined by the Fire Chief or Incident Commander. Such a determination shall be based upon the situation and the risk involved with equipment and personnel.
8. The responsibilities of the Glasgow Police Department shall be to protect suppression personnel and their equipment.
9. Radio communication shall be kept to a minimum. The Fire Chief or Incident Commander shall utilize the mobile radio to notify fire personnel and other agencies of any situation changes.

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10. Stations not on response shall remain in their respective areas until directed otherwise. The Fire Chief or Incident Commander shall utilize the mobile radio to notify fire personnel and other agencies of any situation changes.
11. All suppression personnel returning to duty on call back shall report to the recalled shift officer and shall be assigned by the recalled shift officer or his/her designee to a specific vehicle or function.
12. Equipment dispersal is very important. After each alarm, units shall be returned to their respective stations as rapidly as the situation will allow.
13. A shift officer shall be assigned to assist in the receiving, screening, and prioritizing of alarm situations.
14. One officer shall be assigned as liaison with the Glasgow Police Department. An officer shall function as a field observer for supplying information to aid in coordinating equipment.
15. Mutual aid shall be utilized on an as-needed basis. One engine company shall be maintained at Station #1 at all times, if possible.

GENERAL

1. The primary function of the fire department in a civil disturbance situation is on-site fire control (NOT RIOT CONTROL).
2. The protection of personnel and equipment is vitally important.
3. Minimal overhauling and fire investigation shall be performed until such time as it is safe to proceed.
4. Fire Department personnel shall NOT spray people or use fire equipment (hose lines) to effect the disbursement of crowds.
5. Personnel shall exercise self-control and professionalism in dealing with verbal abuse.
6. Personnel shall stay with their respective companies.
7. The Fire Chief shall be promptly notified when the whereabouts of personnel are unknown.
8. Clear, concise, and accurate communications shall be utilized, especially since situations and conditions may rapidly deteriorate.
9. Cooperation shall be maintained with all other agencies involved.