



PS-8

PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY

In effect:

Authorized by:

PS-8 Traffic Safety

I. Purpose

To provide a consistent set of guidelines for members of the department to operate by when assisting the public in public roadways.

II. Background

Firefighter injury or death is an immediate and present danger whenever firefighters have to work emergencies in traffic. One thing we have to remember as responders is that we didn't cause this emergency and we sure don't need to become a part of it. Firefighter safety is our primary concern as we attempt to intervene positively in another person's emergency.

III. Policy

It is the policy of the Sam Bass Fire Department that FIREFIGHTER SAFETY shall be the primary focus of any department member working on an emergency scene that involves motor vehicle traffic.

III. Procedure

- A. Upon arrival at a traffic emergency, the responding vehicle shall be positioned in such a way that it blocks oncoming traffic from the scene. The vehicle shall be parked up stream from the incident at least 50 feet away if the emergency is of a medical nature only. Keep in mind that we will work in cooperation with the Williamson County Sheriff's Officers that may be on the scene to achieve the optimum positioning.
- B. If fire is involved or may become involved in the incident, the vehicle shall be parked at least 75-100 feet away on the upstream side of the incident. In addition, a pre-connected handline shall be pulled and made available for use at a moments notice.



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- C. All personnel working on the scene of an emergency involving traffic shall wear reflective clothing at all times during the management of the incident that occurs in the dusk to dawn hours. Full bunker clothing must be worn at a minimum. Reflective vests shall be worn in cases where bunker clothing is not appropriate. At no time shall responding members operate on the scene of a traffic emergency without reflective clothing
- D. Anytime SBF D members respond to an emergency that requires them work in traffic for any amount of time, the Williamson County Sheriff's Office should be requested through COUNTY dispatch. Many times, the Sheriff's office will already be in route but their presence must be ensured for maximum responder safety.
- E. At a structure fire, when traffic in the area threatens fire hose laid to fight a working structure fire, contact the Williamson County Sheriff's Office through the COUNTY dispatch to provide assistance in closing down the street until the fire is extinguished.
- F. Any time an incident of any kind poses a threat to motorists on any roadway or any time it appears that the incident cannot be mitigated safely with ongoing traffic, contact the Williamson County Sheriff's Office through the COUNTY dispatch to provide assistance in closing down the roadway until conditions improve enough to allow traffic to resume.
- G. If conditions and time permit, traffic cones shall be placed as far up-stream from the apparatus as is practical to provide motorists early warning of the traffic blockage ahead.