

**CITY OF OCONOMOWOC POLICE DEPARTMENT  
POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

DATE: February 3, 2021

HISTORY: August 19, 2019  
October 15, 1999

SUBJECT: Fire/EMS Calls

POLICY NUMBER: 99-029

**I. PURPOSE**

This policy establishes department response to fire and emergency medical service (EMS) calls. These calls require a variety of potential responses and actions from this department. The department is committed to establishing and maintaining a positive working relationship with all fire departments in this jurisdiction.

**II. POLICY**

- A.** It is the policy of this department to respond to fire/EMS calls, under the following circumstances:
1. When requested
  2. When it is determined that police assistance is needed for traffic or crowd control
  3. When the nature of the call involves a crime or is suspicious
  4. When police intervention is needed to provide life saving assistance

**III. GUIDELINES**

- A.** Calls for fire and EMS services are initially screened by the police department communications personnel who must obtain sufficient information to correctly assess the appropriate response of both fire and police departments and dispatch the correct personnel.
- B.** Police officers sent to fire scenes have an initial responsibility to protect human life. After the arrival of fire department personnel the police presence may continue in a supportive position; traffic/crowd control and general assistance to the fire department.
- C.** Fire department personnel will advise the police department if arson is suspected and make any necessary notifications to the state fire marshal. At that time the police department will secure the scene and initiate the appropriate investigation. The field officer will advise the duty supervisor who will notify the appropriate investigatory personnel.
- D.** Police personnel may also be dispatched to EMS calls. On arrival at an EMS call officers will render any assistance, consistent with their training, to persons requiring emergency medical services until the arrival of ems personnel. At that time officers will assist the EMS personnel if requested to do so.
1. EMS calls will have an officer assigned in the following instances:
    - a. An unknown problem
    - b. Heart attack/chest pain
    - c. Criminal activity
    - d. Severe bleeding
    - e. Request of EMS personnel

2. General requests for ambulance, such as broken bones, cuts and illnesses, no officer will be dispatched.
  3. Ambulance requests at doctor offices, clinics and Shorehaven will not have a squad dispatched unless:
    - a. The ambulance crew makes the request; or
    - b. There is violence or a crime involved
  4. Special circumstances such as unknown reason for the ambulance would require one squad.
  5. Heart attacks and severe bleeding may require two officers.
  6. Ambulance request for transport will not require a squad to respond.
- E. At no time will a squad provide an escort for the ambulance.
- F. Officers will not routinely block intersections and perform traffic control for non-critical ambulances transports.
1. Officers may, at the request of the ambulance, block intersection in life-threatening situations.

**IV. EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY MAY BE UNATHORIZED ONLY BY THE CHIEF OF POLICE**

This policy is effective immediately  
and will supersede any directives or understandings in conflict