

Union County Standard Operating Guidelines
Fireground Operations

Fireground Operations, SOG 3.21

FIREFIGHTER IN TROUBLE

1. Intent and Purpose

This is a general guideline for UCFD personnel should they find themselves in a situation that has potential to cause bodily harm to themselves or others at the scene of an emergency. This section should augment section 3.20 of the UCFD SOG's in clarifying fire department operations in more than just structural fire operations. This could include EMS calls, MVA's or any situation in which public safety crews may need rapid assistance and have little time to relay a lengthy message.

2. Procedure

Firefighter In Trouble indicates the immediate need to dispatch Law Enforcement to the scene (i.e. scene is no longer safe for emergency crews). The appropriate Law Enforcement will be dispatched to the designated location. The nearest Engine and Medic companies and a Chief Officer will also be dispatched. The arriving Engine, Medic, and Chief should stage a safe distance away from the location.

- i. In the event Fire or EMS personnel feel threatened, the entire crew should make every attempt to BACK OUT of the immediate area to a safe location.
- ii. In the event of a Back Out or the need for a call of *Firefighter In Trouble*, immediate follow-up information will be relayed to the dispatch center of the progressing situation (once the crew can safely do so).

3. Dispatch

Upon receipt of a *Firefighter In Trouble*:

- i. Dispatch appropriate Law Enforcement to the scene on EMERGENCY status.
- ii. Dispatch the nearest Engine and Medic companies to the scene on EMERGENCY status.
- iii. Dispatch the affected Chief Officer(s).