

Hiawatha Fire & Rescue

Policy 403
Occupational Health and safety
Responding to High Risk (Crime Scene) Incidents
5/25/2001

It shall be the policy of Hiawatha Fire and Rescue that no member of the Department shall respond to any High Risk Incident in a manner that is not spelled out in Department Standard Operating Procedure.

1. High Risk Incidents shall include but are not limited to the following, suicide (10-109), domestic disputes (10-16), overdoses, and any other crime scene or any scene that requires response to a place where alcohol is served.
2. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all members of the Department are not placed in unnecessary danger. This policy shall establish guidelines that in all instances are to be followed by all Hiawatha Fire and Rescue members.

Guidelines:

NOTE: All High Risk Incidents generally are crime scenes, the ultimate command of the incident rests with the highest ranking law enforcement official on scene.

1. No member of Hiawatha Fire & Rescue shall ever respond in their personal vehicle to any High Risk Incident.
2. Upon going enroute and check with dispatch as to the safety of the scene for emergency responders.
3. Upon reaching the scene, all emergency lights and all sirens should be turned off. All efforts shall be made to shut emergency response to the minimum while enroute.
4. Until dispatch arrives on scene, all efforts should be made to stage all apparatus out of the line of sight of the scene.
5. When notified by dispatch that the scene is secure, only the minimum amount of personnel required to care for the patient shall enter the scene shall enter the structure. If responders are not needed, they shall wait in the apparatus.
6. All care shall be take to preserve all evidence. Those entering the structure shall be very aware of their surroundings.
7. All members responding to a High Risk Incident shall document all aspects of the call. Each member is responsible for submitting a written brief of the incident.

Special Consideration shall be made for calls involving diabetics. Using the best judgement possible, the incident commander of a call involving diabetics may require the assistance law enforcement and shall notify dispatch if such assistance is needed.