

# Hiawatha Fire & Rescue

Policy 606  
Emergency Operations  
Automatic Fire Alarms  
5/25/2001

## Purpose

This policy shall serve as a guideline for the response to Automatic Alarms.

## Definitions-

1. Automatic Alarm- an alarm that is transmitted by way of an alarm company to the dispatch center.
2. Water Flow Alarm – the Alarm Company has notified dispatch that a sprinkler head has activated and is flowing water.
3. Pull Station Alarm – an alarm activated by a person pulling a handle on an alarm box.
4. Smoke Alarms going off – Dispatch will at times page Hiawatha Fire and Rescue for smoke alarms going off. As there is no way to know if there is a fire or an alarm malfunction, a normal structure fire response is warranted.
5. Responding Emergency – driving to a scene with emergency lights and siren on. Responding as swiftly to the scene with due regard to the safety of all persons.
6. Responding with Traffic – driving to a scene at the same pace as the rest of the traffic. Responding without lights and siren activated. Normal driving.

## Response –

1. The apparatus response to any of the above mentioned alarms shall be a full structure fire response.
2. When an Automatic Alarm is rang the first responding apparatus is to respond emergency. All subsequent apparatus that are placed enroute are to respond with traffic unless told to upgrade to emergency by the incident commander.
3. When an alarm of a Water Flow, Pull Station, or Smoke alarms is rang, the response by all fire department apparatus shall be Emergency.