

San Mateo County Fire Service POLICIES AND STANDARDS MANUAL

Title: Out of Service Guidelines

Policy No. 2000-01

Adopted 01/04/00

Revised xx/xx/xx

- Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for fire companies to go out of service for approved activities.
- Policy:** It is the policy of the San Mateo County Fire Chiefs that all companies adhere to the guidelines provided by this policy in order to maintain adequate in-service companies to meet emergency response criteria for all San Mateo County fire agencies.
- Background:** With the implementation of the first-responder paramedic delivery program in December 1998, fire agencies and all fire officers must be vigilant to prevent apparatus from being out of service unnecessarily or for extended periods of time.

Procedures:

1. Company officers and duty chiefs should take into consideration the impact on neighboring jurisdictions when taking their unit(s) OUT OF SERVICE.
2. Any company not able to respond in 90 seconds may be considered to be OUT OF SERVICE with prior approval from their B/C.
3. Fueling and changing of light bulbs or other small repairs are not grounds for going OUT OF SERVICE.
4. When multiple companies are training, if possible only one engine or truck should be placed OUT OF SERVICE, leaving the others involved to remain available for calls. Try to use reserve apparatus.
5. It is the responsibility of the Duty Chief to determine which companies need to be OUT OF SERVICE.
6. Companies wishing to go OUT OF SERVICE should contact their Duty Chief for approval.
7. All Duty Chiefs should monitor major incidents or multiple alarms occurring within the county. This information should be used to determine if their own companies should go out of service.