CARVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guidelines

Section 4.01 – General Response Guidelines **June 15, 2013**

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to establish general guidelines for response to emergency calls.

1.1 SCOPE

Applies to all Carver Firefighters who respond to emergency calls.

1.2 GENERAL GUIDELINES

01. The Fire Chief, or senior officer present, shall have complete charge of the Fire Department at the scene of any fire, other emergency situation, or drill. In the absence of an officer, the Firefighter riding the right front seat of the first arriving apparatus shall assume command and be considered a senior officer until such time as he/she is relieved by an officer or relinquishes that command to a more experienced Firefighter. At all incidents, the Plymouth County Incident Command System (**See SOG 8.02)** will be used.

02. The Fire Chief, or senior officer present, shall be empowered to relieve from active status any Firefighter for disobedience, insubordination, violation of any rules, policies, or organizational guidelines of the department, or if the Firefighter is deemed incapable of performing the required duties.

03. The Fire Chief, or senior officer present, shall have charge of all the department facilities, apparatus, and equipment. No Firefighter shall remove any apparatus or equipment from the facilities, nor use the facilities for any outside activity without the permission of an Officer of the Fire Department.

1.3 FIRE, EMERGENCY, AND DRILL ATTENDANCE

01. Each Firefighter should strive to attend a minimum 75 percent of the regular department drills.

02. Each Company member, when available, is expected to respond to all emergencies to which said Firefighters Company is dispatched.

03. Firefighters shall only respond to a fire, or other emergency situation when the Company to which they are assigned is called, or when they are so directed by the Fire Chief or senior officer present. Exceptions to this rule include the following situations;

A. when a Firefighter is in the immediate vicinity of the emergency.

B. when the Firefighter is at or in the immediate vicinity of a responding Station and an adequate number of personnel are not present to properly man the responding apparatus.

C. when a Firefighter works in Town during the time period from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday, he / she may respond to the nearest Station during that time period.

In all of the above situations, members are expected to exercise common sense and good judgment in determining whether their response to another Station is in the best interests of the Department.

04. No Firefighter shall respond to incidents outside of the Town of Carver unless properly dispatched, requested by the department involved, or directed to do so by the Fire Chief or senior officer present.

05. No Firefighter should respond to any incident, if because of illness or other situation, he / she would pose a safety risk to himself / herself or others.

06. It is the responsibility of each member of a Company to notify the Captain or Lieutenant if he/she will be unable to respond to emergencies or participate in training for an extended period of time.

07. It is the responsibility of each member to report any long term illness or condition which does or may eventually compromise his / her ability to perform as a Firefighter.

08. Any injury incurred while serving the Carver Fire Dept. shall be noted on the Company Time Sheet and an accident report should be completed.