

# ABINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### OG - 400-115

# **CIVIL UNREST – FIRE RESPONSE**

## **1.0 PURPOSE**

Civil unrest is a broad term that is typically used by law enforcement to describe one or more forms of disturbance caused by a group of people. This can be through the form of protest, riots, arson, etc...

# 2.0 RESPONSIBILITY

The responsibility to ensure that the above actions are taken in an appropriate manner are

defined as indicated below:

- 2.1 Abington Township Police Department
- 2.2 Fire Chief and/or Officer in Charge
- **2.3** Abington Township Emergency Management

An Unsafe scene is when law enforcement is needed or when law enforcement is operating on the scene trying to restore order.

### **3.0 PROCEDURE**

- 3.1. Responding Officer will verify through Montgomery County that the scene is secure by police.
- 3.2. Responding units will maintain situational awareness while enroute for potential threats.
- 3.3. Stage a safe distance and be prepared to retreat to a further distance.

3.3.1 All warning lights will be off once on location with the exception of hazardous traffic patterns.

- 3.3.2 Response will be held to those units required to mitigate the incident.
- 3.4. Law enforcement is in charge and all operations will be conducted through a unified command system.
- 3.5. Safety is our primary concern and fire suppression is secondary.
- 3.6. At no time will anyone be allowed past the staging area unless coordinated through the PD.
- 3.7. Once the scene is determined to be safe, ATFD will conduct normal operations with the PD remaining on scene.

3.8. All personnel will operate as a crew of 2 at a minimum.

3.9. Extra caution should be used even after the scene was reported safe.

3.10. No Fire personnel will engage anyone being disobedient.

3.11. Driver/Operators will remain with apparatus at all times. Do Not leave tools and/or equipment laying in open/uncontrolled areas.

### 4.0 RECORDS

4.1 Master Document Listing