Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - *Wake County EMS* « **External Flash and Ho...** » **Bird Strike Grounds D...**
System Alarm Levels

Wake County EMS System Alarm Levels

11/09/09 284 W - **+** 12 - 7

On September 15, the Wake County EMS System implemented an EMS alarm system. For those listening closely, this is reason you've heard so many EMS units dispatched to certain calls, such as structure fires at nursing homes.

- Box Alarm: 2 EMS units, 1 District Chief
- First Alarm: 3 EMS units, 2 District Chiefs, 1 APP, Truck 1
- Second Alarm: 6 EMS units, 3 District Chiefs, 2 APPs, MD1 (Medical Director)
- Each additional alarm adds 3 EMS units, 1 APP, 1 District Chief.

What are the dispatch criteria for these alarm levels? They are listed below. The box alarm is a familiar one, but the first alarm dispatch criteria are notably new for high-rise and high-risk structure fires. Note that CAD only initially recommends EMS alarm levels up to a second alarm. Anything above that is requested by the EMS District Chief or Medical Branch Director.

Also, note the absence of RDU alert levels. The airport fire department is changing/has changed to requesting EMS resources using alarm levels, based on the resources they determine are needed for the type of incident.

Box Alarm

- Cardiac arrest
- Shooting
- Stabbing
- MVC pinned
- First Alarm
- MVC bus
- MVC train
- Technical rescue
- Haz-mat
- MPI Level 1 event (3-5 patients)
- High-rise structure fire
- High-risk structure fire, such as nursing home.

Second Alarm

- MPI Level 2 event (6-10 patients)
- High-rise working fire.

Third Alarm

- MPI Level 3 event; (11-20 patients).

Fourth Alarm

- MPI Level 4 event (21-40 patients).

What are MPI event levels?

- MPI Level 1 – More than two (2) and up to five (5) patients total.
- MPI Level 2 – From six (6) to ten (10) patients total.
- MPI Level 3 – From eleven (11) to twenty (20) patients total.
- MPI Level 4 – From twenty-one (21) to forty (40) patients total.
- MPI Level 5 – More than forty (40) patients total.

Hey… don't forget Hazmat incidents in the EMS "box"
A.C. Rich - 11/12/09 - 21:09

Name: (real name
preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment: / Textile

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

(Register your username / Log in)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except <b> and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.