Bath Township Fire Department			Standard Operating Guideline	
Section Safety	**Referral No.** S-O9	**Subject:** Firefighter Needs Assistance	**Date Issued** 1/03	**Date Revised** 3/08

Purpose:

- To provide guidelines for the signaling of law enforcement when firefighter or EMS personnel are faced with a potentially violent situation and need law enforcement assistance.

Scope:

- This standard operating guideline shall apply to all personnel.

Responsibilities:

- Officer
  - Ensure that all personnel evacuate the immediate area and retreat to an area of greater safety if possible.
- Personnel
  - All personnel have the responsibility of following all warning signals and evacuating quickly when told to do so.
  - All personnel evacuating will do so in a safe manner.

Guidelines:

- The signal for requesting law enforcement will be a radio call to the dispatcher that "Firefighter Needs Assistance".
  - This call will be a priority call for Allen County Sheriff's Office
- After the dispatcher gets the radio call of "Firefighter Needs Assistance", the dispatcher will immediately request an officer respond to the address of the emergency call emergent.
  - The dispatcher will tell the officer that this is a "Firefighter Needs Assistance" call.
- Using the radio call "Firefighter Needs Assistance", and nothing more, will eliminate extraneous radio traffic and not alert the potentially violent person/s to law enforcement's arrival.
- If possible, fire department personnel will leave the immediate area and retreat to an area of greater safety.
  - All personnel will retreat as a group if possible.
- All other personnel responding will stage at an area away from the immediate area when hearing the call for "Firefighter Needs Assistance"
- If there is any concern for potential violence, retreat from the area and make the radio call for "Firefighter Needs Assistance".
  - After arrival of law enforcement and ensuring the safety of the scene, fire department personnel may reenter the scene and provide assistance needed

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