

<b>RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY FIRE and RESCUE ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>NUMBER: 1002</b>
<b>STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE</b>	<b>PAGE 1 of 1</b>
<b>SUBJECT: Staging for Law Enforcement Emergencies</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:02/20/09</b>
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**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this guideline is to establish a Staging policy for emergency events that may require law enforcement action prior to the arrival of fire and rescue units.

**BACKGROUND:** To increase responder safety and to prevent possible crime scene contamination from emergency responders.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Assault: Emergencies where someone has been injured or becomes ill do to a possible violent act.

Staging: A location remote from the emergency scene, but in close proximity.

**POLICY:**

1. All fire and rescue units responding to emergencies that possibly involve assaults, overdoses, suicides, weapons, or potential crime scenes will stage until a law enforcement officer is on the scene and clears units to respond into the scene.
2. Units will stage a safe distance from the scene. The units should not be visible from the emergency scene, and may stage in station if the emergency is close by.
3. When the dispatcher informs units to **STAGE** you will advise them of your staging location and what units are at that location.
4. While in staging units will prepare for additional resources as necessary. (Medavac, additional units, equipment preparation etc.)
5. Keep all personnel with the unit while in staging.
6. Be prepared to evacuate from your staging location if approached by the assailant, other harmful circumstances, or if ordered by dispatch..