

Fire Departments and Other Agencies: Incident Report Considerations



Incident Type Code

Always choose the incident type code that most accurately describes the situation. If the fire department is assisting police or EMS for an atypical situation, you can try one of the codes below:

551 – Assist police or other government agency. (Includes forcible entry and the provision of lighting.) *Use for certain severe weather calls, such as when dispatched by an emergency manager.*

552 – Police matter. (Includes incidents where FD is called to a scene that should be handled by the police.)

661 – EMS call where injured party has been transported by a non-fire service agency or left the scene prior to FD arrival.

Mutual Aid

Mutual aid in an NFIRS report should only be documented when the assistance is provided by a fire department with an FDID. Police and EMS aid are not permitted to be recorded under current guidelines.



Contact

State NFIRS Program Manager: (803) 896-1250

Narratives

An incident report should always contain a narrative to describe the events on scene. The narrative should include all actions taken by personnel associated with the fire department and could include general activities conducted by other agencies (example: “The police officer on scene spoke with the driver while fire personnel began extrication of the passenger.”)

It is neither required nor prohibited to remark any findings from other agencies, such as medical conditions found or arrests made. However, it is encouraged to report anything which can be backed by observation or other evidence, so others who utilize the incident report can benefit from the data collected.