

SUBJECT: FIRE WATCH DETAIL**SECTION:** 301.23**REVISED:** FEBRUARY 12, 2008**PAGE(S):** 1

PURPOSE

- A. To provide a means of releasing fire companies from the scene of a fire which is under control but may still require observation and additional attention to prevent rekindle.
- B. To provide means of protecting the scene of a fire investigation.

POLICY

- A. The incident commander may, at his discretion, require the posting of a fire watch for the purposes of preventing rekindle and/or protecting the scene of an investigation.
- B. Whenever a fire watch is posted, those members who may be assigned to the detail should be properly equipped so that they will be able to obtain help immediately and take necessary actions to prevent an extensive rekindle.
- C. Whenever possible, those members assigned to fire watch detail should be rotated in such a manner which will insure that those actually on watch will have received sufficient rest so as to be fully alert.

RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The Incident Commander is responsible for establishing a fire watch detail whenever the need becomes apparent to protect the scene for investigation or prevent a rekindle of the fire.
- B. The Incident Commander is responsible for insuring that the fire watch detail is sufficiently well equipped and provided with timely relief so as to be effective at the scene.
- C. Members who are assigned to fire watch detail should be responsible for protecting the scene against the entry of unauthorized persons.
- D. Members who are assigned to fire watch detail should remain alert and shall guard against the rekindle of the fire.
- E. Members who are assigned to fire watch detail are responsible for recalling help back to the scene in the event that problems arise beyond their control.