

SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURES		TROY FIRE DEPT. TACTICAL PLAN 205.01	
<i>Issue</i>	<i>11-00</i>	<i>Revised</i>	<i>06-11</i>
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Weather can impact the fire department's response. Depending on the nature and severity of the weather, and whether or not the impending weather threat will impact Troy, the fire department may find it necessary to alter its normal response procedures due to concerns for responding to/from the stations, or for an expected rapid onset of incidents.

In order to handle a rapid onset of incidents efficiently, it may be necessary to have firefighters assigned to apparatus and/or ready to respond from the fire station ahead of time through either a station standby or Level II operations. The decision to place stations on standby or Level II operations will be made by an appropriate staff officer (Chief, Assistant Chief, or Duty Officer) based upon the type of weather situation. (*See decision matrix*) Weather advisories shall be monitored for updates on the radio and/or television throughout the warning.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING

Severe thunderstorms can generate a number of down and/or arcing power lines and activated fire alarms, and often include fires from lightning strikes placing an increased demand for service on the fire stations. When impending storms threaten Troy, Level II Operations shall be implemented and Tactical Plan 204.03, Level II Operations, shall apply.

TORNADO WARNING

Tornados can obviously create severe damage to property over a vast area and injure or kill people. Upon receipt of a tornado warning affecting Troy, Level II Operations shall be implemented and Tactical Plan 204.03, Level II Operations, shall apply. Once at the station, firefighters will maintain a watch of the sky for signs of an impending tornado, e.g., large hail, damaging winds, swirling debris, funnel cloud, etc.

TORNADO SIGHTING

If a funnel cloud or tornado is sighted by firefighters during Level II operations, the Duty Officer/Dispatch shall be notified as soon as possible. The reporting firefighter shall include his/her station, the area of sighting in relation to the station, and a direction of travel. The Duty Officer/Dispatch will then notify Oakland County Dispatch for dissemination to other agencies.

TORNADO TOUCHDOWN

As soon as possible after a tornado has passed, an assessment of the area shall be made for any associated life safety concerns or hazards such as injured or trapped civilians, gas

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leaks, fires, electrical hazards, etc. If additional help is needed on scene, Dispatch shall be notified to upgrade the incident to a Full Alarm, Box Alarm, 2nd Alarm, etc., as appropriate. Incident Command shall be established and implementation of the Emergency Operation Plan shall begin as soon as possible.

WINTER STORM

Winter storms can create havoc to firefighters by making it difficult to get to or from the station due to impassable roads and/or traffic jams. Upon receipt of a winter snow/ice storm or blizzard warning affecting Troy, the fire stations shall be placed on standby and Tactical Plan 205.03 shall apply.

When properly staffed, the ranking officer or senior member of each station may establish “shifts” for designated firefighters to carry out the standby and assign these members to specific apparatus. Additional firefighters, once assigned a shift, may be released. Apparatus shall be checked for readiness and fire fighters shall take appropriate cold weather precautions as indicated in the checklist. Incidents will be dispatched in the normal manner.

The intent of the standby is to reduce apparatus response time since, due to accumulating snow/ice and worsening weather and traffic conditions, firefighters may not be able to respond to the station in a timely manner.

TERMINATION

Upon completion of a weather warning, the appropriate staff officer shall determine whether to extend or terminate the standby or Level II based on existing or impending weather conditions. Once a determination is made to terminate, stations will be informed.

Upon termination of a standby or Level II, stations shall complete their availability in the resources portion of the fire report and personnel may then be released from the station.

SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURES

**TROY FIRE DEPT.
TACTICAL PLAN
205.01**

Issue

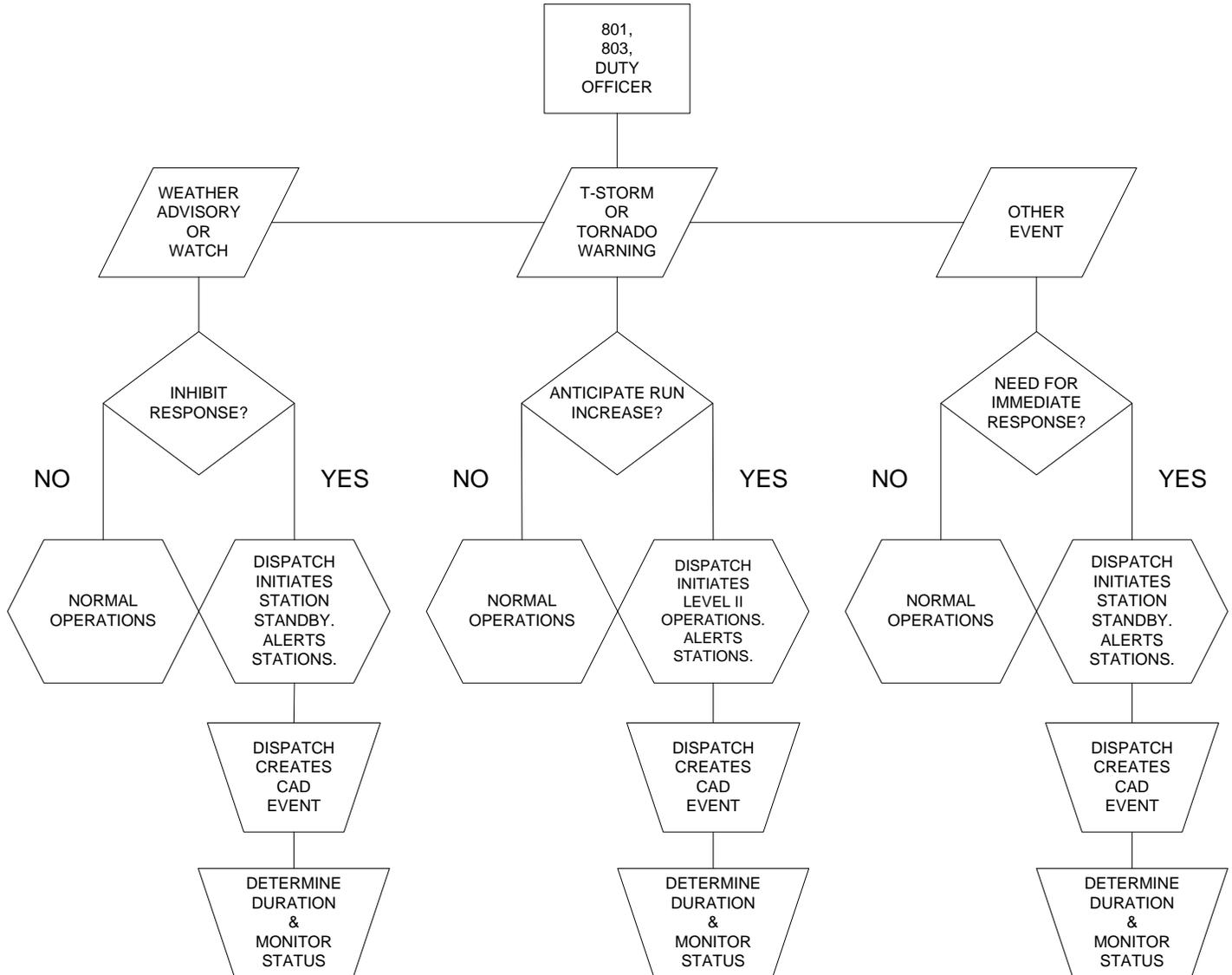
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DECISION MATRIX



APPROVED:

William S. Nelson

Fire Chief