


Title:	Bomb Threats			
Section:	600 Special Operations			
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Effective Date:	January 1, 2024	Revision Date:		
Authorized By:	Fox River Fire District Chiefs			

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to establish priorities of protecting the lives of its members and the public, followed by the protection of property. It is the policy of this department to treat every threat, however doubtful of its validity, as real until the contrary can be established, and to respond accordingly.

B. SCOPE

This guideline shall apply to bomb threats received targeting either public or fire department facilities.

C. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

- 1) Bomb Threat: A condition when an explosive device has been reported, or is suspected to be, at a given location.
- 2) Bomb Emergency: A condition when a suspected or actual explosive device has been located or has been detonated.

D. GUIDELINE

- 1) Under no circumstances should a suspicious package be touched, opened, or moved.
- 2) Radios or cellular phones should not be used within 300 feet of a suspicious package or device.
- 3) Full protective clothing shall be worn at the scene of a bomb threat or bomb emergency.
- 4) Every effort should be made to limit the number of personnel exposed.
- 5) Bomb Threats at Fire Department Facilities.
 - a) The person who receives the bomb threat shall attempt to obtain the following information:
 - i) Date and time of call.

- ii) Address and/or location of the device.
- iii) Time of planned detonation.
- iv) Type of device involved.
- v) Voice characteristics of the person making the threat (sex, level of excitement, age, presence or absence of accent, and rate of speech).
- vi) Any distinguishable background noises.
- vii) Motive for bomb threat.
- viii) Phone number.

b) Notification

- i) Any member of the department directly receiving a threat, or a report of a threat, shall immediately notify the Dispatch Center and provide all of the information received.
- ii) The fire dispatcher will notify the:
 - (a) Affected fire department facility.
 - (b) Duty chief.
 - (c) Police dispatch and shift commander.
- iii) The above personnel will decide whether to:
 - (a) Search without evacuation.
 - (b) Evacuate and search.

c) Building Search

- i) Station personnel may be asked to check their work areas for unusual packages.
- ii) A Police Department K-9 Unit may be used if the circumstances dictate.
- iii) If a suspect device is found, it shall not be touched, opened, or removed. This now becomes a bomb emergency.
 - (a) The area shall be evacuated and a secure perimeter shall be established.

(b) The situation will be turned over to the Police Department or Sherrif Office.

(c) No radios or cellular phones should be used within 300 feet of the station.

2) Bomb Threats at Public Facilities.

a) Upon receipt of a bomb threat, the shift supervisor shall be notified by the dispatch center.

b) The supervisor shall determine the appropriate course of action depending on the information available.

c) Under normal circumstances, the fire department will not respond unless a device has been located and the Police Department or Sherrif Office has requested our response, or an explosion has occurred.

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