



Santa Cruz Consolidated Emergency Communications Center

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9-1-1
FIRE
POLICE
MEDICAL



Michael J. McDougall
General Manager

COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS FIRE SERVICE POLICY

Policy No. 5720	Date Issued: June 1, 1996
Section: 5700 – Specific Procedures	Date Revised: November 17, 2008
Accreditation Standards: None	

SUBJECT: STRUCTURE FIRE

APPROVED: Ronald E. Rickabaugh
Chairperson, Fire Service Users Subcommittee

APPROVED: Scotty A. Douglass
Scotty A. Douglass, Interim General Manager

Confirmed Structure

Classify any report of uncontrolled fire, chimney fire, or heavy smoke emanating from a structure as a confirmed structure fire.

- Instruct callers inside involved structures to evacuate if it is safe to do so or go to a safe place immediately.
- Dispatch in accordance with CAD recommendations.
- Attempt to determine what rescues may be needed. Gather as much specific information about the rescues as you can. How many? Where are they? Are they children, invalid, or non-ambulatory?
- Determine what portions of the structure are involved and the source of the fire.
- Always advise the responding Incident Commander when there have been multiple reports of the same structure fire incident.

- Advise the responding fire units of any special instructions and notations for the location of the incident. For example: access instructions, water sources, and vicious animals.

Unconfirmed Structure

Classify any report of smell of smoke, visible light smoke, heat or burning smell emanating from a structure as an unconfirmed structure fire. This includes other types of fires inside a structure such as a smoking outlet or any other electrical problem not resulting in an uncontrolled fire. By definition, if there is doubt as to whether to classify an incident as confirmed or unconfirmed, the structure fire is unconfirmed. There should be no doubt when using the incident type for confirmed structure fire.

Appliance Fire

Classify smoke from a household appliance as an unconfirmed structure fire unless it meets the criteria for a confirmed structure fire.