

Grand Forks Fire Department

Standard Operating Procedures

SOP# 403.05	Section Occupational Safety and Health	Title Operator Requirements for Accidents with Department Vehicles
Authored by:		Michael K. Flermoen, Deputy Fire Chief
Reviewed by:		Michael K. Flermoen, Deputy Fire Chief
Authorized by:		Peter D. O'Neill, Fire Chief
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I. Scope

This standard shall apply to any member (suppression, prevention, maintenance, administration) who has been involved in a vehicular accident with a departmental or any other city vehicle, or who has been operating a privately owned vehicle in the course of his/her duties. It was promulgated to:

- A. Provide a measure of protection for the operators of department vehicles on department business.
- B. Provide a means to ensure that all personnel are treated the same during the course of these types of events.
- C. Provide appropriate assistance to the general public and other public safety agencies.
- D. Define the types of incidents requiring the use of this SOP.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a guideline on what to do if this type of event should occur. This policy is designed to protect the member and the department in the event that this type of event should occur.

III. Responsibility

- A. All officers of the Grand Forks Fire Department are responsible to comply with and ensure that the personnel under their command are adequately trained, fully understand, and comply with this SOP.

- B. All members of the Grand Forks Fire Department have the responsibility to learn and follow this SOP.

IV. Defined Incidents

- A. This SOP will be put into play for incidents that meet any of the following:
 - An injury or fatality has occurred due to the accident. (Civilian or department).
 - Damage greater than \$1000 has occurred. (Not limited to vehicles).
 - FD officer feels that there may be a need to implement this SOP.

V. Procedure

1. If an accident should occur, our first priority is twofold:
 - To check the condition of all parties involved
 - To continue or modify the response if involved in the accident while en-route to another emergency scene
2. Contact Central Dispatch, Station #1, or Command 503 to continue or modify the emergency response as needed.
 - If continuing with the emergency response, one person **shall** be left at the scene to render aid and assist Law Enforcement.
3. Request a medical response to the scene through Central Dispatch.
4. Request Law Enforcement units to the scene through Central Dispatch.
5. Contact Station #1 and/or 503 to request further FD assistance if needed.
6. If injuries (civilian or department) have occurred, request the Department Safety Officer or a Chief Officer to the scene.
7. As soon as practical, after the emergency treatment and transport of victims, the driver/operator of the department vehicle will be taken in for testing to rule out substance use or abuse. This will be accomplished by use of Rescue 514 or Command 503, unless they are involved in the accident.
8. Human resources will be contacted if/when testing is occurring.
9. A Breathalyzer or similar test will be done to check for alcohol usage.
10. A Urinalysis will be done to check for the presence of any drug that has the potential to impair a driver. This test will be repeated based on recommendations from lab or medical personnel.
11. Ideally, the initial tests conducted in #9 & #10 above have been completed within 60 minutes of the accident.
12. Once all treatments and tests have been completed, the Department Safety Officer and/or Chief Officer will decide on the working status of the individual involved for the remainder of the shift. The options are:
 - Continue to drive for the remainder of the shift. (Under close observation of immediate supervisor).
 - Relieve from driving for the remainder of the shift.
 - “Light duty” for the remainder of the shift.

- Relieve from duty for remainder of the shift.
 - No one will be relieved from duty without consulting with the Fire Chief or his designee.
13. Final disposition of the operator for that shift will rest with the Fire Chief or his designee.
 14. If necessary, Chapter 6, Article 9, 06-0906 Alcohol and Controlled Substance policy of the Grand Forks City Code will be referenced.