

## MUTUAL AID BOX ALARM SYSTEM DIVISION #32

### Policy and Procedure Statement #4 Division 32 Brush Task Force

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

This statement shall state the policy and procedures governing the assignment, dispatch, deployment, and operation of a Brush Task Force

#### 2.0 SCOPE

This statement applies to all members of MABAS Division #32.

It is the intent of this procedure to provide brush trucks to an area that does not normally have brush trucks on the box alarm cards for that zone or special circumstances such as out-of-division mutual aid. Brush trucks listed in the Division Resource Manual as available for *Greater Alarm Mutual Aid, Division 32 Move ups, and Out-of- Division Mutual Aid* may be assigned to the Brush Task Force.

#### 3.0 BACKGROUND

A primary objective of MABAS Division #32 is to assist with needs for suppression operations. One of the needs of wildland suppression operations is the need for brush trucks. It is the intent of this policy to assign the required resources to assist with providing for this need, while not depleting resources in any one portion of the Division.

#### 4.0 POLICY

1. The Division President shall appoint a committee to develop and maintain a Brush Task Force. The committee assigned to oversee the Brush Task Force shall be responsible for an annual update of the Task Force. During the annual update, the committee shall rotate the alarm levels
2. The committee shall use apparatus listed in the Division Resource Manual as available for *Greater Alarm Mutual Aid, Division 32, Move-ups, and Out-of-Division Mutual Aid* for assignment to the task force.
3. Each alarm level shall consist of five (5) brush trucks and two (2) tenders. The brush trucks shall be responsible for fire suppression and the tenders shall be available for refilling the brush trucks when needed.
4. The use of the Brush Task Force should not be utilized in place of a department's normal box card operations. The task force is meant to provide wildland operations to an area that does not normally have brush trucks on the box alarm card or special circumstances where the incident is overwhelming the resources on the box card. Included in special circumstance is any out of division requests.

## **5.0 Procedure**

1. Requests for the Brush Task Force shall be forwarded to the Division 32 Dispatch Center (MECOMM-O'Fallon Dispatch).
2. MECOMM will inquire with the requesting agency the address of the incident, the staging area (if applicable) and the fireground communications channel being (to be) utilized.
3. MECOMM will notify the appropriate dispatch centers for the apparatus listed on the 1<sup>st</sup> alarm and provide all information about the request.
4. Upon going enroute, apparatus responding on the alarm shall notify MECOMM via IFERN that they are enroute, as well as when they arrive on the scene and when they clear the scene.
5. Normal operational status checks shall be the responsibility of the stricken agencies dispatch center.
6. Should a department not be available to respond, it shall be the responsibility of that department or that department's dispatch center to notify MECOMM that they are not available to allow MECOMM to assign a fill in unit.
7. Should an apparatus not be available on the stricken alarm level, MECOMM shall select the next unit on the next alarm level from the same zone to respond.
8. At the request of the incident commander, a second alarm from the Brush Task Force may be fulfilled. Any requests for additional brush trucks beyond the 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm shall be forwarded to the Division Incident Management Team, who will coordinate the additional request so as not to deplete any one area of the division of brush trucks.
9. The Officer on the first unit from the task force to arrive on the scene will become the task force officer. The task force officer shall contact incident command for assignment and confirm on scene communications

## **4.0 Adoption**

This policy and procedure was adopted by MABAS Division #32, according to Bylaws Article IX at its regular meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2022.

**MABAS 32**  
**Brush Task Force**  
**Response list for 2023**

<b>Task Force 1<sup>st</sup> Alarm</b>	<b>Task Force 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm</b>
Columbia 1918	Maeystown 3628
Freeburg 2718	Hecker 3018
Fayetteville 2618	Mascoutah 3518
Hollywood Heights 3118	Lebanon 3218
Cahokia 1428	Millstadt 3918
Smithton 4817	O'Fallon 4337