

San Mateo County Fire Service

Policy and Guideline Manual

P-242

Strike Team Leader and Strike Team Leader Trainee Rotation Policy

P-242.1 Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to establish a standardized procedure for identifying Strike Team Leaders (STEN) and Strike Team Leader Trainees (STEN(T)) to fill mutual aid requests from the California Office of Emergency Services (OES).

The purpose of establishing a standardized procedure for both STEN and STEN(T) rotations is to provide the following:

- Enhanced operational efficiency when filling STEN and STEN(T) requests
- Improved training tract for STEN(T) qualified personnel
- Deployment rotation that creates equal opportunities for all participants

This policy should be utilized by the Operational Area Coordinator, or his or her designee, to select personnel to fill both STEN and STEN(T) OES requests. The policy may be altered by the Operational Area Coordinator based on operational need.

P-242.2 Policy

It is the policy of the San Mateo County Fire Chiefs that all departments within the San Mateo County Operational Area follow the STEN and STEN(T) identification process for filling OES requests as outlined in this policy.

P-242.3 References

California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS)

P-242.4 STEN and STEN(T) Selection Process

The San Mateo County Operational Area shall maintain two separate lists to identify available personnel to fill both STEN and STEN(T) requests. These lists shall be maintained in an agreed upon way, capable of being accessed by all fire departments in the county and easily communicated to OES tracking programs.

STEN and STEN(T) will be placed into their respective lists along with the date of their most recent deployment. It is the individual's responsibility to status themselves based on their availability.

1. **STEN Rotational List:** All qualified personnel who choose to be available as a STEN are able to be placed on the STEN Rotational List. This list will display their availability

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as well as the date of their most recent deployment. The STEN Rotational List will recommend a STEN based on availability and most recent deployment date. The available STEN with the longest amount of time since their last deployment will be recommended. If that person is unable to fill the request, the available STEN personnel will be queried, based on the date of their most recent deployment, until the request is filled.

2. **STEN(T) Rotational List:** All qualified personnel who chose to be available as a STEN(T) are able to be placed on the STEN(T) Rotational List. This list will display their availability, the date of their most recent deployment, and priority category the STEN(T) falls under. The STEN(T) Rotational List will recommend available personnel based on their priority category first, and then the amount of time since their last deployment. If the recommended person is unable to fill the request, the available STEN(T) personnel will be queried, based first on their priority category and then on the date of their most recent deployment, until the request is filled.

STEN(T) Priority Categories:

In an effort to qualify STEN(T) personnel in a timely manner, establish an equitable system of deployment opportunities, and allow for career development of Company Officers, the STEN(T) list will include three priority levels for consideration. They include:

1. Priority 1: Promoted Chief Officers who have completed at least one deployment as a STEN(T).
2. Priority 2: Promoted Chief Officers who have not been deployed as a STEN(T).
3. Priority 3: Company Officers regardless of their STEN(T) deployment history.

Once a STEN or STEN(T) completes a deployment, their date of most recent deployment shall be updated. After a STEN(T) becomes qualified as a STEN, they will be placed on the STEN Rotational List using the date of their most recent deployment.