



# Solano County Fire Chiefs Association

## GUIDELINES

<b>Guideline Name:</b>	<b>Strike Team Code of Conduct</b>
<b>Number:</b>	<b>04</b>

**Revision / Reviewed Date: March 23, 2023**

### I. Purpose

It is the duty of personnel mobilized to maintain high standards of performance and conduct that will promote public trust and provide the best possible service to the citizens of California.

Personnel is expected to demonstrate cooperation, efficiency, integrity, accountability, and customer service in the performance of their duties. The Chain-of Command will be utilized while under the direction/ supervision of the STEN/TFLD. This includes all issues and concerns relating to individuals or agencies assigned to the ST/TF. It is expected that all incident resources will conduct themselves in a professional manner, meet the performance standards of their position, and comply with all local, State and Federal laws and their own department-specific requirements.

Your actions, attitude, and work ethic will be scrutinized by those with whom you work and interact with and by the citizens being served. You represent the State of California, your county, your city and your department as an individual and as a team member on the fire line, in base or camp, and in transit. Failure to comply could result in your immediate relief from duty and being sent home.

### II. Policy

- Always act in a professional manner.
- Members of the Strike Team/Task Force will always be courteous, and respectful and prohibit discriminatory or harassing practices towards all members of the Strike Team, Task Force, other firefighters, and the public.
- Maintain and wear all proper safety clothing whenever assigned. Personnel who arrive at the Rendezvous point without sufficient or appropriate Personnel Protective clothing will not be allowed to respond. The STEN will contact the Area Coordinator and request assistance in obtaining a replacement firefighter or unit.
- All personnel will take at least one Class B or C uniform. When on the premises of an out-of-base housing facility (hotel), personnel are to wear either; 1) class B uniform (Defined as a department uniform shirt with collar with badge, or 2) If a Class B uniform is not issued, then a Class C uniform (Defined as a department-approved t-shirt or sweatshirt with the department logo), it is expected that all



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uniforms will be in good repair. Personnel are to be in class B or C uniform when off-site of an out-of-base housing facility, e.g. Going across the street to dinner from a hotel or going to the store.

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- The incident is responsible for providing “Adequate Housing. Meals and Logistical Support.” The Strike Team will participate and use the provided support. If the Strike Team Leader (STEN) believes that there is a discrepancy or inadequacy in the logistical support provided by the incident, then the STEN should contact the OES Incident Representative for assistance in correcting the situation. If needed, the STEN should contact the on-duty Area Coordinator for additional assistance. **A self-pay option is permissible, with the permission of the Incident Commander and/or the Hotel / Logistics Section Unit Leader. The Strike Team Leader must notify the incident OES representative of the request to stay in a self-pay hotel.**
- Off Shift Activities. Personnel are reminded that we are a “portal to portal” agency, and we are never off-duty. We may be off-shift in base camp or at a remote housing facility, but we are not off-duty. Personnel may engage in routine activities that are otherwise permitted on duty at their home department/agency. Crews shall maintain their crew integrity and remain in contact with the strike team leader at all times. Any questions regarding the permissibility of off-shift activities shall be referred by the Strike Team Leader to the on-duty Area Coordinator.
- Engaging in any sexual relations is not allowed.
- It is important for all members to remember that when assigned to the incident base or an off-base facility, either for a rest period or off shift, you are not out of service and may be called back to duty at any time. Always act in a professional manner.
- Regarding line assignments as any other emergency response, maintain professional decorum at all times.
- Utilize clear-text communications and keep radio traffic between units to a minimum.
- Crews shall maintain a state of readiness when assigned or available.
- Know who you are assigned to maintain crew accountability.



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- All accountable property issued at the incident must be returned before you are demobilized.
- No alcohol or illicit drugs will be transported or consumed at any time.
- Cell phone usage for personal calls shall be restricted to periods when resources are available or assigned to the base.

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- Do not enter any residence without the owner's permission except to search for victims or prepare to or defend the structure. Respect the property of the residents you are protecting. If you enter a private residence or business, leave a note identifying your ST/TF and detailing your actions taken.
- All Firefighters shall be empowered to halt any unsafe or hazardous acts in which the risks outweigh the benefits.
- Whenever in moving vehicles traveling to, from, or on any incident, seat belts must be worn.
- Attend safety briefings prior to assignments, if possible: emphasize a safe working environment for all members.
- Assess personnel for injuries during and after work periods: report all injuries immediately.
- Always act in a professional manner
- Your actions are a reflection of your organization, Solano County, and the Fire Services as a whole
- Violation of these rules may be grounds for dismissal from the ST/TF assignment and future ST/TF assignments. A report will be sent to the Area Coordinator by the Strike Team Leader to be reviewed with the Fire Chief of the Department providing the resource.