Purpose:

This standard operating guideline has been established to provide a uniform response and to reduce the potential for injury to emergency responders while responding to automatic fire alarms.

The Chief’s of the Washington County Fire Department recognize that the probability for automatic alarm malfunctions increase during periods of severe storms. As such, to eliminate committing resources during periods of severe storms a reduced response shall be adhered to.

Action:

At any time when the National Weather Service has issued a storm warning for Washington County, the response to automatic alarms shall be reduced to a local alarm.

The incident commander from the authority have jurisdiction, if desired shall adjust the assignment after response of the local company.

Fire & Rescue Communications will make a generic announcement to all stations, that the National Weather Service has issued a storm warning for Washington County. No other prior notification from Fire & Rescue Communications is necessary before dispatching an automatic alarm.