

Tempe Fire Department Policies and Procedures
Bomb Threats
209.03
Rev 5-11-07

PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for the Tempe Fire Department in the event of bomb threats within the City.

GUIDELINES

A bomb threat is a matter to be investigated by the Police Department. The threat does not constitute a fire or explosion, and the Fire Department will not take any action unless requested to do so by the Police Department. A person who threatens someone with a bomb often does so to disrupt normal activities. Potential terrorists may do so to study our methods and procedures. Our presence may assist in aiding criminals to obtain their goals.

1. If we are called to assist the Police Department:
 - A. Typically, a Tempe Fire Department hazardous materials company, C2757 and BC271 will be dispatched. If a HazMat company is not available, the closest Tempe engine company will respond instead.
 - B. Respond Code 2 unless directed otherwise.
 - C. Do not position any vehicles in front of the threatened building, spot the apparatus approximately two blocks away.
 - D. Establish a liaison with the Police Command Post.
 - E. Support the Tempe Police Department E.O.D. Unit.
2. If evacuation of the building is requested, determine if adjacent buildings are endangered.
 - A. As the occupants are removed, keep them away from all doors and windows and at a safe distance.
 - B. Do not alarm people by your actions or comments (in most cases, a calm demeanor can stabilize the situation).

If you can see the suspicious package, it can see you. Use buildings and your truck as a barrier and protected area. Do not use your radio to describe a bomb. Be aware of potential secondary devices.

At no time is any member of the Fire Department to give any information to the news media, or the public. This is a police incident and any request for information is to be referred to the Police Department.