

Tempe Fire Department Policies and Procedures
Ladder Tender
202.03
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PURPOSE

The purpose of the ladder tender is to extend the life of ladder trucks, reduce response times, improve maneuverability, and increase response safety.

POLICY

Ladder tenders will be used to respond on EMS calls and for other emergencies when deemed appropriate. They are not intended for use on structural assignments except where indicated below. Under normal conditions the crew should not be split between the two ladder vehicles for response purposes.

PROCEDURE

Dispatch and response protocol:

- A. The ladder tender will be dispatched on all EM assignments out of Station #1.
- B. If the ladder tender is unavailable (e.g., maintenance) the system will call for Ladder-71 on an EM assignment.
- C. If an EM assignment is dispatched south of Alameda and the next closest unit is out of Station #1 it will get the ladder tender. If the ladder tender is unavailable, it will get the ladder truck, and if the ladder truck is unavailable it will get the appropriate engine (i.e., Engine-75 east of Rural and Engine-71 west of Rural).
- D. If the ladder truck is unavailable (e.g., maintenance) and the ladder tender is available, it will not get dispatched on 2 & 1s or first alarms under normal conditions; instead, Ladder-73 will get dispatched.

If under those conditions the ladder tender company calls the Alarm Room and they can ask to have "ladder capabilities" assigned to them temporarily, then they will be dispatched as a ladder truck. That means that on a 2 & 1 assignment of any kind, regardless of the structure, it would be two engines and the ladder tender. And on a first alarm assignment anywhere in Tempe it would be four engines, Ladder-73, and the ladder tender. Under these circumstances BC7 or command should determine as early as possible the need to dispatch a ladder truck.

- E. For EM-VX and EM-X dispatches the ladder will normally be dispatched and not the ladder tender. This cannot be changed by programming to get just the ladder tender, even though it has a Hurst tool. However, it does not preclude the company from going out, getting on the ladder tender, and putting that vehicle and themselves on the assignment and canceling the ladder truck.
- F. If the ladder tender is AOR and a 2 & 1 assignment is dispatched in their response area, they should respond. Command will make determination as early in the incident as possible, if a ladder truck is necessary.