

## *Theme: Managing Incidents in 2008*

### FIREFIGHTER APPRECIATION DAY 2008

**TO: GMAG OPS Section (R. Payne)**  
**FROM: GMAG PLANS Section (C. Alverson)**  
**THRU: GMAG Incident Command (P. Chovan)**  
**SUBJ: FIREFIGHTERS APPRECIATION DAY ACTIVITIES**  
**0500-2200 hours Tuesday, February 5, 2008**

#### *Operational period:*

##### 1. Overview:

The GMAG has been asked to assist with the staging and convoy preparations for Firefighter Appreciation Day activities occurring on Tuesday, February 5, 2008. Subsequent staging and convoy activities, beginning early on February 5, 2008 will be in concert with the assembly of 100+ pieces of fire and rescue equipment at Turner Field, Gold Lot Staging, in downtown Atlanta. This is also our opportunity to conduct an annual Mobilization exercise for South Georgia (Area's 2, 4, 5, & 8) and North Georgia (Area's 1, 3 & 6). Please note the following items in your plans to accommodate the units which will be participating. It is anticipated that approximately 100+ vehicles will be arriving at Gold Lot Staging, located just east of I-75 on Capital Avenue, between Fulton Street and Georgia Ave. (map #1). A Staging Area Manager [STAM] will be established by 0700 hours, Tuesday, February 5, 2008.

##### 2. Notes:

- ***Inbound Convoys to Gold Lot Staging:*** Units will need to be staged in Gold Lot Staging at staggered time frames:

North 75<sup>th</sup> – South 85<sup>th</sup> (with West 20<sup>th</sup> attached)–Central–by 0800 hours

South 75<sup>th</sup> (with GPSTC attached) - East 20<sup>th</sup> (with North 85<sup>th</sup> attached)-  
By 0815 hours

If GPSTC Staging and convoy are established they will need to depart for Atlanta before 0600 hours, February 5, 2008. They have been attached to the South 75<sup>th</sup> Branch.

Units will need to remain in convoy array when checking in at Gold Lot Staging. Units who self-deploy from base stations or local facilities, with no assignment, will be collected at Gold Lot Staging into a task force designated "Maverick". "Maverick" units will be assigned to the tail of the convoy and may not be able to park around the Capitol.

- **Gold Lot Staging to Capitol Staging: Convoy will depart Gold Lot staging by 0845 hours** so as to allow at the least 55+ units in the convoy to be staged and secured at the Capitol by 0915 hours. Excess units, will return to Gold Lot Staging with the dismounted crews being bussed in to the Capitol South Wing by 0945 hours. **Capitol proceedings will begin promptly at 1000 hours!** Assigned staging at the Capitol is as follows:

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East 20<sup>th</sup> (with North 85<sup>th</sup> attached): South curb line, South Capitol Square, facing east

South 75<sup>th</sup>: West curb line, Washington Avenue, facing south from MLK, Jr Drive to Memorial Drive

South 85<sup>th</sup> (with West 20<sup>th</sup> attached): parallel to South 75<sup>th</sup> on Washington Ave. facing south between MLK, Jr and Memorial Drive.

North 75<sup>th</sup>: North curb line on MLK Jr. Drive facing west

Central: Parallel; to North 75<sup>th</sup> on MLK, Jr. Drive facing west.

An Atlanta Unit will be placed in front of this group to lead the Convoy back to Gold lot staging, which will depart at approximately 1330 hrs.

- **NOTE: DUE TO THE HEIGHTENED NATIONAL ALERT - NO AUDIBLE DEVICES WILL BE SOUNDED DURING CONVOY ACTIVITIES. ONLY YELLOW WARNING FLASHERS AND HEADLIGHTS ARE AUTHORIZED.**
- A luncheon, sponsored by the GFFBF, will begin at approximately 1130 hours and last approximately 90 minutes. The luncheon will take place in the Georgia State Student Center, a 15-minute walk north, on Courtland Street, from the State Capitol.
- ***Crews will need to be back on-board their respective units, engines running, by 1315 hours for return to the Staging Area and release from the event to check out, so as to insure unit accountability and safety.***
- Staging signage should be a circled "S" with an arrow pointing to check-in and staging name under the "S". Suggest at least a 24"x24" sign at least 8' above grade, the "S" in contrast with the background.

- Multiple radio frequencies are anticipated during convoy movement. It is strongly recommended that the first and last units of any convoy be on the same frequency using either statewide mutual aid frequencies (154.280 MHz or ITAC 1 - 800 MHz) or two units from the same department on their frequency. Exchange of cellular phone numbers between convoy Task Force Leaders (TFLD) and Strike Team Leaders (STLR) should be accomplished with Gold Lot Staging Communication's Unit.
- Convoys will need to observe all applicable traffic laws. Crews will be seated with seat belt use mandatory, doors locked and headlights on low beam. **THE USE OF EMERGENCY WARNING DEVICES TO "PART" TRAFFIC IS NOT AUTHORIZED--SO START EARLY TO AVOID THE RUSH!!!** The procession from Gold Lot Staging to the Capitol will be **SILENT, USING VISUAL WARNING DEVICES ONLY.**
- Maps and informational packets will be available via the websites of GMAG, GSFFA, GAFC, SFM, GFFBF and GEMA and at Gold Lot Staging area. A record of units passing through Branch Staging must be kept so as to insure accurate tracking. The roster of units checked in from Home Bases will be collected at Gold Lot Staging for after action reports which have been requested by local, State and Federal officials. Units not checked in cannot be verified as having participated in the day's events. Unit logs (214's on GMAG.org) will be completed by all single resources, task forces and strike teams passing through Gold Lot Staging.
- All personnel should bring sufficient drinking water, snacks and provisions for themselves as these items may not be readily available. Portal-Potties will be provided at Gold Lot Staging only, so make the necessary arrangements before leaving home bases. Arrangements are being made to secure vehicles should mechanical breakdowns occur at Staging. Tuesday, February 5, 2008, by 1800 hours all participating units are requested to report their time of arrival at their home destination to their respective TFLD's/STLD or County EMA Director.

Lets all have a safe and enjoyable day!