

Arriving on Scene

Driving in the Area



Arriving on Scene

Support Utility Operations

Driving in the Area

- ◆ When you get close to the incident you may need to use red lights to clear traffic and get through the road blocks. Reduce your speed when you get close to the area. If you need to move around cars by going into the opposite lane remember that cars may turn in front of you trying to get out of the area.
- ◆ When drivers approach an emergency vehicle scene. Do not make the emergency scene worse. Drivers should maintain a safe driving speed, keep their eyes on the road and follow directions from authorized personnel. Be aware that other emergency vehicles may be approaching the scene.
- ◆ A driver should not follow an emergency vehicle responding to a call closer than 500 feet.
- ◆ Also, a driver should not park their vehicles within 300 of fire department vehicles in use for firefighting at an emergency scene. Do not block in Rescue Ambulances that may need to transport to a hospital.



◆ Remember this when you arrive on scene. Don't block other fire department vehicles in. Give a good distance between you and the apparatus in front of you. This way they can take care of equipment when they are reloading. Pull the rig over to the side of the road, pull into a parking lot to setup rehab or if you have to setup a rehab station on the street, then keep it to one side so they can move apparatus around it. In some cases, moving the Rehab Area off the street so they can open the street as soon as possible.



- ◆ Know the Support Utility and its contents. The driver of the apparatus is often called upon to find ez-up canopies, trash bags and other equipment on short notice.
- ◆ Do not back up a fire apparatus without a spotter (someone who stands behind the Support Utility and tells you when it's safe to back up and when to stop). Many firefighters have been killed by engines backing into them.

This document is published from the LAFD Support Utility Basic Operations Handbook, Section 4 Arriving On Scene - Page 4-2 and 4-3