

ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL

COMMITTEES AND TEAMS

104.005 PEER SUPPORT TEAM

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PURPOSE

To set forth guidelines for the establishment and organization of a Fresno Fire Department (FFD or Department) Peer Support Team.

APPLICATION

It is the policy of the Department to provide and support a peer support team to represent the Department as needed.

OPERATIONAL POLICY

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OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE

• The peer support team provides critical incident stress management services to Department members.

PROCESS

Members can access the peer support team by contacting their direct supervisor, the team coordinator, or individual team member.

INFORMATION

The peer support team provides the following services:

Pre-incident education and prevention

- Informal one-on-one crisis intervention
- Small group defusing

Peer support team members, in conjunction with mental health professionals, can provide:

- Group debriefing
- Large incident information sessions

Team members strive to identify, and to offer support and referrals to Department members in crisis who may require the services of mental health professionals. Examples of incidents generating a need for response include line-of-duty death, suicide of a colleague, events involving children, high-risk events to firefighters, prolonged events, or events ending in a tragic or unexpected outcome.

Peer support team members are listed in the TargetSolutions file center under "Committees and Teams", as well as identified in Telestaff.

DEFINITIONS

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CROSS-REFERENCES

No cross-references recognized.