

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 31, 2018

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Dallas Fire-Rescue Implements Directive to Enhance the Safety of Firefighters Responding to Specific Call Types**

Recently, Dallas Fire-Rescue responded to a “Mental Health” call, in far North Dallas, during which they, and the woman who called 911, was chased by a man wielding a knife. As a result of this incident, DFR has issued a Directive (on 8/27/18) mandating the staging of all emergency response personnel, at “Aggravated Assault”, “Gun Shot Wound”, “Mental Health” and “Stabbing” calls, until the arrival of law enforcement.

Though DFR has always had a policy addressing the staging of personnel and equipment a safe distance away from potential scenes of violence, it was always left at the discretion of the individual company officer. This directive is aimed at eliminating that variable and ensuring the safety of all personnel responding to these call types.

Should you have any questions, or concerns, about this change, or the incident that preceded it, please contact Fire Chief, David Coatney.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jon Fortune".

**Jon Fortune**  
Assistant City Manager

c: Larry Casto, City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager & Chief Resilience Officer  
Raquel Favela, Chief of Economic Development & Neighborhood Services  
Theresa O'Donnell, Chief of Resilience  
Directors and Assistant Directors