

	<b>CLEARFIELD COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / 9-1-1</b> Standard Operating Procedures	Initial:
	SOP #: Police 5-24	Revised: 10-2005
	Subject: Disturbance (Domestic or Fights)	

### DISTURBANCE (DOMESTIC OR FIGHTS)

- A. These calls will involve one of two basic situations. The first includes any type of general disturbance between unrelated individuals who may or may not know each other. The second involves disturbances between family members, whether at home or in public. In either situation the individuals may be simply creating a disturbance by their loud argument, or may be physically fighting with each other.
- B. Family disturbances are very hazardous calls for police officers. Statistics indicate that a significant percentage of officers are assaulted and injured when they respond to this type of call. This occurs due to the extreme emotional state of those involved who tend to view an officer's presence as an interference with their personal problems.
- C. For incidents of domestic situations and/or fights the dispatchers will obtain as much information as possible to include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - The location of the disturbance.
  - How many people are involved?
  - Physical fighting or verbal argument?
  - Are there weapons involved or available?
  - Are injuries involved? If yes, EMS should be dispatched and await police arrival before entering the scene.
  - Are the suspects still at the scene?
  - If the suspects have left the scene, direction of travel, mode of travel and description must be obtained.
- D. The appropriate police department (and EMS service if required) will be dispatched. The dispatch of further emergency service responders will be done at the request of the police department.
- E. The dispatchers should attempt to keep the caller on the line so the situation can be continually assessed and further information can be given to responding police units.
- F. The dispatchers will run any vehicle information that was obtained from the caller and relay it to responding police officers (with the exception of PSP).
- G. BOLO or ATL information will be dispatched by radio as soon as possible. As time permits, the information will also be group faxed to county police departments.
- H. When there are multiple calls on the same incident where an assault has been reported, the dispatchers are to obtain the name, telephone number and address of **all callers**. Information on **all** persons who call is of extreme importance regarding this type of incident and may be critical information that is needed to aid in the officer's ongoing investigation and if the case goes to court.