

RESOLUTION NO. 48-2007

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE FIRE CHIEF TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MESQUITE AND THE CITY OF FORNEY OUTLINING THE PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTING AN AUTOMATIC ASSISTANCE RESPONSE BETWEEN THE CITY OF MESQUITE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY OF FORNEY FIRE DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS, there is a need to outline the procedures for implementing an automatic assistance response between the City of Mesquite Fire Department ("Mesquite") and the City of Forney Fire Department ("Forney"); and

WHEREAS, the Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), attached hereto as Exhibit "A," is a guide for routine operations and is not intended to replace or adjust the Firefighting Mutual Aide Assistance Agreement ("Agreement") currently in effect; and

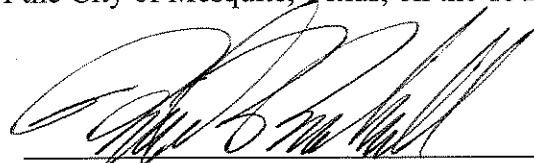
WHEREAS, automatic assistance rendered under this MOU shall be considered as a "pre-planned" mutual aid response conducted under the authority of the existing Agreement in which both Mesquite and Forney are a party; and

WHEREAS, the general provisions of said Agreement for mutual aid shall be controlling except where such provisions are replaced by this MOU.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS:


SECTION 1. That the Fire Chief is hereby authorized to execute a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement for Automatic Assistance between the City of Mesquite Fire Department and the City of Forney Fire Department, attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

DULY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, on the 15th day of October, 2007.

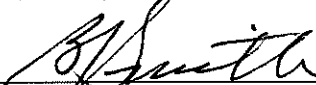


David Paschall  
Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Womack  
City Secretary

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
B. J. Smith  
City Attorney



**Memorandum of Understanding**  
**Agreement for Automatic Assistance Between**  
**The City of Mesquite Fire Department and the City of Forney Fire Department**

This Memorandum of Understanding is authorized by the Fire Chief of the City of Mesquite and the Fire Chief of The City of Forney in an agreement dated XXX,XX,2007 and is further authorized by approved Resolution #2007-XX of the City of Mesquite City Council (attached).

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to outline the procedures for implementing an Automatic Assistance response between the City of Mesquite Fire Department, hereinafter referred to as "Mesquite" and The City of Forney Fire Department, herein after referred to as "Forney". This Memorandum is a guide for routine operations and is not intended to replace or adjust the Firefighting Mutual Aid Assistance Agreement currently in effect. Automatic Assistance rendered under this agreement shall be considered as a "pre-planned" mutual-aid response conducted under the authority of the existing Firefighting Mutual Aid Assistance Agreement to which both jurisdictions are a party. The general provisions of said Agreement for Mutual Aid shall be controlling except where such provisions are replaced by this Memorandum of Understanding.

**I. Amount and Type of Assistance**

This agreement is for the pre-planned exchange of Fire and/or EMS response services in the specified response areas as noted in this document. Fire/EMS apparatus will respond, if designated, in the stipulated response areas. Companies required in addition to a first level response will be requested in accordance with standing procedures as established in the Firefighting Mutual Aid Assistance Agreement.

**II. Response Areas**

Fire Response areas will be determined by the mutual agreement of both Fire Chiefs on the basis of response time and available access to the affected areas and periodically reviewed for continued automatic assistance coverage. It is specifically recognized and agreed that adjustments to the listed areas may have to occur in order to comply with the response districts and changes in response patterns occurring after acceptance of this agreement.

***Southeastern Mesquite:***

Forney will provide a first response Engine and/or EMS Company to emergency incidents occurring within the boundaries of the City of Mesquite that fall within Kaufman County. (See attached Map)

### III. Incident Command

It is agreed that both agencies will use the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS) in the management of incidents in which there is a joint response. Upon arrival, the first arriving company at the emergency scene will assume Command in accordance with its Department's incident management procedure and promptly transfer such command to an officer of the department in whose jurisdiction the emergency is occurring. Nothing in this agreement will preclude an officer operating in a jurisdiction not his/her own from requesting additional resources as appropriate from the jurisdiction in whose jurisdiction the emergency is occurring

### IV. Communications Procedures

Communications procedures and related information will be provided at the initial training session and updated as needed thereafter.

#### *Dispatching Procedures:*

To expedite the initiation of response under this agreement, the City of Mesquite Communications Center will handle dispatching and other communications between the Forney Fire Department and the Mesquite Fire Department. The communications operator in Mesquite will request/dispatch automatic assistance via standard telephone communications. The terms "Automatic Assistance" will be utilized to avoid any confusion with existing mutual aid procedures. Should the requested unit not be available, the requesting agency will be immediately informed so that another unit may be dispatched.

- Example of dispatch procedures for "Automatic Assistance"

*"Forney Fire Department, this is Mesquite Fire Dispatch, Automatic Aid request for house fire at ..... Mesquite fire has been dispatched. Go to Mesquite Fire Dispatch 2"*

#### *Future Enhancements:*

Mesquite and Forney, and the respective communications centers of each agency, will explore methods of improving or interconnecting communications between all units of each department for the benefit of both departments during automatic assistance and/or mutual aid operations. The sharing of costs for any future enhancements will be determined at a future date following appropriate review by the communications personnel of each entity. Once these enhancements are made the dispatch procedure will be as follows. The communications operator in Mesquite will request/dispatch automatic assistance through established radio communications via tone out over the Forney Fire Department VHF repeater, followed by an additional alert tone to designate a Mesquite Automatic Aid request. Following the tone out the operator will announce the location and type of assistance needed in accordance with this procedure.

### V. Limitations

If the agreed upon response from either department is not available or is temporarily depleted, the assisting department will advise the requesting department and need not respond. However, if a fill-in company is in quarters at a fire station that is part of this Agreement, that company will respond.

### VI. Training

Joint training exercises are to be conducted as needed. The training exercises will be coordinated and observed by the respective training staffs of the two departments for the purpose of maintaining coordination in fire fighting procedures, dispatching, and communications. The following topics will be addressed within twelve (12) months of the approval of this Agreement:

- Apparatus and equipment familiarization
- Incident management /incident command for each Department
- Communications protocols
- Fire hydrant and water supply procedures


### VII. Incident Reporting

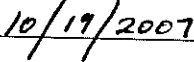
The following guidelines will be followed for emergency incident reporting:


1. The Mesquite Fire Department will complete all necessary reporting for incidents involving automatic aide responses with the Forney Fire Department that occur within the boundaries of the City of Mesquite.

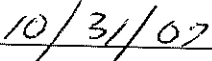
### VIII. Revisions

This Memorandum of Understanding may be revised or amended at any time by mutual agreement of the Fire Chief of the City of Mesquite and the Fire Chief of the City of Forney.

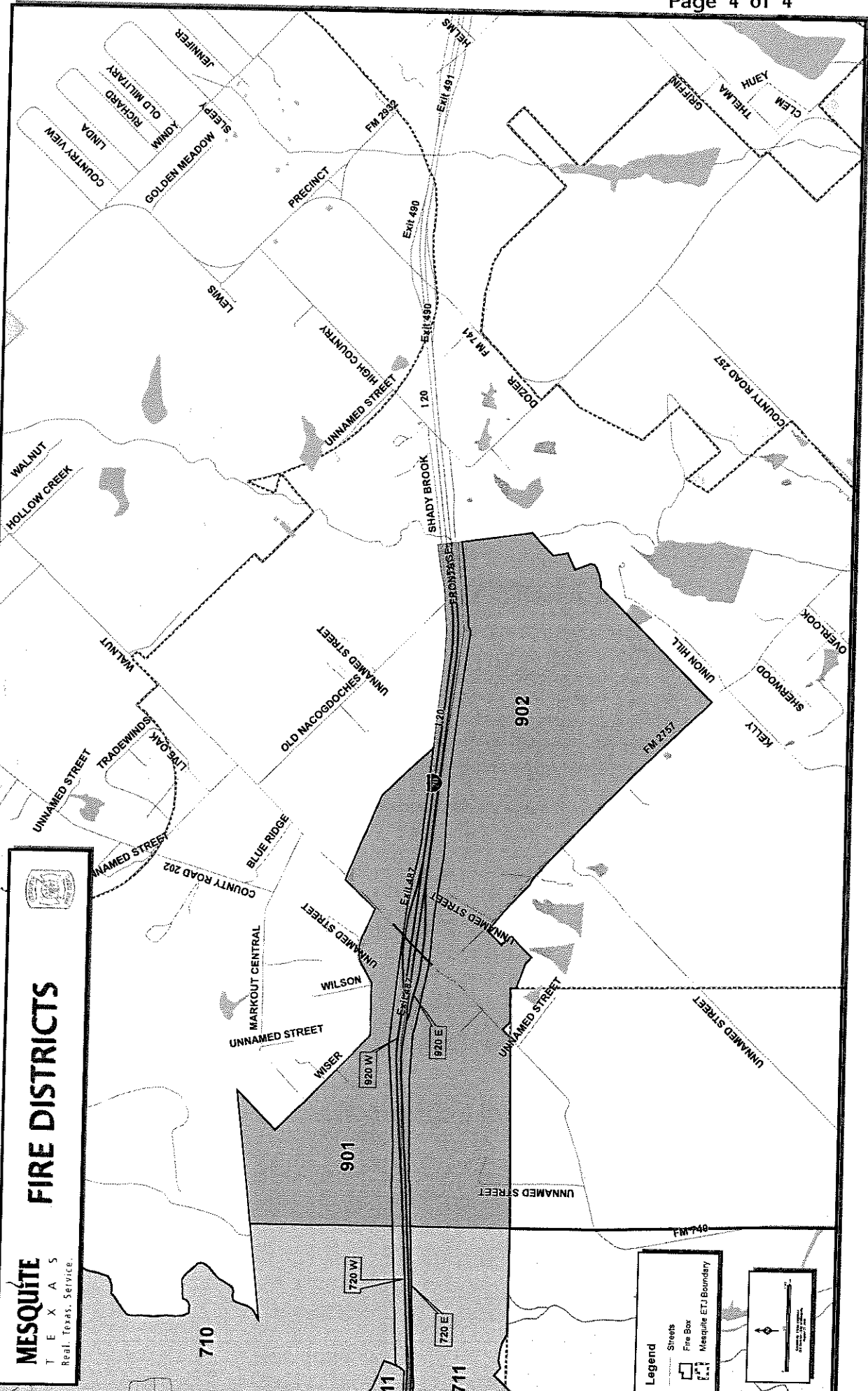
  
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Mark Kerby, Fire Chief, City of Mesquite

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James R. Townsend, Fire Chief, City of Forney

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Attachments: Response Area Map  
Resolution City of Mesquite  
Resolution City of Forney



**MESQUITE**  
T E X A S  
Real. Texas. Service.



**FIRE DISTRICTS**

**Legend**

- Streets
- Fire Box
- Mesquite ETJ Boundary

