

## 107.00 - ARSON, EXPLOSIVES, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

### 107.01 Handling and Storage of Explosives

- (1) The Municipal Code provides that it shall be unlawful to store in any place within the City and County of Denver any dynamite, giant powder, nitroglycerin, or other explosive materials or compounds, without a permit from the Manager of Safety. (1302 of the Fire Code and Ordinance 120 of the Municipal Code)
- (2) The members of the Fire Prevention Bureau check for unauthorized vehicles containing explosives and, if for any reason, they need assistance from any member of the Police Department, officers will immediately respond and render such assistance as necessary under the circumstances.
- (3) Upon receipt of a request for services involving explosives, where the Bomb Unit is not called to the scene, the investigating officers will forward a letter giving details and disposition of the incident to the Bomb Unit.

### 107.02 Arson, Bomb Scares, and Suspicious Devices

- (1) Procedures to be followed whenever a fire has taken place and arson is suspected as the cause:
  - a. Personnel assigned to the Fire Investigation Bureau are Denver Fire Department officers. As Investigators, they will be appointed as Special Police Officers empowered to investigate the following: fires, lower order explosions, false fire alarms, and the construction, placement or detonation of incendiary devices. Fire Department personnel serving as Fire Investigators may conduct any special investigations requested by the Chief of the Fire Department or the Chief of the Denver Police Department.
  - b. A General Occurrence (GO) report, DPD 250, is to be made at the scene. If personnel of the Fire Investigation Bureau of the Denver Fire Department are not available to make the report, it will be made by Police Department personnel, based on information received from the Fire Department representative most knowledgeable about the circumstances or the person designated by the Chief of the Fire Department. The report will be forwarded to the Fire Investigation Bureau.
  - c. The Fire Investigators shall conduct whatever investigation they deem necessary at the scene and document all pertinent facts. If, during the arson investigation, it is discovered that a person has died or is in immediate danger of death caused by the fire, the Homicide Unit of the Denver Police Department will be notified and respond in accordance with OMS 301.14 and take charge of the investigation.
  - d. Any crime coinciding with an Arson that is an offense against a person, including but not limited to; Assault, Child Abuse/Neglect, Menacing, Reckless Endangerment and Intimidation, or Retaliation of or against a witness or victim shall be investigated by the Crime Against Persons Bureau in conjunction with the Denver Fire Department Arson Investigation Unit. In these cases, Assault Unit investigators will coordinate with Denver Fire Department Arson investigators to conduct a joint investigation. Arson investigators shall notify Crimes Against Persons detectives, via the Combined Communications Center, whenever responding to one of these incidents. The responsibility for filing the case will be determined on a case by case basis, based on the crime and recommendations from the District Attorney's Office.
  - e. Arson General Occurrence (GO) reports, DPD 250, shall be made whenever an incident involving "Molotov Cocktails" or any other form of fire-bombing takes place. All evidence collected at the scene, including the arson device fragments, must be preserved. Personnel from the Fire Investigation Bureau will be responsible for the chain of evidence and will transport all evidence to the Denver Police Department Property Management Bureau to be processed by the Crime Laboratory.
  - f. The Fire Investigation Bureau will be notified when encountering suspicious fires, incendiary materials, and unreported fires. Investigators will respond to the scene and conduct the necessary investigation, including making the General Occurrence (GO) report, DPD 250.
  - g. The Denver Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation must be notified in every fire-bombing incident. It shall be the responsibility of the Fire Investigation Bureau to notify the F.B.I. at the earliest possible time.

- h. Any General Occurrence (GO) report, DPD 250, relating to arson shall be handled in a routine fashion and processed through the Records Section. Records Section personnel shall forward arson-related reports to the Fire Investigation Bureau.
- i. The Chief of the Denver Fire Department may request assistance from the Criminal Investigation Division in conducting arson investigations. This request shall be made through the chain of command, via the Chief of the Denver Police Department, or the appropriate designee.

## (2) Bomb Scares

- a. Police personnel receiving information on a bomb threat shall immediately notify the Communications Bureau.
- b. Communications will immediately dispatch precinct officers and the district supervisory officer to the scene.
- c. Upon arriving at the scene, police personnel will park their vehicles at a safe distance from area involved.
- d. Police personnel will consult with person in charge of the building property to determine advisability of evacuation.
- e. When on the premises of Denver Public School facilities, the person from the facility in charge should be contacted to determine the advisability of evacuation and officers will comply with the school decision, unless the supervisory officer has evidence to indicate immediate evacuation is recommended.
- f. The Denver Police Department has no authority to force the evacuation of a building or to force the search of a building. A search of the building should be strongly recommended to the person in control of the premises.
- g. A search of any building should be performed by those who have control over the premises or who are most familiar with the surroundings and could identify a suspicious package.
- h. A police supervisor or designated officers may assist in a search of the premises if requested by the person in charge of the premises. Officers shall be accompanied by the person in charge of the premises or his representative to eliminate any possibility of oversight.
- i. A police supervisor will determine if a search should be made by non-uniformed personnel to reduce danger of panic by building occupants.
- j. A supervisor shall call the Communications Bureau and request additional assistance, if necessary, from the Bomb Unit, the Fire Department, Crime Laboratory, or F.B.I.
- k. A General Occurrence (GO) report, DPD 250, shall be made.

## (3) Suspicious Device or Bomb Found on Premises

- a. Order immediate evacuation if not already affected. (300 feet in all directions.)
- b. Refrain from using the police radio within 100 feet of a suspicious device and prohibit the use of all private or commercial radios (news, CB, etc.) within 300 feet.
- c. Make proper notification for additional aid and assist the Bomb Unit.
- d. Persons arrested in connection with bomb scares or actual placing or exploding bomb or explosive device shall be taken to the Bomb Unit.
- e. The senior member of the Bomb Unit shall be in absolute command of the scene, explosion, disposal of devices, evidence, and investigation.
- f. Officers not assigned to the Bomb Unit shall not disturb, move or otherwise transport any explosive or suspected explosive device other than small arms ammunition, unless requested to do so by a member of the Bomb Unit or a command officer.
- g. The Denver Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation must be notified in every bombing incident. It shall be the responsibility of Bomb Squad personnel to notify the F.B.I. at the earliest possible time.

- h. A General Occurrence (GO) report, DPD 250, shall be made by uniform officers.

## (4) Procedures - Denver International Airport

Bomb threat procedures at Denver International Airport shall be conducted in accordance with procedures outlined by the Airport Police Bureau.

## (5) Bomb Threats to Police Facilities or Equipment

- a. When a telephone bomb threat is received, fill out the Bomb Threat Call Checklist, DPD 199, and immediately notify your command or supervisory officer.
- b. The command or supervisory officer shall make the necessary notifications and conduct a search of the threatened area.
- c. A General Occurrence (GO) report, DPD 250, shall be made and the Bomb Threat Call Checklist attached. }

**107.03 Investigation of Carbon Monoxide Cases**

- (1) The Building Department of the City and County of Denver is charged with the responsibility by municipal ordinance of investigating all carbon monoxide cases occurring in Denver.
- (2) All officers are instructed to notify the Communications Center whenever they have information relative to carbon monoxide investigations. The Communications Center personnel will, as soon as possible, notify the Building Department so that their inspector may be dispatched. }

