

HR LF	HR HF	Massachusetts Fire District - 14 Dive Rescue Team Activation DRT 3300-18-003	Effective Date 5/24/2026
LR LF	LR HF		

I) PURPOSE/SCOPE/APPLICATION

- A) To establish the Activation Process for the District 14 Dive Rescue Team
- B) This SOG will identify Team Activation procedures for the local incident commander, team members, and the Control Point.
- C) This SOG Shall apply for all Dive Rescue Team Activations

II) REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- A)

III) DEFINITIONS

- A) **Activation**: An agency has requested a response to the scene of an incident.
- B) **Staging**: An agency is on the scene of an incident and has requested a **dive** rescue team response to a designated staging area for stand-by.
- C) **Move-Up**: An agency has utilized all available resources and has requested a dive rescue team to move to a designated area to cover possible additional incidents.
- D) **Roll Call**: Number of available personnel for possible response.
- E) **Advisory Response**: At least 1 Operational Chief and 1 or more Team Leaders
- F) **Omitted**
- G) **Dive Response**: All available Operation Chiefs and all team members

IV) SPECIALIZED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A) All members shall be responsible for enforcing this SOG

HR LF	HR HF	Massachusetts Fire District - 14 Dive Rescue Team Activation DRT 3300-18-003	Effective Date 5/24/2026
LR LF	LR HF		

V) SAFETY

- A) The D14 Dive Team may be called upon in all weather conditions, at any time and often in situations of zero visibility to initiate a rescue/recovery operation. Individuals engaging in underwater rescue/recovery, particularly under adverse conditions must realize that these activities they are undertaking are inherently dangerous.

VI) ENFORCEMENT

- A) Failure to understand this Standard Operating Guideline may result in disciplinary action.
- B) Any deviation from this Standard Operating Guideline may require a written report to the Chief overseeing the team and or the District 14 Chair.
- C) This policy is for internal use only and does not enlarge an employee's civil liability in any way. The policy should not be construed as creating a higher duty of care, in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party civil claims against employees. A violation of this policy, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this department for non-judicial administrative action in accordance with the laws governing employee discipline.

VII) STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

- 1) Activation: The request for activation can be made from a local Incident Commander or Department in need via phone or radio to the District 14 Control Point. Upon request of response at the Control Point, team members will be notified via announcement of the team activation over the District 14 Radio, via a paging system, via text message, and via electronic mail. Members will

HR LF	HR HF	Massachusetts Fire District - 14 Dive Rescue Team Activation DRT 3300-18-003	Effective Date 5/24/2026
LR LF	LR HF		

acknowledge the team activation via “IAMRESPONDING” indicating “To Scene” for the activation. Team members will reply to this page through the “IAmResponding” network

B) Local Incident Dispatch Center Procedures

1) Upon receipt of a request for the District 14 Dive Rescue Team to respond the local dispatch will notify control point of incident and provide the following information:

- (a) Response Level Requested (See Definitions Above)
- (b) Type of Incident (Ice, Open Water, Salvage, Recovery, etc)
- (c) Location of incident and any cross streets
- (d) Number of victims
- (e) Command post location
- (f) Incident commander and on-scene phone number
- (g) Location of staging area for team members

C) It is the responsibility of team members to contact their department and notify them of their response and to contact the District 14 Control Point via “IAMRESPONDING” and make notification of their response.

D) Staging Area: For all responses a staging area for the District 14 Dive Rescue Team should be requested from the local Incident Commander. The staging area should be near to the scene, yet far enough away to allow for team members to conduct accountability procedures and give crew assignments prior to entering the

HR LF	HR HF	Massachusetts Fire District - 14 Dive Rescue Team Activation DRT 3300-18-003	Effective Date 5/24/2026
LR LF	LR HF		

scene. Assembling multiple units to respond as a group should be encouraged, but the group should respond to the staging area located near the incident.

E) Organization at the Scene:

- 1) The District 14 Dive Rescue Team works for the local Incident Commander. The first arriving team member, regardless of team rank, will oversee all team duties and assignments delegated by the Incident Commander, until relieved by another member of the dive team.
- 2) Once at the staging area, all personnel should sign in and report to accountability. Assignments will be given upon arrival and incident briefing and safety briefings will be conducted.
- 3) Once all personnel have reported in and the appropriate ICS type forms have been completed, the team will begin assignments following incident briefing and safety briefing.

F) Assembly Areas for Regional Response: If the District 14 Dive Rescue Team is requested to respond to a jurisdiction outside of District 14, the team shall be directed to an assembly area to continue to the staging area as a group. At the assembly area, all pertinent information about the incident, appropriate driving instructions, incident staging information, directions and other pertinent information will be made available.

VIII) RECORDS, REPORTS, CHARTS, FORMS

A) N/A

HR LF	HR HF	Massachusetts Fire District - 14 Dive Rescue Team Activation DRT 3300-18-003	Effective Date 5/24/2026
LR LF	LR HF		

Sog Review Dates: