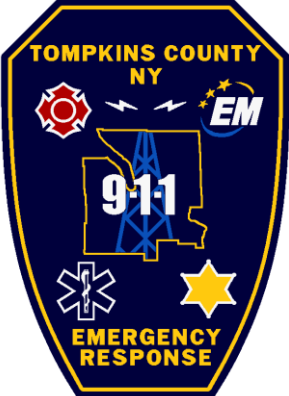


TOMPKINS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE

	Subject: CAD Nature Codes		Policy No.: 300.116
	Approved By: Communications Center Manager		Review Date: 01/2026
	Reviewing Authority: Policy Committee		P33 Standard(s): 7.2.2, 7.3, 7.4, 8.2.2, 9.2.2, 10.2.2
	Effective Date: 02/07/2020		NYSSA Standard(s): 32.1, 33.1, 34.1, 35.1, 38.1
	Last Revised: 01/10/2024	Replaces/Rescinds: 12/22/2023	CALEA Standard(s): N/A

PURPOSE:

To establish a list of Nature Codes available in the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, in addition to minimum resources to be dispatched to each incident. Response plans are set up for each jurisdiction and may recommend more than the minimum resources listed in this policy.

RESPONSIBILITY:

It is the responsibility of each ESD or Dispatch Supervisor to assign the most appropriate Nature Code based on the information provided.

POLICY:

When creating incidents in the CAD system, Dispatch personnel will select the most appropriate Nature Code from the following:

Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	911 HANG	A 9-1-1 call where the person has disconnected prior to the call being answered, or before the location could be determined.	X		
	911 OPEN	A 9-1-1 call that is still connected but no direct contact has been made with the caller.	X	X	X
	ABDOMINAL	EMD Protocol 1 – Abdominal Pain / Problems.			X

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Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	AIR 1	Initial response to an aircraft emergency (Level 1) involving an aircraft in distress or that has crashed.	X	X	X
	AIR 2	Expanded response to an aircraft emergency (Level 2) involving aircraft that has crashed, or a large aircraft (60 seats or more) that is in distress or that has crashed.	X	X	X
	AIR INCIDENTS	Laser strikes on any aircraft (fixed wing or rotary), unruly passengers on board a plane, and on-board aircraft medical emergency assistance.	X		
	AIRCRAFT EMERGENCY	Response to an aircraft emergency or incident that occurs outside the ARFF Response Plan.	X	X	X
	ALARM FIRE	Any type of alarm signal from a commercial or residential property, including troubles, tampers, supervisory, and water flows.		X	
	ALARM POLICE	Any type of alarm signal from a commercial or residential property, including silent, hold up, duress, and panic, or vehicle alarm.	X		
	ALLERGY	EMD Protocol 2 – Allergies / Envenomation.			X
	ANIMAL BITES	EMD Protocol 3 – Animal Bites / Attacks.			X
	ANIMAL PROBLEM	Any type of animal that is stray, dead, loose, threatening or rabid.	X		
X	ASSAULT	EMD Protocol 4 – Assault / Sexual Assault. Physical injury or harm to a person without his / her consent, may include homicide. Rape is a Sex Offense.	X		X

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Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	ASSIST	Any type of assistance provided to another agency, entity or person, including disabled watercraft, child custody exchanges, and personal property retrievals. Excludes escorts.	X		
	BACK PAIN	EMD Protocol 5 – Back Pain.			X
	BAD CHECK	Someone has received a check with insufficient funds.	X		
X	BOMB THREAT	Someone has received a threat of an explosive device at any location.	X	X	X
	BREATHING PROB	EMD Protocol 6 – Breathing Problems.			X
	BRUSH FIRE	Fire consisting of grass, bushes, trees, or vegetation.		X	
	BURGLARY	The taking of property without the owner's permission from any commercial or residential dwelling.	X		
	BURNS	EMD Protocol 7 – Burns / Scalds / Explosion / Blast.			X
X	CARDIAC ARREST	EMD Protocol 9 – Cardiac Respiratory Arrest.	X		X
	CARE FOLLOW-UP	Care Team use, only.			
	CHEST PAIN	EMD Protocol 10 – Chest Pain (Non-Traumatic).			X
	CHILD ABUSE	Any type of neglect or abuse against a child.	X		
	CHOKING	EMD Protocol 11 – Choking.			X
	CIVIL CMPLNT	Incidents not covered by criminal law, including landlord / tenant disputes, evictions, and monies owed.	X		

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Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	CO POISONING	EMD Protocol 8 – Carbon Monoxide / Inhalation / Hazmat / CBRN. May also be related to HAZMAT.		X	X
	CONTROLLED BURN	Brush fire conducted or permitted for the purpose of abating hazards or removing undesirable growth. <i>(DOER nature code, only.)</i>	No unit is attached to these.		
	CONVULSIONS	EMD Protocol 12 – Convulsions / Seizures.			X
	CRIM MISCHIEF	The destruction or damage of any property with malicious intent, including graffiti.	X		
X	DEAD BODY	Found human remains, such as decomposed body, parts, or bones.	X		
	DIABETIC PROB	EMD Protocol 13 – Diabetic Problems.			X
	DISORDERLY COND	A person who is disrupting the public peace.	X		
X	DISPUTE	Any type of disturbance, verbal or physical, between unrelated individuals who may or not know each other.	X		
X	DOMESTIC	Any type of disturbance, verbal or physical, between related individuals or individuals residing in the same house.	X		
X	DROWNING	EMD Protocol 14 – Drowning (Near) / Diving / Scuba Accident.	X	X	X
	DRUGS	A person who is selling, using, growing or manufacturing any type of illicit narcotics.	X		

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Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	ELECTROCUTION	EMD Protocol 15 – Electrocution / Lightning.		X	X
	EMS	Initial EMS call type used before EMD protocol is determined.			X
	EMS STANDBY	Law enforcement or fire department request for an ambulance to stand by.			X
	ENTRAPMENT	EMD Protocol 22 – Inaccessible Incident / Other Entrapments (Non-Vehicle).		X	X
	ESCORT	Escort by law enforcement, including funeral details and bank drops.	X		
	EXPOSURE	EMD Protocol 20 – Heat / Cold Exposure.			X
	EYE PROBLEMS	EMD Protocol 16 – eye problems / Injuries.			X
	FALLS	EMD Protocol 17 – Falls.			X
	FIRE STANDBY	Law enforcement or ambulance request for a fire unit to standby.		X	
	FIREWORKS	Any type of fireworks or firecrackers, including sparklers.	X		
	FRAUD	Intentional fraud against a person or business, i.e. forgery, identity theft, phone / internet scams, and counterfeiting.	X		
	HARASSMENT	Systematic and / or continued unwanted actions involving threats or demands, i.e. stalking, violation of protective orders, phone calls, or text messages.	X		
	HAZMAT	Any incident involving chemicals, biological / radiological / nuclear agents, including fuel spills / leaks, or meth labs. May be related to CO POISONING or CO ALARMS.		X	

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Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	HEADACHE	EMD Protocol 18 – Headache.			X
	HEART PROBLEM	EMD Protocol 19 – Heart problems / AICD.			X
	HEMORRHAGE	EMD Protocol 21 – Hemorrhage / Lacerations.			X
	INFORMATION	Used for documenting referrals to other agencies, or when providing general information to the public.	X		
	INJURED PERSON	Documentation of an injury to an on-duty law enforcement officer or inmate (initiated by law enforcement, only).	X		
	INTOXICATION	Someone being suspected of being under the influence of alcohol in public, excluding alcohol poisoning.	X		
	LAKE ASSIST	Watercraft out of fuel or having mechanical issues.	X		
	LAKE EMERGENCY	Watercraft sinking, fire, medical, or drowning.	X	X	X
	LOCAL LAW	Violation of municipal ordinance, i.e. panhandling, open containers, or the sale of alcohol or tobacco to minors.	X		
X	MISSING PERSON	A person whose whereabouts are unknown, or the forcible taking of a person against his / her will.	X		
	NOISE CMLPNT	Any noise disturbance, including loud music or party, barking dog, car horn, or heavy machinery.	X		
	OOE EMS	A medical received by another dispatch center.			X
	OUTSIDE FIRE	Any fire that does not involve a structure or brush, including dumpster fires, pole fires, sign fires, and bon fires.		X	

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Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	OVERDOSE	EMD Protocol 23 – Overdose / Poisoning (Ingestion). Includes alcohol poisoning.	X		X
	PAGE REQUEST	Page request for DSS agencies.	No unit is attached to these.		
	PANDEMIC FLU	EMD Protocol 36 – Pandemic / Epidemic / Outbreak (Surveillance or Triage).			X
	PARKING PROBLEM	Any parking violation, including expired meters, blocking fire lanes or hydrants, driveways or loading zones, or parking in handicapped or permit spots without a placard.	X		
	PD ACCIDENT	Motor vehicle or watercraft accident with no reported injuries, can involve any type of vehicle.	X		
X	PI ACCIDENT	EMD Protocol 29 – Traffic / Transportation Incidents. Motor vehicle or watercraft accident with injuries, can involve any type of vehicle.	X	X	X
	PREGNANCY	EMD Protocol 24 – Pregnancy / Childbirth / Miscarriage.			X
	PROBATION		Probation Officers are attached.		
	PROPERTY CHECK	Check by law enforcement of a business, residence, or other property.	X		
	PROPERTY CMLNT	Someone has lost or found property.	X		
X	PSYCHIATRIC	EMD Protocol 25 – Psychiatric / Abnormal Behavior / Suicide Attempt. Includes suicide threats.	X		X
	PUBLIC HEALTH	For use during declared health emergency (i.e. COVID, etc.).	X		

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Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	REC VEHICLE	Any complaint regarding a recreational vehicle, including ATVs, snowmobiles, and golf carts.	X		
	REPOSSESSED	Notification by a towing company of the intent to repossess a vehicle.	X		
X	ROBBERY	The taking or depriving of one's property by fear, or threat or use of force, either with or without a weapon, including carjacking.	X		
	SEND-E	EMD Protocol – Advanced Secondary Emergency Notification of Dispatch, Emergency.			X
	SEND-N	EMD Protocol – Advanced Secondary Emergency Notification of Dispatch, Emergency.			X
	SERVICE CALL	Any type of service call, including flooding, sewage problems, wires or trees down, or smoke detector malfunctions.		X	
X	SEX OFFENSE	Any unwanted incident of a sexual nature, including rape and molestation.	X		
X	SHOOTING	EMD Protocol 27 – Stab / Gunshot / Penetrating Trauma. May include homicide.	X		X
X	SHOTS FIRED	Suspected type of shots heard.	X		
	SICK PERSON	EMD Protocol 26 – Sick Person (Specific Diagnosis).			X
	SPECIAL DETAIL	Any event involving law enforcement participation, including DWI and BUNY checkpoints.	X		
X	STABBING	EMD Protocol 27 – Stab / Gunshot / Penetrating Trauma. May include homicide.	X		X

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Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	STROKE	EMD Protocol 28 – Stroke (CVA) / Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA).			X
X	STRUCTURE FIRE	Any fire inside or attached to a structure, including chimney and appliance fires, and smoke inside a structure.	X	X	X
	SUSPICIOUS	Suspicious person, vehicle, or incident, includes prowling, loitering, gambling, and prostitution.	X		
	TECH RESCUE	TBD	X	X	X
	THEFT	The taking of personal property without the owner's permission from any open area or from a vehicle, includes shoplifting and vehicle theft.	X		
	TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	Any report of a motor vehicle that is not an accident or parking issue, including reckless or suspected intoxicated drivers, abandoned or disabled vehicles blocking a roadway, road rage incidents.	X		
	TRAFFIC OFFENSE	Officer-initiated traffic stop	X		
	TRANSFER	Inter-facility transfer by EMS.	(Used by Ambulance Companies, primarily Bangs.)		
	TRANSFER EMERG	Inter-facility transfer by EMS.			
	TRANSFER SCHED	Inter-facility transfer by EMS.			
	TRANSFER URGENT	Inter-facility transfer by EMS.			
	TRANSPORT	Transportation by Law Enforcement of a person, including to and from jail or court. (Initiated by law enforcement.)	X		
	TRAUMATIC INJ	EMD Protocol 30 – Traumatic Injuries (Specific).			X
	TRESPASSING	Unwanted person who is refusing to leave the premise or property.	X		

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Priority #1	CAD Nature Code	Description	Disciplines to Dispatch		
			LE/SC	Fire	EMS
	UNCLASSIFIED	Used when no other nature code is applicable.	X		
	UNCONSCIOUS	EMD Protocol 31 – Unconscious / Fainting (Near).			X
	UNKNOWN FIRE			X	
	UNKNOWN PROBLEM	EMD Protocol 32 – Unknown Problem (Man Down).			X
	UNSECURE PREMIS	Report of an open entry, garage door, or window at a building, may include an unlocked door located by a Law Enforcement officer during a premise check.	X		
	VEHICLE FIRE	Any type of motor vehicle that is on fire that is not in or attached to a structure. May also include smoke coming from a vehicle.	X	X	
X	WARRANT	Warrant service by law enforcement. (Initiated by law enforcement.)	X		
X	WEAPONS	Any type of weapons violation, including illegal possession or unlawful display.	X		
	WELFARE CHECK	Any welfare check of an individual whose general wellbeing may be in question, including the threat of suicide made, but the caller is not with the individual. Consider EMS resource.	X		
	Z TEST CALL	Used to test new addresses, response plans, etc. in CAD. (<i>DOER nature code, only.</i>)			