

Berrien County Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

The Goal

Create a uniform Mutual aid request form that applies to MABAS departments as well as those not currently participating in MABAS. This will allow a more streamlined dispatch process resulting in reduced time and increased dispatch accuracy.

Each department shall complete Mutual Aid Box Cards appropriate for their communities. Participation in MABAS Division 3501 is not required.

Challenges Identified

- Not all departments are utilizing MABAS Box cards
- Not all departments are using the same language and description
- Not all departments are using the same box card format
- Not all departments are requesting alarms from dispatch in the same manner

Box Card Development and terminology

Initial Dispatch

This column will be utilized for all initial dispatch units including any automatic aid (Include EMS requests if they are desired based on type of response)

Mutual Aid Units Requested

All formatting shall consist of the Department Name and the type of unit request being requested (i.e. Galien Tanker or Three Oaks Engine). No unit numbers shall be used.

Box Card Name

Follow the naming process below based on the various incident types.

Code	Emergency Call Type
R	Residential Structure Fires
C	Commercial / Industrial Fires
G	Wildland / Vegetation Fires
V	Vehicle Extrication / Highway Incidents
H	High Occupancy (Hospital, School, Nursing Home)
W	Water Rescue
T	Train Derailment / Accident
M	Mass Casualty Incident
A	Active Violence / Bomb Threat
S	Water Shuttle / Tanker

Box Alarm Number

The numbering of the box cards should include the number of the box card followed by the call type based on the key above. To name your first or only residential box card you would use "1-R". If you have two or more, the subsequent numbering shall be 2-R, 3-R, 4-R, etc. If you also have two Commercial box cards, you will use the numbering 1-C and 2-C. Utilizing this format will allow for changes if you ever need to add or remove box cards for a specific type of incident. No reference to your department ID should be included.