5-06/050.45 - Mountain Search/Rescue Initial Procedure

When a search or rescue operation is indicated, the station/unit watch commander shall be responsible for:

- Alerting SEB's Emergency Services Detail, who shall respond as needed;
- Assuming command or designating an alternate, who shall be a regular deputy of the Department, to act as incident commander;
- Notifying the unit commander, area commander, or Department duty commander;
- Alerting station/unit coordinator;
- Notifying Reserve Forces Bureau when Reserve Search and Rescue Team involved;
- Issuing a Code 20 broadcast, if appropriate; and
- Notifying the U.S. Forestry Dispatcher.

The incident commander shall be responsible for:

- Instituting search or rescue operations;
- Alerting and mobilizing regular and Reserve personnel;
- Alerting Aero Bureau; and
- Requesting assistance and additional personnel or equipment, through channels, as circumstances warrant.