

The **Fire Police Act** is found in Title 35, Health and Safety. It currently consists of three sections of Chapter 1200. The first section is the basic Fire Police Law, the second relates to mutual aid, and the third reiterates how Fire Police must wear a badge and work for the Police.

***1201. Nomination and confirmation; powers.***

Any volunteer fire department in any city, borough, town, township or home rule municipality may nominate any of its members as special fire police. All special fire police so nominated shall, before they enter upon their duties as such, be confirmed by the mayor of the city, mayor of the borough or town, the chairman of the board of commissioners or supervisors of the township, or the chief executive officer of a home rule municipality, as the case may be. When so confirmed and sworn and displaying a badge of authority they shall have full power to regulate traffic and keep crowds under control at or in the vicinity of any fire on which their companies are in attendance and to exercise such other police powers as necessary in order to facilitate and prevent interference with the work of firemen extinguishing fires and, in addition, shall have police powers necessary to perform their duties when functioning as special fire police at any function, event, or parade conducted by an organization other than a volunteer fire company, providing the request to perform these duties is made by the governing body of the city, borough, town or township, or home rule municipality, in which the event will be conducted, or when accidents, floods, or any other emergencies require performance of such traffic-control and crowd control duties. Such duties may be performed without prior request from the governing body until the arrival of proper state, city, borough, town, township or home rule municipality, police authority and thereafter subject to direction of such police authority until the emergency no longer exists. A person functioning as a special fire police, and performing a duty under any of the above conditions, shall be deemed to performing the duties of his employment. Fire police performing such duties shall be identifiable by, at minimum, the wearing of a distinctive arm band or hat or uniform or insignia. Under no circumstances shall this act be construed to grant special fire police the right and/or power to use firearms or other weapons in the exercise of special fire police powers granted hereunder.

***1202. Powers in another city, borough, town or township.***

Whenever any volunteer fire company is in attendance on a fire, or when such special fire police are on special duty as herein before provided, such special fire police in any city, borough, town or township other than the one in which such fire company is organized shall have the same power and authority in such other city, borough, town or township as they would have in that by which they were appointed.

***1203. Badge; control.***

All special fire police when on duty shall display a badge of authority and shall be subject to the control of the chief of police, if any, of the city, borough, town or township which they are serving, or, if none, a member of the Pennsylvania State Police.