

East Brooklyn Fire Department



Standard Operational Procedures & Guidelines

Updated October 2021

East Brooklyn Fire Department Span of Control



Command Post Operations
Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to ensure the safety and well-being of emergency response personnel while providing efficient utilization of East Brooklyn Fire and Mutual Aid resources and ensuring appropriate managerial personnel are appraised of adverse conditions. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this procedure. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be strictly adhered to while the member is the incident commander

Policy: The Fire Department Officer in Charge will initiate a Command Post for all incidents that it responds to.

Procedure: When called to an emergency, the Fire Department Officer in Charge will create a Command Post to coordinate the implementation of emergency resources. Depending upon the situation, the Command Post will be either fixed as in a building or mobile as in a vehicle.

The Fire Department Officer in Charge shall:

1. Implement all or part of the Fire Protection annex of the Facilities Emergency Management Plan (if applicable) at any incident where there is property damage or the threat thereof or at any incident where the potential exists for adverse public relations
2. Depending upon the size and scope, activate the Emergency Management Plan.
3. Utilize mutual aid officers, as necessary.
4. Assign command and staff positions as needed to support the successful mitigation of the incident.

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5. For large-scale incidents, ensure that the Command Post is clearly identified, as well as the individuals assigned to the Command Post using vests and flags.
6. Request Mutual Aid as necessary and order the callback of off duty personnel.
7. Assign Mutual Aid resources to support the successful mitigation of the incident.

Incident Command System Support***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member, and to clearly delineate the expectation for Officers during specific emergencies. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each Officer of the East Brooklyn Fire Department

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this procedure. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be strictly adhered to as long as there is sufficient manpower on the apparatus.

Policy: Officers will respond to all active emergencies if available when notified and assume Command roles as delineated in the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Procedure: When notified of an emergency actively occurring within the boundaries of the East Brooklyn Fire Department response area, Officers are expected to respond to the scene and participate in the Incident Command System (ICS) structure to mitigate the situation.

1. An Officer can be assigned to manage any Division, Group or Command Staff function by the Incident Commander.
2. In accordance with the Emergency Management Plan and the National Incident Management System (NIMS), Chief Officers may assume command of any situation involving this Department in conjunction with the Incident Commander.

Responses to Structural Fires***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to structural fires. This type of call for service is among the most hazardous. A clear understanding of this guideline will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to structural fires.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Definition: Structural fires are those fires reported in any type of inhabitable dwelling. Fires in garages and outbuildings are also encompassed in this guideline.

Application: The following components should be observed during responses to structural fires:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine-192 will be the first pieces to respond followed by Squad-192 and then Service-192. Depending on the specific address, and available personnel Squad 192 may respond first. The incident commander will request any additional apparatus. Apparatus and personnel will respond in emergency mode.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. A 360-degree walk around of the involved structure should be done. This ensures all pertinent information will be revealed to the incident commander. The size-up should include key points such as:
 1. Number of stories.
 2. Type of construction.
 3. Fire conditions observed.
 4. The fire's location within the structure.
 5. Any information about occupants.
 6. Any additional hazards that may exist.

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- **Incident Action Plan (IAP):** The incident commander will develop an IAP to manage the incident. The IAP will be dependent upon whether the fire is attacked offensively or defensively.

The East Brooklyn Fire Department will arrive at the scene of all reported structural fires with the intention of carrying out an aggressive interior attack unless given other orders by the incident commander.

- **Offensive Mode:** This mode is characterized by an interior attack of the fire. Simultaneously ventilation and interior searches are being carried out.
 - **Defensive Mode:** This mode is characterized by an exterior fire attack. Generally, the incident commander deems that an interior attack will pose more of a risk than a benefit to his/her personnel.
- **Incident Priorities:** The acronym RECEO VS should be followed to prioritize the actions taken to mitigate the incident.
 1. Rescue
 2. Exposures Protection
 3. Confinement of Fire
 4. Extinguishment
 5. Overhaul
 6. Ventilation
 7. Salvage
- **Rescue:** The preservation of life through search and rescue is one of this fire department's highest priorities.
 - Search crews should consist of a minimum of two (2) certified firefighters, but it is recommended that they consist of three (3) certified firefighters, one (1) of which should be a company officer.
 - If available, a thermal imaging camera (TIC) should be utilized.
 - Crewmembers should also search with the aid of hand tools.
 - After an area has been searched it should in some way be marked to announce to others that the area is clear.
- **Exposure Protection:** Exposure protection prevents any fire from extending to other uninvolved structures.
 - Exposure protection should be done as needed through the use of hand lines and/or water monitors.

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- **Confinement and Extinguishment:** These are the means by which the fire will be brought under control.
 - Only personnel in full PPE (personal protective equipment), including breathing apparatus, who are state certified, and department qualified to wear SCBA's (self-contained breathing apparatus) will be allowed to operate in an IDLH (immediately dangerous to life and health) atmosphere.
 - Interior fire crews should consist of a minimum of two (2) certified firefighters, but it is recommended that they consist of three (3) certified firefighters, one (1) of which should be a company officer. The company officer on the crew should utilize the department's thermal imaging camera (TIC).
 - For every person operating on the interior of the structure there should be at least an equal number of certified firefighters in a readied state on the exterior of the structure who can be activated at a moment's notice (2 in/ 2 out).
 - The proper size hose line should be selected for the type of fire conditions that will be encountered.
 - A R.I.T./ FA.S.T. team will be assigned to every building fire.
 - A safety officer will be assigned to every building fire.
 - A back up line of equal or greater size in diameter than attack lines shall be put in place off of a separate pumper with an additional crew consisting of a minimum of two (2) certified firefighters, but it is recommended that they consist of three (3) certified firefighters, one (1) of which should be a company officer. The company officer on the crew should utilize the department's thermal imaging camera (TIC)

- **Overhaul:** Overhauling ensures that all hidden fire and hot spots are out, which eliminates the possibility of a rekindle. Personnel should remember that activity during this stage of the fire might hinder needed investigations by police or fire marshals.
 - Personnel should open all enclosed spaces that may have been subjected to fire to check for extension.
 - Areas with smoke issuing from them should be considered hot and must be cooled.

- **Ventilation:** Horizontal and/or vertical ventilation may be needed so that access can be gained to the interior of a structure.
 - Ventilation should be carried out as needed in order to make an effective interior attack and/or to preserve property.

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- **Salvage:** Property conservation is done through salvage related activities.
 - Personnel should use salvage covers to protect furniture and other valuables from water or smoke damage.
 - If possible, items can be brought to the exterior of the structure as another means of preventing damage.
 - Salvage covers can also be used as carpet runners or folded to channel water runoff.

- All members shall have a portable radio with them, secured under their turnout coat, if possible, with a radio strap and shall be on the same operating frequency based on the incident commander's orders. The officer or senior firefighter shall be the only member to have their radio on at all times and be the only one to communicate with the operations'/command officer. Other members will have their radio off, or volume turned down in case an emergency arises with the officer, and they are unable to communicate.

- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots

- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**

- ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

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Responses to Vehicle Fires***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to vehicle fires. A clear understanding of this guideline will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to vehicle fires.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be strictly adhered to during responses to vehicle fires:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine-192 and Squad-192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus that should respond to vehicle fires and then Service-192. The incident commander will request any additional pieces of apparatus. Personnel and apparatus will respond to vehicle fires in emergency mode.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. A 360-degree walk around of the involved vehicle should be done. This ensures all pertinent information such as any hazards, occupants needing rescue, or any exposures, will be revealed to the incident commander.
- **Apparatus Placement:** Apparatus should be parked uphill of the involved vehicle if possible. This will ensure the apparatus is safe of any fluid runoff or instability of the involved vehicle. Consideration needs to be given to pressurized gas cylinders in vehicle bumpers and hatchbacks, which can pose a serious hazard to apparatus and personnel. If the vehicle fire takes place on a roadway, personnel should remember that traffic may continue to flow past the incident.
- **Fire Attack:** All personnel engaging in fire attack at vehicle fires will wear full P.P.E., which includes an S.C.B.A. These personnel will be state certified, and department qualified to wear S.C.B.A.'s.

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- No less than a 1 3/4" hose line with at least two (2) personnel manning it should be utilized for fire attack. A carbon dioxide (CO2) fire extinguisher should also be deployed from the apparatus, and placed in a readily accessible location, in the event of any running fluid fires.
- Personnel are to advance their hose line toward the involved vehicle at a 45-degree angle in order to stay clear of pressurized gas cylinders that may be in the vehicle's bumpers or hatchbacks.
- While personnel are carrying out suppression efforts a crew should start gaining access to the fire vehicle's engine compartment, passenger cabin, and trunk with hand tools. Hose teams may have to cover personnel operating hand tools near the vehicle if it is still involved.
- Once all visible fire has been knocked down the vehicle should be overhauled to cool any hotspots.

- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
 - ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
 - ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

- ***NOTE: If fire is in a parking garage, refer to SOG-RG022 Motor Vehicle Fires-Parking Garage***

Responses to Brush Fires***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide each member with a clear understanding of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to brush fires. A clear understanding of this guideline will promote the highest level of safety possible.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to brush fires.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components are to be observed during all brush fire responses:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine-192 will be the first pieces to respond followed by Squad-192 and then Service-192. Depending on the specific address, and available personal Squad 192 maybe first to respond to a report of a brush fire. The ATV will be requested from Mortlake Fire. The incident commander will call for any additional pieces if they are needed. Personnel and apparatus are to respond in emergency mode.

- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. Only if possible, a 360-degree walk around of the involved area should be done. This ensures all pertinent information such as any hazardous terrain, hazardous materials, or any exposures, will be revealed to the incident commander.

- ❖ **Personnel are not required to be SCBA certified to take part in suppression efforts at brush fires.**

- **Personal Protective Equipment** needed to operate at brush fires is:
 1. Head protection
 2. Eye protection
 3. Gloves
 4. Long pants (bunker pants or denim jeans)
 5. Footwear with hard rubber soles

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- **Fire Attack:** The highest priority is to extinguish, or slow, the outward spread of fire. This can be done in a couple of ways through different attack methods around the perimeter of the fire.
 - ◆ **Direct Attack** implies that personnel are utilizing bladder bags, hose lines, and/or hand tools to extinguish fire on the moving flame front.
 - ◆ **Indirect Attack** is when personnel build a break, or fire line, around the main body of the fire. When line is properly constructed, for this geographic area a three (3) foot clearing down to mineral soil is sufficient, the fire will burn up to the break, but will not extend past it. This is an effective means of stopping fires when water or other extinguishing agents are in short supply.
 - ◆ **Specific suppression operations will be carried out at the discretion of the incident commander or his/her designee.**
- **Mop-up** ensures that all hotspots and any hidden fire, such as in fallen trees or stumps, has been extinguished. Thorough mop-up will prevent rekindles. The most effective mop-up is done when hand tools and water are used in conjunction.

Although no specialized training is required for members to operate at brush fires, all should be aware that serious hazards are posed at incidents of this nature. In-house training is highly recommended prior to responding to these fires. No one under the age of 18 may take part in extinguishing standing timber fires.

Responses to Chimney Fires***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to chimney fires. A clear understanding of this guideline will promote the highest level of safety possible.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to chimney fires.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be strictly adhered to during responses to chimney fires:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 apparatus to respond to chimney fires. Followed by Squad 192 and Service 192. Depending on the specific address, and available personal Squad 192 may respond first. The incident commander will request any additional pieces of apparatus. Personnel and apparatus will respond to chimney fires in emergency mode.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. A 360-degree walk around of the building should be done as well as a check of the interior of the structure on each level in the area of the chimney. This ensures all pertinent information such as any extension to the structure, special hazards, etc., will be revealed to the incident commander.
- **Fire Attack:** Suppression efforts at chimney fires should observe the following items:
 - ◆ A minimum of two (2) SCBA certified and department qualified members with full P.P.E. should be sent to the roof of the structure to handle operations at the apex of the flue. The roof crew should bring all needed chimney fire equipment with them, such as a portable radio, chimney bombs, chains, weights, and brushes. Another crew of at least two (2) members in full P.P.E., including S.C.B.A.'s, should be sent to the structure's firebox, or stove. This crew should be equipped with at least a portable radio, water can, thermal imaging camera and 4 gas meter. The roof crew and the crew at the firebox have to be in constant communication.

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- ◆ The crew sent to the stove should knock down all fire in the firebox and remove the smoldering material to a safe location on the exterior of the structure.
 - ◆ The roof crew can begin suppression efforts from their location if any fire is visible. Fire suppression should be carried out with the department's pre-made dry chemical and/or Purple K chimney bombs. Sending weighted chains down the flue may need to be done during this step if creosol buildup is heavy. Personnel engaging in suppression should observe full respiratory and facial protection by wearing their S.C.B.A. mask and breathing air.
 - ◆ The use of P.P.V. and the discharge of a Dry Chemical Extinguisher into the fire box is also another method that may be utilized for extinguishment of active fire within a chimney. **WATER WILL ONLY BE USED AS A LAST RESORT.**
 - ◆ Only after all fire has been knocked down will the department's chimney brushes be attached to the chains to be passed down the flue. This will prevent irreversible damage to the brushes. While the chains and brushes are at work in the flue the personnel at the firebox should be cleaning out the falling creosol and removing it to the exterior of the structure.
 - ◆ The incident commander should also assign personnel to continuously evaluate the other portions of the structure to ensure there is no fire extension. The use of the department's thermal imaging camera may be able to aid in this process.
 - ◆ It is at the discretion of this incident commander to place the situation under control. The East Brooklyn Fire Department is not responsible for thoroughly cleaning a property owner's flue, but simply for bringing the incident under control, and recommending that the chimney is inspected by a qualified chimney cleaning service.
- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
 - ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

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Responses to Pole Fires***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to telephone pole fires. A clear understanding of this guideline will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to telephone pole fires.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components are to be observed during all responses to telephone pole fires:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 and Squad 192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus to respond to telephone pole fires. The incident commander will call for any additional pieces if needed. Apparatus and personnel are to respond in emergency mode.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. Only if possible, a 360-degree walk around of the involved telephone poles should be done. This ensures all pertinent information such as any downed wires, exposures, etc., will be revealed to the incident commander.
- ❖ **THE HIGHEST PRIORITY IS TO SECURE A PERIMETER AT A SAFE DISTANCE AROUND THE INVOLVED POLE (S) AND DENY ENTRY TO EVERYONE BUT POWER COMPANY PERSONNEL. NO SUPPRESSION ACTIONS ARE TO BE TAKEN.**
- Securing a safe perimeter around the involved telephone pole (s) may lead to the closure of roads and/or the evacuation of nearby dwellings/structures. All precautions to ensure life safety and the protection of property will be taken. All member's and apparatus shall stay a minimum of 2 poles away from the affected pole.
- The incident commander should provide the dispatch center with the number displayed on the involved pole (s), or the closest pole number, and the appropriate response priority level for the power company.

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- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
- ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**
- Fire department personnel will remain on scene until the power company has arrived and they have secured power to the pole (s) involved. **FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL WILL REMAIN ON SCENE UNTIL ALL HAZARDS HAVE BEEN SECURED.**

Responses to Dumpster Fires
Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to dumpster fires. A clear understanding of this guideline will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to dumpster fires.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components are to be observed during responses to dumpster fires:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 and Squad 192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus that should respond to a report of a dumpster fire. The incident commander will call for additional pieces of apparatus if they are needed. Personnel and apparatus will respond to dumpster fires in emergency mode.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. A 360-degree walk around of the dumpster should be done. This ensures all pertinent information such as any hazards, exposures, etc., will be revealed to the incident commander.
- **Fire Attack:** All personnel engaging in fire attack at dumpster fires will wear full PPE, which includes an S.C.B.A. These personnel will be state certified, and department qualified to wear S.C.B.A.'s.
- No less than a 1 ¾" hose line with at least two (2) personnel manning it should be utilized for fire attack.
- There is no need for an aggressive fire attack unless there are exposures in close proximity to the involved dumpster. The main body of the fire will be contained within the metal dumpster.
- Additional personnel with full P.P.E. and breathing apparatus should move loose articles in the dumpster around with hand tools to ensure that all fire has been extinguished and hotspots are cool.

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- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include a S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
- ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

Dewatering Responses

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to all members of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to calls for dewatering. A clear understanding of this guideline will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to dewatering calls.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this policy. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Definitions: Dewatering is the removal of a quantity of water from a place that it is not supposed to be.

Application: The following components are to be observed during all dewatering responses.

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Squad 192 (Portable Pumps and Equipment) and Engine 192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus that should respond to dewatering calls. The incident commander will request any additional pieces of apparatus. Personnel and apparatus will respond to dewatering calls in non-emergency mode.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. This ensures all pertinent information such as any electrical hazards, contaminants in the water, or excessively deep water, will be revealed to the incident commander.
- ❑ **All of the hazards posing a danger to personnel and members of the public will be secured prior to the start of dewatering.** A serious threat to responders and members of the public is electrical current that may be present in a large volume of water, such as in a basement. **The safety of fire department personnel and members of the public are of the utmost importance.**
- **Mitigation:** The proper size pump should be utilized depending upon the volume of water that needs to be removed. Submersible pumps work well for small quantities of water while gas powered portable pumps work well for larger quantities.

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- Consideration needs to be given to the area where the water is being removed to when setting up discharge hoses. The water that is removed should not interfere with another individual's property. Storm drains are an effective place to discharge water as long as the operation doesn't create a traffic hazard and there are no hazardous chemicals present.
- Personnel should remember that when gas powered pumps are in operation a large amount of carbon monoxide (CO) will be produced and may collect in low areas, such as in basements. CO may also extend into the living portions of residences. For the safety of personnel, and the homeowners, CO should be continuously monitored.
- The East Brooklyn Fire Department offers dewatering as a service to residents within the East Brooklyn Fire District. There is no guarantee that all water will be removed through our efforts, but we will make the best attempt possible. Any effort made is better than none at all.

Responses to Carbon Monoxide Calls

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to carbon monoxide alarms or related calls. A clear understanding of this guideline will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to carbon monoxide alarms or related calls.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components are to be observed during responses to carbon monoxide alarms or related calls:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 and Squad192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus that should respond to carbon monoxide alarms or related calls. The incident commander will call for additional pieces of apparatus if they are needed. Personnel and apparatus will respond to carbon monoxide alarms or related calls in non-emergency mode unless the dispatch center indicates that there are victims present with symptoms. Any carbon monoxide call where victims report some type of related illness an emergency response by apparatus and personnel will be warranted. The dispatch center will also start the appropriate number of ambulances given the information they receive.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. As much information as possible should be collected from the occupants of the structure in question.
- **Incident Mitigation:** The following steps should be observed to stabilize carbon monoxide incidents:
 - ❖ **NOTE: The rendering of medical assistance to patients exposed to carbon monoxide should take place as soon as possible, and in a fresh-air environment.**
 - ❖ **ALL occupants should be evacuated and not allowed to re-enter the structure until the building is deemed safe.**
- ◆ A minimum of two (2) members who are state certified, and department qualified to wear S.C.B.A.'s will be the only personnel to make initial entry into structures suspected of containing high levels of carbon monoxide. It is at the discretion of the incident commander whether or not entry personnel are required to wear their full P.P.E.

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- ◆ Personnel with the appropriate level of respiratory protection are to enter the structure with the department's PhD2 Multi-Gas Meter. The meter should first be calibrated in fresh air before entrance is made. Personnel should close all exterior doors and windows they find open in order to detect any carbon monoxide that may be in the environment. The PhD2 Multi-Gas Meter alarms at 35 PPM of carbon monoxide in the atmosphere.
 - ◆ Personnel should meter all rooms on all levels of the structure. While taking readings the meter should be raised to ceiling level and lowered to floor level so that the widest possible range of samples are collected. It is important to remember that carbon monoxide is heavier than oxygen so it will settle in low areas creating stratification in the atmosphere. Thus, making it imperative to sample air at a variety of levels.
 - ◆ If excessive levels of carbon monoxide are detected efforts should be made to determine what source is generating the CO. When the source is located it should be secured to prevent any further CO emission. If it is determined that the CO is being generated as a result of faulty home heating equipment, the incident commander should meet with the property owner(s) so that the appropriate utilities can be contacted.
 - ◆ After the structure has been metered, and the source has been determined, fire department personnel should begin to ventilate the building. Doors and windows can be opened in conjunction with the use of the department's fans to accomplish this process properly. Continuous metering should be done, and personnel should maintain their respiratory protection as long as CO levels remain above acceptable limits (+35 PPM). Metering is to take place until atmospheric readings have returned to normal. **NO STRUCTURE WILL BE TURNED OVER TO ANY PROPERTY OWNER UNTIL FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL CERTIFY THAT NO ATMOSPHERIC HAZARD EXISTS ANY LONGER.**
 - ◆ Once the atmosphere in the structure has been certified, and proper arrangements have been made to accommodate the property owner(s), fire department personnel can begin to secure.
- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
 - ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

Prepared by: Patrick Gauthier

Approved by: *James Warren*
Fire Chief James Warren

Responses to Downed Wires***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to downed wires. A clear understanding of this guideline will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to downed wires.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components are to be observed during all responses to downed wires:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 and Squad 192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus to respond to downed wires. The incident commander will call for any additional pieces if needed. Apparatus and personnel are to respond in non-emergency mode. All member's and apparatus shall stay a minimum of (2) poles away from the affected area.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. Only, if possible, a 360-degree walk around of the involved telephone(s) and wires should be done. This ensures all pertinent information such as any arching, spot fires, etc., will be revealed to the incident commander.
- **All downed wires should be considered live and extremely dangerous.**

THE HIGHEST PRIORITY IS TO SECURE A PERIMETER AT A SAFE DISTANCE AROUND THE INVOLVED POLE (S) AND WIRES AND DENY ENTRY TO EVERYONE EXCEPT POWER COMPANY PERSONNEL.

- Securing a safe perimeter around the involved telephone pole(s) and wires may lead to the closure of roads and/or the evacuation of nearby dwellings/structures. All precautions to ensure life safety and the protection of property will be taken.

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Fire Chief James Warren

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- The incident commander should provide the dispatch center with the number displayed on the involved pole (s), or the closest pole number, and the appropriate response priority level for the power company.
- Fire department personnel will remain on scene until the power company has arrived, and they have secured power to the wires involved. **FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL WILL REMAIN ON SCENE UNTIL ALL HAZARDS HAVE BEEN SECURED.**
- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
- ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

Rapid Intervention Team Response

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to all members of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department deploys for Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) assignments. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety possible.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond as part of the rapid intervention team.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Definition: RIT Team deployments are defined as those calls for service where only East Brooklyn Fire Department personnel who are RIT certified, and only the designated RIT vehicle, are requested to the scene of a fire related incident. RIT is an acronym for *Rapid Intervention Team*.

Application: The following components are to be followed during all RIT deployments:

- Engine 192 and Squad 192 are this department's designated RIT vehicles, and they are the only piece of apparatus that should respond to incidents of this nature, solely dependent on the first due department's alarm card. Personnel and apparatus are to respond in emergency mode.
- Those personnel who are RIT certified will have the highest priority of attaining a seating position in the respective apparatus. Non-RIT certified personnel who respond may be allowed to board the apparatus only if it does not prevent a RIT member from riding to the call. Non-RIT certified personnel may be asked to relinquish their seating position.
- Non-RIT certified personnel who are allowed to ride the apparatus would take on a support role for the crew upon arrival at the scene. Those personnel would help to assemble the tool cache, fetch equipment, etc. Non-RIT certified members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who are on scene of a RIT assignment will not take part in any other activities other than assisting our RIT crew with out-of-IDLH-atmosphere activities.
- Junior and Cadet Members' will not be allowed to respond to the scene of a RIT call in an apparatus or in a personal vehicle.

Prepared by: Patrick Gauthier

Approved by: *James Warren*
Fire Chief James Warren

- Those members of the AFD RIT Team will observe all learned team procedures, abide by NFPA 1407, and will comply with the requests of the incident commander.

- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
- ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

Responses to Confined Space Rescues***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy to provide each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department with a clear understanding of how to respond to confined space rescues. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety possible.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to confined space rescues.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components are to be observed during all confined space rescues this fire department is called to:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 and Squad 192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus that should respond to confined space rescues. The incident commander will request any additional pieces of apparatus if needed. Personnel and apparatus will respond to confined space rescues in emergency mode.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. A visual inspection of the area which the victims are entrapped should be done, and every effort should be made to make contact with the victims. This ensures all pertinent information such as any hazards, medical emergencies, etc., will be revealed to the incident commander.
- **Request Additional Assistance:** The incident commander is to contact the dispatch center and request the response of the **Quinebaug Valley Rescue Taskforce # 1**. The personnel that comprise this team are state certified to enact confined space rescues and respond with all of the equipment they will need. Taskforce members will serve as the primary rescuers for incidents of this nature. The incident commander should also request the response of an ambulance if the dispatch center has not already started one.
- **Actions of Fire Department Personnel:** East Brooklyn Fire Department responders are to take on a support role to assist the Q.V. Taskforce with whatever they may need. The incident commander retains control of the scene, and the Q.V. Taskforce simply acts as a mutual aid resource.

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Fire Chief James Warren

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Responses to Trench Rescues***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy to provide each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department with a clear understanding of how to respond to trench rescues. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to trench rescues.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components are to be observed during all trench rescues this fire department is called to:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192, and Squad 192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus that should respond to trench rescues. The incident commander will request any additional pieces of apparatus if needed. Personnel and apparatus will respond to trench rescues in emergency mode.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. A visual inspection of the area which the victims are entrapped should be done, and every effort should be made to make contact with the victims. This ensures all pertinent information such as any hazards, medical emergencies, etc., will be revealed to the incident commander.
- **Request Additional Assistance:** The incident commander is to contact the dispatch center and request the response of the **Quinebaug Valley Rescue Taskforce # 1**. The personnel that comprise this team are state certified to enact trench rescues, and they respond with all of the equipment they will need. Members of the taskforce will serve as the primary rescuers at incidents of this nature. The incident commander should also request the response of an ambulance if the dispatch center has not already started one.
- **Actions of Fire Department Personnel:** East Brooklyn Fire Department responders are to take on a support role to assist the Q.V. Taskforce with whatever they may need. The incident commander retains control of the scene, and the Q.V. Taskforce simply acts as a mutual aid resource.

Responses to Medical Emergencies***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understand to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department of how to respond to medical emergencies. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to medical emergencies.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this policy. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be observed during responses to medical emergencies:

- Service 192 is the designated apparatus that will respond to all medical emergencies that this fire department is dispatched to. In the event Service 192 is out of service or committed to another call, Squad 192 will respond in its place. Engine 192 will be the primary apparatus to respond to interstate 395.
- Personnel and apparatus will respond to medical emergencies in the mode which the dispatch center requests (Priority 1 or Priority 2). Regardless of the emergency, personnel and apparatus will respond in the safest manner possible.
- Members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to medical emergencies will only render medical care within the limitations of their certifications set forth by Connecticut O.E.M.S. protocols for R-1 responders.
- If East Brooklyn Fire Department members are called to a scene where they feel as though their safety is in jeopardy, the request for police presence should be made immediately. If personnel are responding to a scene of violence where the police are already on scene or in route, members shall not enter the scene until it has been deemed safe by the respective law enforcement agency; however, they should begin staging in a safe proximity to the scene.

- Members engaging in patient care will take all body substance isolation precautions needed to effectively render medical assistance without being subjected to any type of bodily exposure. Any member who experiences an exposure will immediately undergo testing at an area hospital. The Chief or his designee will document exposures accordingly.

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Fire Chief James Warren

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- In an effort to maintain a controlled and comfortable environment for our patients, the East Brooklyn Fire Department will limit the number of personnel operating inside buildings during medical calls to three members. **NOTE:** Certified medical personnel will take priority, and additional personnel will stage outside the building. There are certain medical emergencies that will require a need for additional personnel. Members staged outside the building will then be called upon for additional assistance.
- In the event of a cardiac related emergency where the use of the department's AED (automatic external defibrillator) is required, the unit will remain attached to the patient for transport to the hospital. This will provide for a more accurate documentation of medical assistance rendered at the scene. It is the responsibility of fire department personnel to secure the ambulance's AED to use until the department's (AED) is returned. This is a practice that is agreed upon by this fire department and the ambulance service.
- Documentation of patient information will be taken at all medical emergencies this fire department is called to. A member who is not medically certified may collect patient information as long as a member who is medically certified oversees them. However, medically certified members should be the only ones gathering patient refusals.
- The need for additional resources such as ambulances or paramedics should be relayed to the incident commander who will make the request to the dispatch center.
- East Brooklyn Fire Department members will assist ambulance personnel with lifting and/or loading upon request.
- Upon returning to the firehouse all medical supplies used will be restocked, and equipment will be inspected as needed, so that it can be returned to service on the apparatus.
- Members who are engaged in medical care must be wearing in plain view to the patient a photo ID that contains the responder's organization, the certification of the member and the members name.
- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Non-Latex Gloves
 2. Eye Protection (mask, goggles, face shield, surgical mask)
 3. Gown
 4. Shoe Covers
 5. Head Cover (Bonnets)
 6. Respirator (N95 - Disposable Respirators or N99 - Disposable Particulate Respirators)

Prepared by: Patrick Gauthier

Approved by: *James Warren*
Fire Chief James Warren

Responses to Motor Vehicle Accidents***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to motor vehicle accidents. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to motor vehicle accidents.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be observed during responses to motor vehicle accidents:

- **Apparatus to Respond on State owned Rural Routes' and town owned roads:** Engine 192, Squad 192 and Service192 will be the first three (3) pieces to respond. The incident commander will request any additional apparatus. Apparatus and personnel will respond based on QV's EMD request.
- **Apparatus to Respond to Interstate 395:** Engine 192, Squad 192, Service192 will all respond. No members are to respond in their personal vehicles with the exception of the Chief officers. The incident commander will request any additional apparatus. Apparatus and personnel will respond based on QV's EMD request. **Fire Police will not be allowed on any Interstate-395 response in their personal vehicles. They may respond on East Brooklyn FD apparatus only.**
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. A 360-degree walk around of the involved vehicle (s) should be done. This ensures all pertinent information will be revealed to the incident commander. The size-up should include key points such as:
 1. Number of vehicles involved.
 2. If entrapment exists.
 3. Number of patients.
 4. Any hazardous materials concern.
 5. Any hazards such as downed wires.
 6. The need for additional resources.

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Approved by: *James Warren*
Fire Chief James Warren

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➤ Incident Prioritization

- ❖ **All personnel operating at the scene of any motor vehicle accident will be in full PPE including Hi-Vis vests approved by the NHTSA. Personnel may be required to wear SCBA's to carry out certain assignments while on scene. No Hi-Vis vests shall be worn if and S.C.B.A. needs to be worn for specific assignments.**
- ◆ Personnel are to first mitigate and/or secure any hazard, such as downed electrical wires, hazardous materials, etc., prior to full commitment to the scene. Any and all hazards will be handled appropriately. The safety of responding personnel is of utmost importance.
- ◆ A minimum of one (1) state certified and department qualified member in full PPE and an SCBA should be assigned to man a carbon dioxide (CO₂) fire extinguisher in the area of the involved vehicle (s) in the event of fire. This tactic may be done in place of deploying a hand line from the apparatus.
- ◆ Any vehicle that is involved in a motor vehicle accident that the East Brooklyn Fire Department is called to may be cribbed and stabilized. Cribbing and stabilizing vehicles prevents any further structural compromises to the vehicle. It will also ensure the highest level of safety for personnel operating in or around the vehicle (s).
- ◆ Personnel should secure power to the involved motor vehicle by disconnecting its battery (ies). This tactic may prevent further activation of any airbags that did not already deploy in the collision.
- ◆ Accidents that require vehicles to undergo manipulation by either the department's tools will follow all of the previous components, but with an imperative addition. This department will observe a tactic known by its acronym, PIC (Pry – Inspect – Cut). PIC states that pieces of plastic on the interior of vehicles, that are used to conceal such items as posts and rocker panels, will be removed to expose what is behind them before any type of cutting will begin. Exposing these areas on the interior of vehicles gives rescuers a better idea of what they are cutting into. In a time where hidden pressurized cylinders that activate airbags are more and more common, rescue personnel need to know what they are up against, for their own safety, and the safety of any victims.
Rescue personnel in this fire department will PIC at every motor vehicle accident that requires them to.
- ◆ Should the department's tools need to be utilized at a motor vehicle accident the personnel operating the given equipment should be proficient with it. The incident commander may assign the operation of such equipment to specific personnel who are well versed in this area.
- ◆ Patient removal from vehicles will be done in the appropriate manner given the circumstances present.

- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood (if on hand line during extrication)
 4. Gloves (extrication gloves or Structural firefighting gloves if on handline)
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
 7. Traffic vests meeting ANSI/ISEA and OSHA standards
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
- ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

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Fire Chief James Warren

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Landing Zone

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to all members of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department of how to properly establish a helicopter landing zone. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who establish helicopter landing zones.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components are to be followed during all landing zone assignments:

Apparatus to Respond:

- ❖ **The landing zone lights are located on Engine 192 and Squad 192.**

Choosing a Landing Zone:

- Areas that will serve as landing zones should be level, open and clear of any obstructions. The area should also be clear of any hazardous materials.
- ❖ **Medical helicopters require landing zones that are no smaller than 100'x100'.**

Operations at the Landing Zone:

- Those personnel operating at landing zone assignments should be in full PPE with eye protection in place.
- Apparatus at the landing zones will not commit themselves. No precautionary hose lines are to be stretched. A hand line may be pulled off of the piece to wet down the area to prevent excessive dust from prop wash, but the line should be disconnected from the apparatus when the aircraft is on its final approach.

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Fire Chief James Warren

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- In the event of a night landing, only red visual warning lights on apparatus should be activated. To prevent compromising the pilot's night vision all vehicle headlamps and/or hand lights should not be operated.
- Personnel should set up the department's landing zone lights or cones accordingly so that the LZ is clearly discernable to the approaching pilot.
- Once the landing zone lights or cones are in place, personnel are to stay clear of the area until the aircraft has touched down and personnel have received instructions from the flight crew.
- All special requests from the flight crew and/or pilot should be observed.

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Approved by: *James Warren*
Fire Chief James Warren

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Responses to Incidents on Interstate-395***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide each member with a clear understanding of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to calls for service on Interstate-395. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to calls for service on Interstate-395.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Apparatus Response: Engine 192, Squad 192, shall be the first (2) two apparatus to respond. Service 192 shall respond with any personnel that arrive at the station after the initial response has departed, for traffic control purposes.

Application: The following are components that should be observed for all calls for service on Interstate-395:

- All East Brooklyn Fire department personnel are to respond to the station and ride a piece of apparatus to all calls on Interstate-395. Company officers are not exempt from this guideline. The only **exception** to this guideline would apply to chief officers who may respond directly to the scene with their personal vehicles.
- Junior and Cadet members are not allowed to respond to **ANY** call for service on Interstate-395. They shall stay at the fire station to stand-by for other calls.
- **Fire Police will not be allowed on any Interstate-395 response in their personal vehicles. They may respond on East Brooklyn FD apparatus only.** (Fire Police personnel may report to the station to receive credit for a response.)

The Interstate is a very hazardous place, and the highest level of safety must be observed at all times.

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Approved by: *James Warren*
Fire Chief James Warren

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Responses to Fire/Panel Alarms

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to fire/panel alarms. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to fire/panel alarms.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this policy. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Definition: Commercial or residential fire/panel alarms are those alarms that are sent directly to an answering center over a municipally controlled telephone circuit that serves no other purpose. The answering center will then contact the communications center that will dispatch the fire department.

Application: The following components should be observed during responses to fire/panel alarms:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 and Squad 192 will be the first two (2) pieces of apparatus to respond followed by Service 192. **ONLY THE FIRST APPARATUS TO LEAVE THE STATION WILL RESPOND IN EMERGENCY MODE. ALL OTHER PIECES ARE TO RESPOND IN NON-EMERGENCY MODE WITH THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC.** The first apparatus to depart from the station should be staffed with at least three (3) state certified and department qualified S.C.B.A. personnel, not including the apparatus operator. This will ensure there is no delay in suppression efforts if the alarm is due to an actual fire. The incident commander will request any additional apparatus as needed.

- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. A 360-degree walk around of the structure sounding the alarm should be done. This ensures all pertinent information will be revealed to the incident commander. The size-up should include key points such as:
 1. Number of stories.
 2. Type of construction.
 3. Fire conditions if any are observed.
 4. The fire's location within the structure.
 5. Any information about occupants.
 6. Any additional hazards that may exist.

- **Operations:** Operations during typical fire/panel alarm responses should observe the following:
 - ❑ Personnel should gain access to the structure accordingly. This may be utilizing a key the department has been issued or waiting for a key holder. If exigent circumstances exist upon further evaluation of the structure, access is to be gained by any means possible.
 - ❑ A crew of personnel should report to the annunciator panel in order to silence the alarm and see what zone(s) are reporting a problem.
 - ❑ Personnel should inspect the zone, or zones, reporting a problem in order to determine what actions need to be taken to restore the alarm. Generally, a detector will have to be cleaned and replaced prior to conducting a system reset. Anything more than cleaning a detector should be handled by the respective alarm company.
 - ❑ Once the alarm system has been reset without any further incident, the panel should be secured, and fire company personnel can take up. At this time, the property can be turned back over to its owner or caretaker.

- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
 - ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
 - ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

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Fire Chief James Warren

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Responses to Hazardous Materials Incidents***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to set forth suggested operational procedures for the response to incidents involving hazardous materials. This fire department is trained to both the awareness and operational levels of hazardous materials response as outlined in OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.120 and NFPA 472. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to hazardous materials incidents.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be observed during responses hazardous materials incidents:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 and Squad 192 will be the first two (2) pieces to respond. The incident commander will request any additional apparatus. Apparatus and personnel will respond to a designated staging area accordingly.
- **The accepted “Eight Step Process” shall govern responses to known or suspected hazardous materials incidents.**
 1. Site Management
 2. Product Identification
 3. Risk Assessment
 4. Personal Protective Equipment
 5. Information/Resource Coordination
 6. Product Control
 7. Decontamination
 8. Termination
- ❖ **Members shall respond and act only to their level of training.**
- ❖ **Junior and Cadet Members shall not respond to the scene, they may stay at the fire station on standby and receive credit.**

➤ **Response**

Prepared by: Patrick Gauthier

Approved by: *James Warren*
Fire Chief James Warren

Upon dispatch to known or suspected hazardous materials incidents, the incident commander shall gather all available information from the dispatch center while en route. The incident commander will designate a staging area to set up initial operations. All apparatus and personnel are to report to this area for further instructions.

◆ **Site Management**

The area of involvement should be isolated, and entry denied to all but essential, properly protected personnel.

The level of the incident should be determined per NFPA 471:

- Level 1
- Level 2
- Level 3

Control Zones should be established as soon as possible. These zones should be divided into **HOT**, **WARM** and **COLD** areas.

Metering should be conducted early and continuously throughout the incident. The metering should be conducted with the available equipment.

The Incident Command System should be established immediately upon arrival of the first company officer. Transfer of command shall follow accepted chain of command practices.

◆ **Product Identification**

If a preplan of the facility or area is available it should be referred to for additional information on product location, hazard class, etc.

The product or products involved should be identified immediately. The standard clues shall be utilized in identifying the materials involved. They include:

- Container Shape
- Markings (Colors / Placards)
- Shipping Papers

Information relating to the product should be relayed to the dispatch center via the phone or the radio.

CHEMTREC (1-800-424-9300) is an additional resource that can be contacted to assist in identifying hazardous materials.

At this point, the **State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection** should be notified of the incident, and it should be determined if a response from this agency is necessary.

Research should be undertaken into the particular properties of the materials involved, utilizing available references (including CHEMTREC). A minimum of three (3) different references should be consulted for this research.

◆ **Risk Assessment**

Medical Monitoring should be conducted on all members actively involved in the incident.

The Safety Officer should be filled as soon as possible, into the incident.

An inventory of available equipment should be taken to determine if it is sufficient for incident stabilization.

If evacuation is necessary, it should be organized immediately.

◆ **Protective Equipment**

Determine what level of **Respiratory Protection** is required.

Determine what level of **Protective Clothing** is required.

- Level A – Fully Encapsulating (vapor resistant)
- Level B – Non-Encapsulating (splash resistant)
- Level C – Non-Encapsulating w/ Limited Respiratory Protection

All personnel, regardless of the tasks performed shall be in full protective clothing.

◆ **Information Coordination**

The incident commander should request mutual aid as needed to gather necessary resources.

Those personnel conducting research on the involved products should seek the assistance of anyone who may work with or transport the material in question on a regular basis. These people may be able to provide valuable information.

◆ **Product Control**

If the product release can be controlled, one (1) or a combination of more than one (1) of the following methods can be utilized:

- Diking
- Damming
- Booms / Pads
- Vapor Dispersion (fog streams / fans)
- Vapor Suppression (foam)

The Buddy System should be used for all product control techniques.

A Back-Up Team, of an equal or greater amount of personnel than is operating in the HOT Zone, should be standing by in the COLD Zone.

Full Protective Clothing, of the proper level for the materials involved, shall be worn at all times while conducting product control.

◆ **Decontamination**

A Decontamination Officer shall be appointed to oversee these operations.

The establishment of a Decontamination Area should be started prior to the entry of any personnel into the HOT Zone. This area should be placed in the WARM Zone.

This area shall be adequate for the hazard encountered.

The equipment required for a basic decontamination area includes:

- A Sheet of Plastic
- 1-1/2" Fire Hose
- Garden Hose
- Adapters for Fire to Garden Hose
- Containment Pools
- Brushes
- Containers for Disposal of Contaminated Items

All personnel that operate in the HOT and WARM Zones should be decontaminated after work within the zone is complete or exit is required for any reason.

◆ **Termination**

Medical Monitoring for all personnel involved in the incident shall be conducted at the termination of the incident.

A **Debriefing** shall be conducted at the scene, when possible, to review the properties of the materials involved, the symptoms of the exposure to these products, and to inventory equipment utilized in the incident.

All reports and associated documents should be collected prior to leaving the scene.

The scene should be turned over to the **Department of Environmental Protection** or other appropriate agency for any further arrangements.

A **Post Incident Review** should be conducted after the incident to review the response and discuss improvements in future operations.

This guideline is to be used in conjunction with other existing operating guides to safely manage hazardous materials incident.

Responses to Incidents near Railways***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide each member with a clear understanding of what actions are taken during incidents that require personnel to operate in close proximity to railways. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following are components that should be observed for all calls for service that require personnel to operate in close proximity to railways:

- The incident commander shall request the dispatch center to contact Providence & Worcester Railroad so that all through train traffic is halted during any incident that requires fire company personnel to operate in close proximity to railways.
- Railroad traffic should remain halted until all personnel, equipment, and/or any obstructions are clear from the railway.

Water Operations***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department carries out water operations with. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who assists with water operations.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be strictly adhered to during marine operations:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192, Service 192 and Squad 192 will respond for incidents in the East Brooklyn Fire District. Personnel and apparatus will respond to marine incidents in the appropriate response mode.
- **Rescue Operations:**
 - Whenever conducting a “Reach & Throw Rescue,” or when tethered divers are operating off of the vessel, the boat’s anchor should be placed in the water.
- **Emergency Operations:**
 - Personnel’s best judgement is to be used at all times during operations in emergency situations.

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Fire Chief James Warren

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Responses to Motor Vehicle Fires in a Parking Garage***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: To identify a response protocol that supports the unique challenges of a fire in a parking garage such as the use of fixed fire protection and smaller response vehicles.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to motor vehicle fire in a parking garage.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Policy: Parking garage motor vehicle fires shall be suppressed utilizing water from fire apparatus and backed up by a foam fire suppression line.

Procedure: Emergency access into any parking garage will be determined by the location of the incident. Access to the parking garages shall be by the most practical and direct route available. The minimum level of protection for all fire fighters is full protective clothing breathing air from their S.C.B.A. The minimum size of hoseline is the 1-3/4" handline.

A. Approach-Size-up

- The initial entry crew should be a minimum of two (2), they will respond in an apparatus to the scene for size-up, rescue and firefighting purposes as conditions warrant.
- Apparatus should be placed uphill of the incident if possible.
- Personnel need to be observant for flowing flammable liquid fires due to terrain and non-porous flooring.
- Response vehicles entering into these areas may encounter thick smoke which can block the driver's vision and requires extreme caution.
- Ladder companies may be used as an improvised standpipe at incidents in parking garages.
- Clearing and protection of spectators may need to be performed.
- The Fire Alarm Operator shall request camera access from security to monitor the fire scene and adjoining areas for safety to the extent possible and provide visual information to the Incident Commander on the situation.
- Electric Vehicles/Hybrids need to be identified.

Prepared by: Patrick Gauthier

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Fire Chief James Warren

B. Operations

- Once safety is assured, initial fire attack can begin.
- Standpipe operations will usually be required utilizing hose skid load, standpipe pack and foam.
- Where patients are trapped in the vehicle, first water should be applied to protect the patients and permit rescue.
- At least one member of the attack team must have forcible entry tools in his/her possession to provide prompt and safe entry into the vehicle.
- Wheels of the vehicle shall be chocked to prevent movement during operations.
- A second line will be stretched to provide backup to the attack crew. If combustible or flammable liquids are involved, the second line will be converted to foam for application to these liquids and the initial attack line secured or operated as not to interfere or breakdown foam.
- Obtain information including vehicle make, model, registration number, VIN. Name and address of owner, operators name address and phone number

C. Hazards and Safety Considerations

- LPG-LNG-Pressure release devices can create a lengthy "blow torch" effect, or should the pressure relief device fail, a BLEVE may occur. Vehicles may not be marked to identify this fuel hazard.
- Energy Absorbing Bumpers--Consist of gas and fluid filled cylinders that, when heated during a fire, will develop high pressures which may result in the sudden release of the bumper assembly.
- Fuel Tanks--May be constructed of sheet metal or plastic. A rupture or burn-through may occur with these tanks causing a rapid flash fire of the fuel.
- Vehicle Stability--Tires or split rims exposed to fire may explode, causing the vehicle to drop suddenly. Expect the possibility of exploding rim parts or tire debris to be expelled outward from the sides. Some larger vehicles, such as buses, employ an air suspension system. When these systems are exposed to heat or flame, they may fail, causing the vehicle to SUDDENLY drop several inches.
- A working fire involving the interior of the vehicle passenger compartment will damage the vehicle beyond repair. As such, the attack plan should consider the vehicle as a "write off" and a safe and appropriate approach and fire attack must be implemented.
- Fires in the garage(s) can create exposure problems to adjacent areas and or Equipment.

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- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
- ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

Responses to Unknown Odors***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to unknown odors. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to unknown odors.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be strictly adhered to during responses to unknown odors:

Apparatus to Respond: Engine 192 and Squad 192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus to respond to unknown odors. Followed Service 192. The incident commander will request any additional pieces of apparatus. Personnel and apparatus will respond to unknown odors in emergency mode

Policy: Fire Department response to reports of unknown odors is limited to making the area safe for occupancy. If it is determined that a hazardous condition does not exist, then the matter becomes a Public Health concern.

Procedure: Upon arrival of the AFD initial assignment, the following guideline will be observed:

1. All personnel will be in full protective clothing, including S.C.B.A.
2. Warm up and check the appropriate meter(s).
3. The IC shall establish contact with the Property Manager(s)/ homeowner, or with the initial reporting party if the Property Manager can not be located
4. Assess all occupants for signs of ill effects.
5. Obtain information regarding how long the odor has been present.

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6. Ensure that the occupant(s), if contacted directly, can account for persons that normally inhabit the property in question.
7. Conduct an exterior building survey (to identify the type of structure, number of stories, natural openings / draft areas, etc.).
8. Enter the property structure, utilizing the “Buddy System” at all times, with meter in sensing mode for all gases.
9. Proceed first to the areas reporting the problem in the structure and meter all areas.
10. Proceed then to each lower or upper level of the structure and repeat this procedure until the lowest level is reached.
11. When the basement / utilities area of the structure is reached, meter the entire area, paying particular attention to areas around fuel-fired appliances, and to connections on appliances, drains, sinks, etc.
12. The use of 4 gas meters may be utilized
13. Upon completion of all previous steps listed, and upon confirming that there **is no significant presence** of an explosive atmosphere, the following shall be completed by the OIC:
 - a) For single or two (2) family residences, the Brooklyn fire marshal must be notified via QV Dispatch.
 - b) For three (3) family and larger or commercial occupancies, The Brooklyn fire marshal and the town of Brooklyn building official must be notified via QV Dispatch.
13. If the level of hazardous vapor / gas detected in any given space of an occupied property or structure is greater than acceptable standards; the following procedure will be followed:
 - A. For residential or commercial properties located on trust land, occupants shall be restricted from re-entering the structure.
14. Immediate steps to reduce the level of odors shall be implemented including ventilation.
15. All metered air readings are to be included in the basic fire report.

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- **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:
 1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
- ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

Response to Unknown Substances

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member, operating at unidentified Hazardous Substance sites where products are not readily identifiable and it is suspected to cause significant threats to human life. These may include unknown powders and liquids or include verbalized and written threats made and or received from third party callers. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this procedure. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Application: The following components should be strictly adhered to while the member is responding to an unknown substance call.

Policy: The East Brooklyn Fire Department will respond to reports of unknown substances, isolate the area denying access to all personnel and attempt to identify the problem using available equipment and resources.

Procedure: Fire Department personnel will respond to the location and use the “8 Step Process” to determine as much information about the perceived problem area as possible. The Haz Mat Unit will be on stand-by in quarters.

1. The Duty Officer will establish command and enlist the assistance of the State Police Officer to coordinate security.
2. Using the “8 Step Process”, attempt to determine the origination of the substance in question.
3. Should the “8 Step Process” fail to identify the material and related information indicates that a serious health hazard may exist, the Emergency Management Plan – Haz Mat Annex shall be activated.
 - Isolate the area and classify it as the Hot Zone. **If possible, cover the area to prevent further spread.**
 - Deny entry of non-essential personnel.
 - Respond the Haz Mat Unit
 - Recall essential off duty Fire Department personnel
 - **The Area should be considered a Crime Scene**

Prepared by: Patrick Gauthier

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Fire Chief James Warren

4. Initial the following notifications;

- State Police, Emergency Services Unit at 1-860-779-4904 and Troop D in Danielson

8 Step Process

Step 1 Site Management and Control

Step 2 Material Identification

Step 3 Hazards and Risk Analysis

Step 4 Determine appropriate P.P.E.

Step 5 Information and Resource Coordination

Step 6 Product control, containment, and confinement

Step 7 Decontamination

Step 8 Terminate the Incident

Derived from IFSTA Hazardous Materials, page 259, Table 5.2 first edition

Response to Explosive Material

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to chimney fires. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to chimney fires.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Policy: All explosive materials devices and threats shall be treated as legitimate until proven otherwise. This is a Law Enforcement Command issue until detonation

Procedure: Upon receipt of an explosive materials threat or discovery, the Fire Department Officer in charge will ensure that all Fire Department personnel respond to station for Stand-by coverage*.

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 and Squad 192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus to respond to explosive materials emergencies. Followed by Service 192. The incident commander will request any additional pieces of apparatus. Personnel and apparatus will respond to chimney fires in emergency mode.
1. No information shall be transmitted over the radio in regards to bombs or explosives. Notifications will be sent via pager, person to person or telephone.
 2. The CT State Police may request the fire department to provide standby assistance while they search, locate, disarm or remove an explosive device or material.
 3. The Officer will maintain contact with the incident command post as stated in SOP 92-OG006, Fire and Law Enforcement Interface.
 4. *The purpose of the fire department response is to provide a standby medical, fire and/or HazMat team at AFD quarters or nearby remote staging location (at least ¼ miles from the incident). Haz Mat teams will generally not be needed unless an explosion occurs and ruptures gas lines or damages fuels tanks, chemical containers, etc.

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5. At NO time will fire department personnel or equipment become directly involved with a search, handling or removal of an explosive device or material. Crews will remain staged until Police release them or an accident occurs and assistance is needed.
6. If an explosive device detonates, secondary devices may have also been placed. All personnel shall wait a minimum of 30 minutes after the device detonated, before entering the suspected area. The Fire Department Officer will assume command and activate the Emergency Management Plan, Annex- Facilities Relocation, Annex- Fire Protection and Annex - Mass Casualty Incidents.
7. If a threat was received, personnel shall wait a minimum of 30 minutes after the device was intended to go off, before entering the suspected area.
8. If no time of detonation was given, stand-by in quarters or staging for a minimum of 60 minutes after notification
9. If the threat is at the fire station, the first Officer will choose a staging area as identified in step 3.
 - A designated person will be identified to the Law Enforcement Incident Commander to participate in the building search in accordance with AFD procedure.

➤ **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:

1. Helmet
2. Eye Protection
3. Protective Hood
4. Gloves
5. Protective Coat and Trousers
6. Boots

- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
- ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

Responses to Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Propane) Emergencies

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to Liquefied Petroleum Gas Emergencies. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who responds to Liquefied Petroleum Gas Emergencies.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Policy: Fire Department units may encounter Liquefied Petroleum gas in a variety of situations and incident types, each presenting a different set of hazards and problems. The following guidelines present an approach which will be applicable in the majority of situations, but do not replace good judgment and experience in dealing with any particular incident.

Procedure: Liquefied Petroleum gas is colorless and odorless. The gas company adds ethyl mercaptan so personnel can smell the gas in the event of a leak. Liquefied Petroleum gas is heavier than air and will stay low to the ground when escaping. The flammable limits of Liquefied Petroleum gas are 2.1% to 10.1%.

Application: The following components should be strictly adhered to during responses to Liquefied Petroleum Gas Emergencies:

- **Apparatus to Respond:** Engine 192 and Squad 192 are the first two (2) pieces of apparatus to respond to Liquefied Petroleum Gas Emergencies. Followed by Service 192. The incident commander will request any additional pieces of apparatus. Personnel and apparatus will respond to Liquefied Petroleum Gas Emergencies in emergency mode.
- **Problem Identification:** The first arriving company officer or apparatus should conduct a thorough scene size-up. A 360-degree walk around of the area should be done as well as a check of the interior of the structure if there is one involved. This ensures all pertinent information such as any extension to the structure, special hazards, etc., will be revealed to the incident commander.

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Incidents at Which an Explosion Has Occurred

Units arriving at the scene of a structural explosion must consider Liquefied Petroleum gas as a possible cause. Underground leaks may permit gas to travel considerable distances before entering a structure through the foundation, around pipes or through void spaces. In these circumstances, the cause of the explosion may be difficult to determine.

- Until it can be determined that the area is safe from the danger of further explosions, evacuate all persons and keep the number of Fire Department and/or other emergency personnel in the area, to the minimum number necessary to stabilize the situation. Take a pessimistic point of view.
- Use combustible gas indicators to check all suspected areas.
- Check areas systematically using combustible gas indicators. Start outside of the area of the explosion, and move into the area until readings indicate detectable concentration. Map the readings for the affected area. Liquefied Petroleum gas is not able to be read on the 4 gas meters', the presence will be known only by watching the oxygen saturation in the air. The more propane in the environment, the O2 level will decrease.
- If a gas concentration is encountered inside, adjacent to, or underneath any building, secure all possible sources of ignition in the affected area. Cut electricity from outside the affected area to avoid arcing. Ventilate buildings where gas is found with explosion proof equipment only.
- The use of ground probes is essential to evaluate potential underground leaks. When gas company personnel are on the scene, ground probe readings and locations must be coordinated. Time, location, and concentration should be recorded for each probe—subsequent readings should be taken from same holes when possible.
- Command shall contact QVEC to contact a local Propane company for effective interaction regarding the incident. Gas company personnel are responsible for locating and eliminating leaks in the gas system. As industry specialists, they can provide Command with valuable assistance in the effective handling of these incidents. In most cases, an officer with a portable radio will be required to supervise during on-site operations.
- Command must ensure the safety and stability of the structure. The town of Brooklyn Fire Marshal's office and Building Inspector must be notified for evaluation.

Incidents Involving a Reported Gas Leak - No Fire or Explosion

Calls for "odor of gas," "gas leak," "broken gas line" and similar situations may range from minor to potentially major incidents. All of these should be approached as potentially dangerous situations. The IC shall establish contact with the Property Manager(s), homeowner, or the initial reporting party if either of the previous parties cannot be located.

Escaping Gas Outside of a Structure-Objectives

1. Eliminate ignition sources.
2. Restrict access to the area.
3. Determine if the leak can be isolated and, if possible, isolate.
4. Call Local Propane company via QV

NOTE: Underground gas mains shall only be isolated by FD personnel at the request of the Gas Company.

➤ **Full Personal Protective Equipment** consists of the following items:

1. Helmet
 2. Eye Protection
 3. Protective Hood
 4. Gloves
 5. Protective Coat and Trousers
 6. Boots
- ❖ **When operating in an IDLH atmosphere, full P.P.E. will include an S.C.B.A. with P.A.S.S. device.**
 - ❖ **All P.P.E. must meet NFPA 1971: Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting**

Elevator Entrapment***Standard Operating Guideline***

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member of how the East Brooklyn Fire Department responds to elevator entrapment. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department who respond to elevator entrapments.

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Policy: To provide guidelines during entry and rescue operations involving elevators. Engine 192 and Squad 192 will be the first 2 apparatuses to respond.

Procedure: Upon arrival at an Elevator, the officer will obtain the following information:

A. Assessment and Preparation

- 1) Determine the need for forced entry.
 - Is an elevator repair company responding?
 - Is there a life-threatening emergency?
 - Forced entry should only be attempted when a life-threatening emergency exists.

- 2) Bring following Equipment.
 - Matched Irons
 - Rabbit tool
 - Elevator Keys
 - Smoke Ejector hanger

- 2) Establish contact with building manager or maintenance and request elevator mechanic
- 3) Locate Stalled Elevator
- 4) Establish contact with passengers
- 5) Send Fire Fighter to machine room with radio

B. Gaining access to stalled car.

- 1.) Apply force to car door in the direction that it opens.
- 2.) On photoelectric doors:
 - pass a hard piece of paper through the doors where they meet to trip it.
 - Have the passenger assist you by having them press the door open button and hold it.
- 3.) Use hoist way door drop key and turn either clockwise or counterclockwise.

C. Removing Passengers caught between floors.

Ask yourself if anyone seriously ill, injured or just inconvenienced.

1. Whenever possible passengers should be removed from the normal entranceway. If a true emergency exists and the normal entrance is not useable then the best route is through the top hatch.
2. Have power to the stalled car and adjacent cars locked and tagged out!
 - Station a fire department member or building employee and prohibit access to the area.
3. Open and secure hoist way doors open with cribbing wedges or smoke ejector hanger.
4. If the car is a few inches away from the landing assist passengers out to prevent tripping.
5. If the car is more than a few inches from the landing, then place barricade tape around area and rig a safety line and have rescuers working in the hoist way door entrance tie into safety line with an approved class 3 harness.
6. Place a ladder down to the stalled car, have rescuer with belay line descend the ladder to the car top, have rescuer place car top elevator control into inspection mode and activate emergency stop button.
7. Open roof hatch to gain access to passengers, use a ladder to get inside.

E. Termination

- 1.) Leave all equipment in a Zero (no energy) Mechanical State.
- 2.) Leave equipment de-energized for service contractor

This is a general guideline that will be observed by all members of the East Brooklyn Fire Department. Any alterations to this guideline are at the discretion of the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander.

Prepared by: Patrick Gauthier

Approved by: *James Warren*
Fire Chief James Warren

Rope Rescue

Standard Operating Guideline

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear understanding to each member, how to conduct rope rescues with the East Brooklyn Fire Department. A clear understanding of this policy will promote the highest level of safety.

Scope: This policy applies to each member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department

Responsibility: It shall be the responsibility of every member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department to strictly adhere to each component of this guideline. Furthermore, the East Brooklyn Fire Department officers and/or the incident commander shall have the sole authority and discretion to enforce this guideline.

Policy: This procedure will apply to all personnel operating in a training or rescue incident

Procedure:

1. The first arriving company officer should assume Command after arriving on the scene.
2. Secure Responsible Party or Witness. Command should secure a witness as soon as possible after arriving on scene. This will help in identifying the problem and locating the victim.
3. Locate the Victim. In most cases, Command will have to send a recon team to the area of the victim to determine the exact location of victim and nature of injuries... If the terrain is greater than a 45-degree incline, Command may decide to wait until the Rescue Team arrives with the proper equipment to reach the victim. Command may also choose to use a helicopter for aerial recon.
4. Assess the Need for Additional Resources.
5. Assess the Hazards. Command will designate a **Safety Officer** to identify all potential hazards to rescuers.
6. Decide on Rescue or Recovery. **Recon Sector** should advise Command whether the operation will be conducted in the rescue or recovery mode.
7. Decide on an Action Plan.
8. Deployment of the Rescue personnel in the Action Plan needs to be monitored by Command.
 - Rescue Team involving Rope rescue and any climb requiring technical skills and/or training. Rescue Team should include a Paramedic when possible.
 - Support requires one trained Rescue member at Command Post to obtain any additional equipment or support items for the rescue team.
 - Liaison will provide technical capability to Command, especially when operation involves other agencies. This function can usually be filled by any Fire Officer responding to the call.
 - Command or his/her designee should begin to make the general area safe. This may include securing the area and not allowing civilian personnel into the area.

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9. Make the Rescue Area Safe. Command or his/her designee should make the immediate rescue area safe. This may include removing all civilian personnel and all non-essential rescue personnel from the area. If it is not possible to secure all the hazards in the immediate rescue area, all personnel operating in that area shall be made aware of those hazards.

PHASE III Rescue Operations

The order of rescue from low risk to high risk would be:

- Self-rescue. If the victim is not exposed to a life-threatening situation, it may be possible to talk the victim into self-extrication. If the victim is exposed to a life-threatening situation, it may be best to advise the victim to stay in place until a rope rescue system can be set up.
- For terrain of greater than 40-degree inclination and the victim is ambulatory, he/she may be assisted down by rescuers with the use of a belay/tag line. If appropriate, rescuers should set up an anchor system for the belay. If the victim is not ambulatory, rescuers shall build an anchor system and prepare for a steep angle evacuation. The patient shall be packaged properly in a litter and prepared for the extrication. Attendants should face the anchor during the evacuation and be clipped into the litter. A separate raising/lowering line and belay line shall be set up for raising or lowering during steep angle evacuations.
- For evacuations greater than 60 degrees, the Rescue shall conduct the evacuation. Evacuations greater than 60 degrees are considered high angle operations. The **Extrication Sector** officer, in conjunction with the **Safety Sector**, should decide the most appropriate method to extricate the victim. This may include putting the victim(s) in a harness and raising or lowering them or packaging them in a litter for the raising and/or lowering.
- A 15:1 safety factor shall be maintained, and a double rope technique shall be used if at all possible. If possible, a separate anchor should be used for the working line and the belay line. The **Extrication Sector** officer shall ensure the overall safety of the raising/lowering system. **Extrication Sector** shall designate the tasks of individual rescuers during the operation.

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