

Yamhill Fire Protection District

District Policies, Procedures, & SOG's

MISSION

*Yamhill Fire Protection District is dedicated to
serve and protect our community*

District Procedure

OPERATIONS

OPS-GEN – 411.4

Safety

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Issued: December 9, 2014

PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure shall be to outline on scene safety measures and delineate roles and responsibilities of a site Safety Officer.

SCOPE

The primary responsibility of the safety of personnel on the scene of any incident falls upon the Incident Commander. Officers shall be responsible for companies operating under their supervision in accordance with established Safety and Command Procedures. Members on the scene also share in this responsibility by conducting themselves in accordance with established procedures and sound fire service practices. Individuals are responsible to monitor the conduct of other fire fighters and report any unsafe act to the Division/Group supervisor, the Safety Officer or the Incident Commander.

PROCEDURE

Should the Incident Commander not be able to assure the safety of personnel due to the size or complexity of the incident, he/she may assign personnel to the position of Safety Officer who reports directly to the Incident Commander. In some cases, multiple Safety Officers may need to be assigned and a Safety Sector established. The senior Safety Officer shall manage the safety sector when such a sector is deemed necessary by Command. It shall be **REQUIRED** that a Safety Officer be designated for all multiple alarms, hazardous materials incidents, and all high risk incidents.

In all situations where an actual hazard or possible hazard exists, the Incident Commander, or Division/Group supervisor shall monitor the situation and the activity of his/her personnel to assure that the risk of an accident is minimized. When members are operating in unusual hazard areas there shall be at least one team member assigned to remain outside the hazard area and monitor the activity of the crew and the surrounding hazard area. If, due to manpower requirements, the initial company assigned to that area is unable to provide a "monitor" person, they shall indicate by radio that all company personnel will be committed to the hazard area, the function they are performing, and the exact location of the company. (i.e. "All Engine 42 personnel will be committed to the search of the first floor.") The Incident Commander shall note their position on the Tacsheet or assign an individual to "monitor" the activity of that company.

A Safety Perimeter shall be established and shall include, but is not limited to, a circle with its radius established by the apparatus located farthest from the hazard. All established safety

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procedure shall be strictly enforced within the safety perimeter including the wearing of full protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus when required.

During fires, hazardous materials incidents, or any incident that presents a potential imminent hazard of injury to personnel, primary and secondary escape routes are to be identified. Ground ladders are to be placed or a protected interior stairway is to be identified as secondary egress for all hazardous incidents which require operations above ground level.

SAFETY OFFICER

Roles and Responsibilities

When a Safety Officer is assigned by the Incident Commander, he/she shall be responsible for the enforcement of established safety procedures/policies. The Safety Officer shall have the responsibility and authority to identify and cause the correction of safety hazards. This should occur through the Incident Commander and the chain of command, but in cases where an imminent hazard of injury is evident the Safety Officer may intervene immediately with the full authority of the Incident Commander. In these cases, the Safety Officer shall immediately notify the Incident Commander of these actions. It is the Safety Officer's responsibility to be properly identified when he/she is so designated by Command.

The Safety Officer shall monitor the condition of personnel and shall recommend the establishment of a rehabilitation (rehab) sector to the Incident Commander when necessary.

The Safety Officer shall monitor the condition of the hazard site (fire building, hazmat incident, possible collapse situations, etc.) for stability and notify Command if withdrawal of personnel or apparatus within the collapse or hazard zone is necessary. The collapse zone and safety perimeter shall be established by the Safety Officer when requested to do so by Command. It is the responsibility of the Safety Officer to strictly enforce the established safety procedures within the collapse zone and safety perimeter, including the wearing of full protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus when required.

Whenever members are operating in positions or performing functions that involve special hazards, or that would subject them to immediate danger of injury in the event of equipment failure or other sudden event, the Safety Officer shall ensure that appropriately equipped backup personnel and, at a minimum, Basic EMT's are standing by for immediate intervention if needed.

ALS shall be activated and requested to respond to the incident scene or staging area through dispatch for all multiple alarms and hazardous materials incidents.