

	Nokomis Fire Department		
	Date	Directive	Number
	May 2, 2019	#2	#219
		Category R.O.G	
	Company Response to Technical Rescue Incidents		

PURPOSE:

To provide guidelines for Rescue/Engine company response to Technical Rescue Incidents.

GUIDELINE:

This guideline is designed to outline the basic responsibilities associated with rescue and engine company operations and act as a framework for standardizing company activity during emergency scene operations involving Technical Rescue Operations.

Response Considerations:

Upon receipt of a call identifying a possible technical rescue incident, the officer in charge should use the following guidelines to assist in the initial size-up of the incident.

1. Request the following information from the dispatcher:
 - a) What is the main problem?
 - b) Type of space or facility involved?
 - c) How many persons are involved?
 - d) Any specific hazard known?
2. Review pre-planning information relating to location, if available.

Special Considerations:

1. Apparatus should park in such a manner that secondary collapse, vibrations or exhaust fumes are not endangering the incident site, personnel or apparatus.
2. Actions taken after arrival:
 - a) Locate a responsible party such as the site foreman or security guard.
 - b) Determine number, locations, and status of victims.
 - c) Determine if this is a rescue or a recovery.
 - d) Evaluate any known or potential hazards.

- e) Determine what level of evacuation, if any, is needed.
- f) Request the Special Operations Group, if not already dispatched

- g) Request additional fire department resources, law enforcement or utility companies, as needed.

Situational Considerations:

1. Trench Rescue

- 1. a) Under no circumstances should any fire or rescue personnel enter an unprotected trench.
- 2. b) Under no circumstances should personnel approach the trench from the sides. Always approach from the ends.
- 3. c) Identify any utilities which are present and either control them or request the appropriate utility company to control them.
- 4. d) Assess the number of victims and their location.
- 5. e) Using electric fans or gas powered fans equipped with remote exhaust systems, ventilate the trench with positive pressure ventilation.
- 6. f) If the victim is conscious or ambulatory, offer him a shovel and/or a ladder to remove himself from the collapse zone.
- 7. g) Prepare for the arrival of the Special Operations Group.

2. Confined Space

- 1. a) Identify and secure all utilities (electrical, water, gas) associated with the space.
- 2. b) Gather information on location, number, and position of victims. Secure on-scene technical assistance from the job foreman or witnesses to the incident.
- 3. c) If available, obtain blueprints, maps, or sketches of the space.
- 4. d) Prepare for arrival of the Special Operations Group.

3. Rope Rescue

- a) Ascertain if there is any other method by which to remove the victim.
- b) Gain access to a location above the patient.
- c) Locate and secure at least three anchor points, preferably part of the building components, i.e., roof, a/c unit, elevator equipment rooms.
- d) Prepare for the arrival of the Special Operations Group.

4. Structural Collapse

- a) Assure all utilities and fires are controlled.
- b) Assess structural stability of adjoining structures.
- c) Recon the structure and identify type of structure, use and possible number of victims.
- d) Remove surface victims first.
- e) Prepare for the arrival of the Special Operations Group.

5. Water Rescue

- a) Assess location of victims.

- b) Assure all department personnel in or around the incident are in personal flotation devices if available.
- c) In cooperation with other responding units, assess and decide on best method of reaching and removing patients.
- d) Consider/confirm dispatch of a Fire Boat.

CONCLUSION

These are general guidelines associated with rescue and engine company operations. As the incident dictates, the Incident Commander has the option to redirect resources as he/she deems necessary. Rescue and engine company operations should augment and assist the development of a workable strategic and tactical plan to mitigate any given incident.