
	STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE				
	OPERATIONS				
	TRUCK COMPANY OPERATIONS				
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1.0 Purpose



- 1.1 The purpose of this guideline is to maximize the effectiveness of Truck operations by creating an organized, safe, and efficient plan of operation.
- 1.2 The protection of life and property is the foremost objective of a Truck Company at the scene of an emergency. This number one priority includes not only the general public but firefighting personnel as well. Just as a house cannot stand without a foundation, fire attack cannot be successful without Truck duties being performed.
- 1.3 This guideline will address both strategic and tactical procedures for Command and Truck Company personnel.

2.0 Responsibility

- 2.1 It is the responsibility of all Department personnel to understand the procedures documented in this Standard Operating Guideline.

3.0 Functions and Responsibilities of the Truck Company



- 3.1 The functions of the Truck Company include:
 - 3.1.1 Life safety
 - 3.1.2 Size-up
 - 3.1.3 Apparatus placement
 - 3.1.4 Laddering (both ground and aerial)
 - 3.1.5 Forcible entry
 - 3.1.6 Locate fire
 - 3.1.7 Attack fire
 - 3.1.8 Communications
 - 3.1.9 Search and rescue
 - 3.1.10 Ventilation
 - 3.1.11 Check for extension
 - 3.1.12 Overhaul
 - 3.1.13 Salvage
 - 3.1.14 Lighting
 - 3.1.15 Utility control
- 3.2 These tasks are not listed in order of importance, nor is it intended that they be performed in the order listed as each call determines the sequence. The course of action will be determined by the Company Officer or the Incident Commander based upon the size-up of the situation.
- 3.3 Roll Call
 - 3.3.1 Necessary information will be passed on at the daily Roll Call concerning out-of-service equipment, street closings, apparatus and equipment condition, and any particular information applicable to the Truck Company that should be checked during shift change. Other items to check are:
 - 3.3.1.1 Scheduled apparatus maintenance
 - 3.3.1.2 Modified response routes
 - 3.3.1.3 Weather and road conditions
 - 3.3.1.4 Road construction and detours

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- 3.4 Truck Company assignments are to include:
 - 3.4.1 Officer Seat Firefighter (OSF).
 - 3.4.2 Driver.
 - 3.4.3 Third person (sits behind OSF seat).
 - 3.4.4 Fourth person (if a fourth firefighter is available).
- 3.5 The apparatus and associated equipment will be thoroughly checked and inspected at the start of each shift.
- 3.6 Personal protective clothing should be checked and inventoried by all personnel while placing it on the apparatus.
 - 3.6.1 S.C.B.A. shall be checked in accordance with the daily check-out procedures.
- 3.7 All personnel assigned to the Truck Company will be familiar with both the operation and location of all tools and equipment carried on the apparatus.
- 3.8 Teamwork is the key to successful Truck work. Only through a concerted effort can a Truck Company become a highly efficient unit. Members may, at times, be required to operate alone. It is imperative that everyone is aware of their own duties, the duties of other Company members, and the overall responsibilities of their unit.

4.0 Areas of Responsibility



- 4.1 The general areas of responsibility for the Truck Company are as follows. These areas of responsibility are based on the Truck Company functioning as a Truck. When the Truck Company is first on the scene and has to stretch a line to attack a fire, the nature of the emergency may change the Truck Company's priorities.
 - 4.1.1 First due Truck Company.
 - 4.1.1.1 Immediate rescue
 - 4.1.1.2 Operations on the fire floor
 - 4.1.1.2.1 Forcible entry
 - 4.1.1.2.2 Search / rescue
 - 4.1.1.2.3 Interior ventilation
 - 4.1.1.3 Roof ventilation (if necessary) and a visual check of the rear and sides of the structure
 - 4.1.1.4 Interior search of the floor above the fire
 - 4.1.1.5 Laddering as needed
 - 4.1.2 Second due Truck Company. This would be Deerfield Truck #20 or Lake Forest Tower #231 based on our automatic response agreements.
 - 4.1.2.1 Operations on the floor above the fire.
 - 4.1.2.1.1 Forcible entry
 - 4.1.2.1.2 Search / rescue
 - 4.1.2.1.3 Ventilation
 - 4.1.3 Second due Truck Company. This would be Deerfield Truck #20 or Lake Forest Tower #231 based on our automatic response agreements.
 - 4.1.3.1 Operations on the floor above the fire.
 - 4.1.3.1.1 Forcible entry
 - 4.1.3.1.2 Search / rescue
 - 4.1.3.1.3 Ventilation

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- 4.1.3.1.4 Check for fire extension
- 4.1.3.2 Roof ventilation - assist first Truck
- 4.1.3.3 Reinforce the actions of the first Truck Company as needed and assigned by Command
- 4.1.4 Personnel Responsibilities.
 - 4.1.4.1 OSF
 - 4.1.4.1.1 Tools - S.C.B.A., portable radio, handlight, forcible entry tool
 - 4.1.4.1.2 Take Command (if first on the scene)
 - 4.1.4.1.3 Complete size-up
 - 4.1.4.1.4 Order immediate rescue via aerial ladder or ground ladders, if necessary
 - 4.1.4.1.5 Ventilation profile is determined and communicated to the Incident Commander
 - 4.1.4.1.6 Directly supervise interior operations
 - 4.1.4.1.6.1 Forcible entry
 - 4.1.4.1.6.2 Search for people
 - 4.1.4.1.6.3 Locate fire
 - 4.1.4.1.6.4 Ventilation (VES?)
 - 4.1.4.1.6.5 Check for extension
 - 4.1.4.1.6.6 Notify Engine Company Officer and / or the Incident Commander of the fire location and any unusual layout conditions which may hamper operations
 - 4.1.4.1.7 Notify Command of:
 - 4.1.4.1.7.1 Fire location
 - 4.1.4.1.7.2 Rescue attempts
 - 4.1.4.1.7.3 Victims
 - 4.1.4.1.7.4 Area involved in fire
 - 4.1.4.1.7.5 Fire extension
 - 4.1.4.1.8 Coordinate actions of Company members
 - 4.1.4.1.9 Assemble members for overhaul after the fire is under control
 - 4.1.4.1.10 Size-up for overhaul / salvage operations
 - 4.1.4.1.11 Secure building
 - 4.1.4.1.12 Check tools and equipment
 - 4.1.4.2 Driver
 - 4.1.4.2.1 Positions apparatus
 - 4.1.4.2.2 Raises aerial ladder or ground ladders with third person, if required
 - 4.1.4.2.3 Effects immediate rescue by:
 - 4.1.4.2.3.1 Aerial ladder - remains at turntable controls, if necessary
 - 4.1.4.2.3.2 Ground ladders



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- 4.1.4.2.4 Gains access to the roof for ventilation, if directed by the OSF.
- 4.1.4.2.5 Causes roof ventilation by:
 - 4.1.4.2.5.1 Removing skylights, opening roof hatches, etc.
 - 4.1.4.2.5.2 Cutting the roof
- 4.1.4.2.6 Tools - S.C.B.A., portable radio, handlight, forcible entry tool and pike pole. In some cases specialized tools such as bolt cutters, sledge hammer, Rabbit Tool, or K-Tool may be required
- 4.1.4.2.7 If roof / exterior ladder operations are not initially required, the driver:
 - 4.1.4.2.7.1 Checks the exterior of the building for access / exit points
 - 4.1.4.2.7.2 Checks for victims, especially in multi-family dwellings
 - 4.1.4.2.7.3 Checks rear / sides of building for extension / exposures
 - 4.1.4.2.7.4 Evaluates need for horizontal ventilation
 - 4.1.4.2.7.5 Communicates findings to OSF.
 - 4.1.4.2.7.6 Joins OSF in interior operations unless otherwise directed
- 4.1.4.3 Third person
 - 4.1.4.3.1 Assists the driver with the set-up and deployment of the aerial or ground ladders as necessary. Performs exterior rescue by:
 - 4.1.4.3.1.1 Aerial or ground ladder - ascends ladder
 - 4.1.4.3.2 Tools - S.C.B.A., handlight, pike pole, axe. In some cases, the pressurized water extinguisher or power saw
 - 4.1.4.3.3 Assists the driver with roof operations
 - 4.1.4.3.4 If roof / exterior operations are not needed, joins the OSF in the interior and:
 - 4.1.4.3.4.1 Assists with forcible entry
 - 4.1.4.3.4.2 Search's for and removes victims
 - 4.1.4.3.4.3 Locates the fire
 - 4.1.4.3.4.4 Utilizes the pressurized water extinguisher to contain or extinguish the fire
 - 4.1.4.3.5 Ventilates as required / needed
- 4.1.4.4 Fourth Person - if available
 - 4.1.4.4.1 Tools - S.C.B.A., handlight, pike pole, axe. In some cases, the pressurized water extinguisher or power saw
 - 4.1.4.4.2 Assist as part of the interior team performing the following tasks as needed:
 - 4.1.4.4.2.1 Assist with forcible entry
 - 4.1.4.4.2.2 Search for and remove victims
 - 4.1.4.4.2.3 Locate the fire
 - 4.1.4.4.2.4 Utilize the pressurized water extinguisher to contain or extinguish the fire
 - 4.1.4.4.2.5 Ventilate as required / needed

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5.0 Functions of the Truck Company

- 5.1 Life - Methods of protecting.
 - 5.1.1 Rescue
 - 5.1.1.1 Immediate rescue by ladder or other means
 - 5.1.1.2 Rescue as a result of an aggressive interior search
 - 5.1.2 Ventilation
 - 5.1.2.1 Assists in victim survival time
 - 5.1.2.2 Assists in the extinguishment effort
 - 5.1.3 Confinement
 - 5.1.3.1 Reduces the number of people endangered. This is accomplished by:
 - 5.1.3.1.1 Closing doors
 - 5.1.3.1.2 Using a pressurized water extinguisher
 - 5.1.3.1.3 Ventilation
- 5.2 Size-up - Is the mental evaluation of the facts which enables the OSF to determine the course of action. It is a continual process which begins long before receipt of the alarm.
 - 5.2.1 Size-up will be completed in accordance with S.O.G. O-303 Incident Management System - Command Procedures.
 - 5.2.2 Upon receipt of the alarm, pre-alarm knowledge has to be channeled to the particular fire situation. The following factors should be considered by the OSF in order to perform an effective size-up:
 - 5.2.2.1 Location of the fire
 - 5.2.2.2 Fire extension probability
 - 5.2.2.3 Life hazard
 - 5.2.2.4 Time of day
 - 5.2.2.5 Weather conditions
 - 5.2.2.6 Building construction
 - 5.2.2.7 Building height
 - 5.2.2.8 Area involved in fire
 - 5.2.2.9 Type of occupancy
 - 5.2.2.10 Access / exit
 - 5.2.2.11 Internal protection systems
 - 5.2.2.12 Available manpower
 - 5.2.3 During an alarm, conditions are subject to change. The OSF must continually re-evaluate the size-up factors so that operations are safe and effective.
- 5.3 Apparatus Placement
 - 5.3.1 General Guidelines
 - 5.3.1.1 All fireground communications shall be monitored for information that will directly affect the placement of the apparatus.

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- 5.3.1.2 If responding as the first due Truck Company, approach the fire building after the first due Engine Company and from the same direction. This is important as the street may not be wide enough and parked cars would prevent the Truck Company from passing the Engine.
- 5.3.1.3 The exception to this may be a small Cul-de-sac or Court where the Truck may only have one opportunity to gain a tactical advantage.
- 5.3.1.4 If responding with the Truck and you will have to utilize the pump, place the Truck for Truck operations but utilize the pump for fire attack.
- 5.3.1.5 The first due Truck Company should respond and be placed in front of the fire building.
- 5.3.1.6 The second due Truck Company should go to the rear of the building, if accessible. This may change due to factors on the scene or if ordered by Command.

5.3.2 Immediate Rescue Situations

5.3.2.1 Aerial ladder apparatus operations

- 5.3.2.1.1 Line up the center of the turntable with the window
- 5.3.2.1.2 If more than one person is endangered and not in vertical alignment, place the turntable midway between the rescue victims
- 5.3.2.1.3 Remove the most seriously exposed first
- 5.3.2.1.4 Placement will be affected by wind direction, heat, or flame present below the rescue effort
- 5.3.2.1.5 When numerous people are to be rescued, the OSF shall assign as many additional firefighters to the rescue effort as he deems necessary
- 5.3.2.1.6 Proper placement of the ladder is the responsibility of the OSF. If a rescue is to be attempted, he should order the driver and the third man to do so. The OSF should not remain in the street. The OSF should proceed to the fire area and direct an interior rescue attempt working with Squad Company. This method is more favorable than removing a victim down an aerial ladder. An exterior rescue attempt does not relieve the OSF of his responsibility to force entry into the fire area for search and to provide access for the Engine Company

5.3.3 Severe fire - no people visible

5.3.3.1 Aerial ladder apparatus

- 5.3.3.1.1 Place turntable in the center of the building as a precaution
- 5.3.3.1.2 If no rescue situation continues to exist, the apparatus can be deployed to the best tactical advantage



5.3.4 Aerial Pipe Operations

- 5.3.4.1 Apparatus placement is similar to 5.3.3. If placement is different, the Incident Commander will advise the Truck Officer.

5.4 Laddering

5.4.1 Aerial Ladders

- 5.4.1.1 Generally rose in the front of the building, to windows, roofs, etc. It is used for rescue, entry, search, ventilation, or as a means of egress for interior operating crews
- 5.4.1.2 It is preferable to remove people via the interior stairwells or horizontal exits. It must be remembered that most people are not familiar with ladders and they may be in a state of shock or incapacitated, making ladder removal difficult

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5.4.1.3 Safety is a priority. Proper angles must be utilized and the location of the fire, in proximity to the ladder, must be recognized

5.4.2 Ground Ladders

5.4.2.1 Aerial ladders generally operate at the front of the building. Ground ladders compliment this equipment with their flexibility, ease of handling, and ease of movement

5.4.2.2 Ground ladders are standard for buildings three stories or less or when apparatus is unable to be maneuvered into position due to obstructions

5.4.2.3 It is recommended that if companies are operating inside of a structure, a minimum of two ground ladders be positioned to facilitate exit from the building in the case of an emergency

5.4.2.4 Other functions that can be performed with a ground ladder include:

5.4.2.4.1 Rescue, access, or ventilation where the use of the aerial ladder is not feasible

5.4.2.4.2 Access to higher or lower levels of a roof

5.4.2.4.3 As bridging to span shafts or other openings

5.4.2.4.4 As a platform for the operation of nozzles, fans, or other equipment

5.4.2.4.5 As stability on a spongy roof

5.4.2.4.6 As part of a water chute or water collector at salvage operations

5.4.2.4.7 As a support for overhead doors

5.4.2.4.8 To facilitate ice rescue

5.4.2.4.9 A-Frame for Special Rescue Team Operations

5.4.2.5 All metal ladders conduct electricity, and electric current can jump the gap if the ladder is near high voltage. Always utilize the utmost caution when using ladders around power lines.

5.5 Forcible Entry

5.5.1 Forcible entry is the procedure for gaining access to buildings, individual occupancies, enclosed areas, vehicles, etc.

5.5.2 Forcible entry is classified in one of two categories.

5.5.2.1 Immediate

5.5.2.2 Delayed

5.5.3 Immediate forcible entry should be initiated in the following situations:

5.5.3.1 Fire or smoke showing

5.5.3.2 Life hazards

5.5.3.3 Fire extension

5.5.3.4 As circumstances dictate



5.5.4 The cardinal rule in forced entry is try before you pry. If a door must be forced, the OSF must size-up the door to determine:

5.5.4.1 Type of door

5.5.4.1.1 Does it open inward or outward?

5.5.4.1.2 Is it an overhead door?

5.5.4.1.3 Is it a special use door?

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5.5.4.2 Door construction

5.5.4.2.1 Wood

5.5.4.2.2 Metal

5.5.4.2.3 Glass

5.5.4.3 Type of lock

5.5.4.3.1 Mortise / rim lock

5.5.4.3.2 Vertical or horizontal bar

5.5.4.3.3 Padlock

5.5.5 Size-up will determine the forcible entry method to use.

5.5.5.1 Axe, Halligan, Rabbit Tool, or other forcible entry tool

5.5.5.2 Through-the-lock method

5.5.5.3 Saw or other power tool

5.5.5.4 Keep damage to a minimum. This not only preserves the integrity of the door but demonstrates professionalism, as well

5.5.6 In some cases, forcible entry can be delayed.

5.5.6.1 No apparent smoke or fire showing

5.5.6.2 A chronic automatic alarm

5.5.6.3 No apparent threat to life or structural integrity is present

5.5.7 When forcible entry can be delayed, alternative means can be utilized which may be more efficient and less damaging. Examples are:

5.5.7.1 Knox box

5.5.7.2 Ladder to window or balcony

5.5.7.3 Keys obtained from maintenance personnel

5.5.7.4 Access via adjacent patio or balcony

5.5.8 When forcing entry into a building or occupancy, the Fire Department is responsible for the contents until:

5.5.8.1 The building is secured

5.5.8.2 The building is turned over to the owner, manager, occupant or their representative

5.5.8.3 The building is turned over to the Police Department

5.5.9 The OSF must notify the Incident Commander of any forced entries. This is necessary for proper security and accountability.



5.6 Communications

5.6.1 The initial on-arrival size-up report is the responsibility of the first in OSF.

5.6.2 The Truck carries four portable radios.

5.6.3 The OSF shall make periodic contact with the driver if they become separated.

5.6.4 Important information must be conveyed to the OSF or Incident Commander to coordinate fireground activity. This information may include:

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- 5.6.4.1 Fire location
- 5.6.4.2 Victims found
- 5.6.4.3 Ventilation in progress
- 5.6.4.4 Need for medical attention
- 5.6.4.5 Building characteristics which may hamper the ability to perform Truck Company operations.
- 5.6.4.6 Need for additional fire suppression assistance
- 5.6.4.7 Exposure problems
- 5.6.4.8 Any conditions that appear odd or different that may need to be known to other operating companies or the Incident Commander

5.7 Search

- 5.7.1 Search is defined as the systematic and orderly examination of a building or area for the purpose of locating persons in order to save lives.
- 5.7.2 Responsibility
 - 5.7.2.1 The first due Truck Company is responsible for the fire area and the fire floor
 - 5.7.2.2 The second due Truck Company is responsible for all floors above the fire floor
 - 5.7.2.3 Additional search responsibilities may be assigned by the Incident Commander as needed
- 5.7.3 Two general search categories
 - 5.7.3.1 Primary Search - The immediate search for life. It is a rapid and systematic search
 - 5.7.3.2 Secondary Search - A thorough and painstaking search to insure that no possible victims are overlooked. The secondary search must include the entire perimeter of the building and all areas of the interior. It is recommended that the secondary search be performed by a Company that did not perform the primary search
- 5.7.4 The search is a planned operation. The following factors must be considered:
 - 5.7.4.1 Type of occupancy
 - 5.7.4.2 Time of day
 - 5.7.4.3 Information already received
 - 5.7.4.4 Building layout
- 5.7.5 Determine an alternate escape route. When searching an area above the fire, do not hesitate to force an additional door to provide an escape route or area of refuge.

5.8 Ventilation

- 5.8.1 Ventilation is the systematic release of fire, smoke, heat, and toxic gases from a building or fire area. Proper ventilation can provide survival time for occupants, facilitate easier search and rescue operations, and allow for the advancement of hose lines by the Engine Companies.
- 5.8.2 Ventilation can be categorized in two ways:
 - 5.8.2.1 Ventilation for life safety - Assists in the removal of a toxic atmosphere where there is a known or suspected life hazard
 - 5.8.2.2 Ventilation for fire suppression - Facilitate the advancement of hose lines by the Engine Companies for fire extinguishment. This must be a coordinated process so that the Engine Companies have water and are ready to advance on the fire

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5.8.3 Methods of Ventilation

5.8.3.1 Natural Ventilation

5.8.3.1.1 Vertical Ventilation

- 5.8.3.1.1.1 Prevents byproducts of combustion from accumulating at upper levels of a structure
- 5.8.3.1.1.2 Prevents mushrooming or lateral extension
- 5.8.3.1.1.3 Allows easier access to upper floors for search operations
- 5.8.3.1.1.4 Increases survival times for victims
- 5.8.3.1.1.5 Allows for hoseline advancement

5.8.3.1.2 Examples of vertical ventilation include:

- 5.8.3.1.2.1 Removal of sky lights
- 5.8.3.1.2.2 Opening scuttle hatches, bulkhead doors, etc.
- 5.8.3.1.2.3 Cutting a large hole in the roof over the seat of the fire

5.8.3.1.3 Horizontal Ventilation

- 5.8.3.1.3.1 Horizontal ventilation provides openings at the same level as the fire
- 5.8.3.1.3.2 Relieves the room/area/floor of toxic gases
- 5.8.3.1.3.3 Permits visibility for search
- 5.8.3.1.3.4 Allows visibility for hoseline advancement

5.8.3.2 Mechanical Ventilation - Offers firefighters a means of channeling products of combustion where they want them. Mechanical methods are often needed to move toxic atmospheres not naturally dissipated. Means of mechanical ventilation include:

5.8.3.2.1 Building ventilation systems

5.8.3.2.2 Fog nozzles

5.8.3.2.3 Negative pressure fans

- 5.8.3.2.3.1 Uses a method of sucking air
- 5.8.3.2.3.2 Not always effective

5.8.3.2.4 Positive pressure fans

- 5.8.3.2.4.1 Uses a blowing effect
- 5.8.3.2.4.2 Twice as effective as negative pressure systems
- 5.8.3.2.4.3 Increases air movement resulting in greater exchange of fresh air

5.8.4 Problems associated with ventilation.



5.8.4.1 Premature or random ventilation can extend or accelerate the fire

5.8.4.2 Uncontrolled ventilation can create untenable conditions for occupants or fire fighting crews

5.8.4.3 Improper ventilation can create excessive property damage

5.8.5 Safety considerations.

5.8.5.1 Do not ventilate so that people or members above the fire may be placed in jeopardy

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5.8.5.2 Venting should not unnecessarily extend the fire

5.8.5.3 Falling glass from a window or sky light removal can cause injury to those below, especially in highrise buildings

5.8.5.4 Be aware of wind conditions. Wind conditions can negate ventilation operations if it creates acceleration or unwanted fire spread

5.8.5.5 When opening roofs, safe practices dictate that fire crews operate from the windward side

5.9 Checking for Extension

5.9.1 The opening of walls, ceilings, partitions, etc. is necessary to check for fire extension and to completely extinguish the fire. In checking for extension, the Truck OSF must have prior knowledge of construction features and know the extent of the fire.

5.9.2 Checking for extension should begin as soon as possible. Manpower should be augmented as the need arises.

5.9.3 Fire extension can be placed into two categories. These categories are:

5.9.3.1 Vertical Extension

5.9.3.1.1 Walls - especially in boxed out areas

5.9.3.1.2 Plumbing recesses - usually found in kitchens and bathrooms

5.9.3.1.3 Shafts - Elevator, dumbwaiter, stairwell, duct, laundry, etc.

5.9.3.1.4 Fire spreading up the outside of the building

5.9.3.1.5 When hot spots are found in walls, an opening should be made above the area to cut off the fire extension. If vertical extension is found or suspected in any area, the top and bottom of the fire area must be examined. Remember, fire can spread downward by falling embers

5.9.3.1.6 Firefighters who are going to examine these areas should be shown the problem in the fire area and then instructed to open the area up. The firefighters should relay their findings to the Incident Commander as soon as possible

5.9.3.2 Horizontal Extension

5.9.3.2.1 Attics - The space between the ceiling and the roof



5.9.3.2.2 Common attics - Found in strip malls, store fronts, and in some multi-family dwellings

5.9.3.2.2.1 When dealing with ceiling and floor spaces, try and determine the direction of the joists

5.9.3.2.3 If fire is found in the ceiling, other than the top floor, holes should be made in that area or adjoining areas until the outer edge of the fire is determined. The ceiling is then opened toward the fire to limit horizontal extension. When fire is found in the wall, that joist and the adjoining runs should be opened

5.9.3.2.4 Fire can spread horizontally at the beam ends, allowing fire to spread to adjoining areas or buildings. If there is any indication of fire at the beam ends, examine the ceiling on the other side of the wall and open if necessary

5.9.3.2.5 If fire has extended into the attic, one method of limiting horizontal extension is by cutting a large hole in the roof directly over the fire and pushing the ceiling down. Another method is by pulling the ceiling from below and applying water. The Officer should be familiar with trench cuts and utilize this tactic if necessary

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5.9.3.2.6 If fire enters a shaft, expect both vertical and horizontal extension. In a closed shaft, the key is to immediately ventilate the top of the shaft. The bottom of the shaft and any openings must be checked. In an open shaft, fire can extend vertically and enter open windows on upper levels. It can also extend horizontally by radiant heat to other adjacent windows in the shaft.

5.9.3.2.7 Fire stops - Building codes require various forms of fire stops, however, openings are made to run pipes and wire. Many times these holes are not resealed, allowing fire to spread.

5.10 Extinguishment

5.10.1 Fire extinguishment is the primary function of an Engine Company but fires are often extinguished or at least held in check by the Truck Company. With the ability to utilize the pump on Truck Co. #33, both of these functions are possible.

5.10.1.1 If a portable extinguisher is to be utilized, determine what is burning and utilize the proper extinguisher

5.10.2 If there is a need for water, utilize the proper diameter line for the fire or standpipe system in the building.

5.11 Overhaul

5.11.1 Overhaul includes the opening of walls, ceilings, partitions, etc. to identify and expose hidden fires. Overhaul is performed after the fire has been brought under control.

5.11.2 One main difference between checking for extension and overhaul is mental attitude. Previously the fire was in control and the fire dictated your actions. In overhaul, the OSF is in control and dictates the actions of the Company.

5.11.3 Before beginning the overhaul operation, plan and re-evaluate the situation. Survey the situation and plan:

5.11.3.1 Will overhaul interfere with the fire investigation?

5.11.3.2 What has to be done?

5.11.3.3 How many personnel are needed?

5.11.3.4 What tools are needed?

5.11.3.5 Who is to do what overhaul tasks?

5.11.3.6 If items have to be moved, where will they be moved to?

5.11.4 Overhaul Considerations

5.11.4.1 It is a good practice to take care of smoldering mattresses and upholstered furniture early. If they are not removed to the outside, they will continue to smolder and generate smoke, making overhaul operations more difficult



5.11.4.2 If the furniture is not moved prior to pulling the ceilings, the debris will accumulate on top and make moving it more difficult

5.11.4.3 Determine the location where burned debris will be moved. It should be away from the structure and in a safe location



5.11.4.4 There is no need to rush during overhaul operations. Safety is a prime consideration

5.11.5 Safety can be improved by:

5.11.5.1 Ventilation. It improves visibility and rids the area of toxic gases. Open doors, clear out windows, or use mechanical means if necessary

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- 5.11.5.2 Utilize adequate lighting in the hazard area. Use building lights or set up portable lighting to create a safe working environment
- 5.11.5.3 Identify and protect hazardous areas such as holes in floors and roofs, open shafts, missing stairs, etc. Isolate these areas by using ropes, boards, lighting, barricade tape, etc. as needed
- 5.11.5.4 Recognize signs of exhaustion in firefighters and advise the Incident Commander if rehab is needed
- 5.11.5.5 Members shall wear the proper protective equipment while overhauling. S.C.B.A. shall be worn in accordance with S.O.G. O-319
- 5.11.6 Protection of property. Remember that the building contents are someone's property. How we handle them will make a life-long impression on its owner. Treat their property as if it were your own. Some ways to reduce property damage are:
 - 5.11.6.1 Place unburned contents found on top of dressers and desks inside drawers
 - 5.11.6.2 Unburned furniture can be covered or placed in another room
 - 5.11.6.3 Expensive and hard to replace items should be treated with care
 - 5.11.6.4 Excess water can be channeled or removed from the building
 - 5.11.6.5 Use salvage covers as soon as possible, when needed
- 5.11.7 Overhaul can destroy important evidence needed to determine the cause and origin of a fire.
 - 5.11.7.1 Before overhaul is initiated, check for the presence of anything suspicious such as flammable liquid trailers, cans or smell of flammable liquids, or any item which may remotely appear suspicious and should be considered as the possible cause of the fire
 - 5.11.7.2 If possible, items should not be disturbed. If they must be moved, handle them as little as possible
 - 5.11.7.3 The Incident Commander must be informed if anything is found so the proper notifications for the fire investigation can be made
- 5.12 Lighting
 - 5.12.1 Consider the use of existing lighting first
 - 5.12.2 The use of lighting can make a difficult and dangerous job of fighting fires easier and safer
 - 5.12.3 Each member of the Truck Company should be equipped with a properly operating handlight
 - 5.12.4 On the fireground, apparatus spot lights can be utilized to pinpoint victims at windows. This will facilitate the rescue and may also calm the victim as they realize that the Fire Department has seen them. Spot lights can also be utilized to pinpoint hazards such as loose or hanging building sections, loose signs, electric wires, etc.
 - 5.12.5 Quartz lights will be used to light up the exteriors of fire buildings, providing greater safety in which to conduct operations
 - 5.12.6 Portable lighting shall be placed prior to beginning overhaul operations, and will be used to provide general illumination as well as highlight unsafe areas such as missing stairs or holes in the floors
 - 5.12.7 Adequate lighting will be provided when working in areas without natural lighting, such as windowless buildings, below grade levels, elevator shafts, etc.
- 5.13 Salvage
 - 5.13.1 Salvage work consists of the methods and procedures that further reduce fire, water, and smoke damage during and after fires. A portion of these damages are caused by the application of water, ventilating

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the building, and checking for fire extension. Although these damages cannot be eliminated, good salvage procedures can help minimize these losses.

- 5.13.2 The OSF must include a salvage size-up before and while conducting his overhaul size-up. Note what is already heavily damaged by fire, what is partially damaged and might be salvageable, and what will be damaged if something is not done before opening the walls and ceilings.
- 5.13.3 Although something may appear to have little value, it might have great sentimental value to the owner. The protection of property by care, use of salvage covers, etc. will require little additional time but it will be remembered for a lifetime by the owner.
- 5.14 Utilities Control
 - 5.14.1 Shutting down the utilities is a Truck Company function. Systems required to be shut down are:
 - 5.14.1.1 Gas
 - 5.14.1.2 Electricity
 - 5.14.1.3 Water
 - 5.14.1.4 Air handling systems
 - 5.14.2 A firefighter with a portable radio will be assigned to shut down these systems. He will notify his OSF in the event of problems. Controls should not be indiscriminately shut down. Make sure you know what area(s) of the structure are being shut down. Make a note of what was shut down so the Incident Commander can pass this on to the property owner.
 - 5.14.3 Once the utilities have been shut down, only the utility companies can turn them back on.
 - 5.14.4 When shutting down the electricity, attempt to isolate the affected area through the use of breakers or fuses. The removal of electric meters will only be done in extreme emergency conditions, not by Fire Department personnel.
 - 5.14.5 Water supplies to the building can be shut off at the main feed line. If this is not accessible, Public Works may be notified to shut off the water at the street.
 - 5.14.6 When shutting down an automatic sprinkler system, a firefighter with a portable radio should be assigned to the valve in case the system has to be re-charged due to the fire flaring up.
 - 5.14.7 Air handling systems will not be reactivated until a building engineer and / or Incident Commander is consulted

6.0 Reference

- 6.1 Highland Park Fire Department
- 6.2 NFPA 1710: 5.2.3 Deployment: Initial Full Alarm Assignment Capability:

Approved:  Fire Chief