



CHARLOTTESVILLE - ALBEMARLE RESCUE SQUAD



STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

TOPIC: Structure Fire Operations	S.O.P. # 4.4
Approved by: Lair D. Haugh, Chief	Revised: 2/9/2003 Approved:

I. PURPOSE

- a. To outline the situations where the squad will be due and/or requested to assist in fire suppression operations.
- b. To outline the roles and responsibilities of the squad and its crew during structure fire suppression operations.
- c. To outline the tasks and duties that members may perform while assisting with fire suppression operations.

II. RESPONSE

- a. The squad may be requested at any time by the commanding officer at any fire scene.
- b. In the City of Charlottesville, the squad is due automatically on all fire-related responses of second-alarm or greater.
- c. Squad 133 shall be the default apparatus for fire suppression responses within the city limits.
 - i. The above, however, does not preclude the use of other apparatus in special circumstances (i.e. limited access, off-road positioning)
- d. In the County of Albemarle, the squad is due automatically on all fire-related responses of second-alarm or greater within the "urban-ring." It is available all other times by request.
- e. The appropriate apparatus shall be selected based upon the location of the call.
 - i. Squad 133 shall be the default vehicle for incidents occurring within subdivisions or in locations where adequate access is known to exist.
 - ii. Squad 134 shall be the default vehicle for incident occurring outside the "urban-ring" or in locations of limited access.

III. Operations

- a. Upon arrival, the squad shall mark on-scene with Fire Alarm and assume the proper fire ground operations frequency.
- b. Once the apparatus is positioned, the crew should contact command to:
 - i. Report the position of the squad truck
 - ii. Ascertain whether to begin second-due truck operations (see below) or report to staging.
 - iii. By default, the squad shall function as the second-due truck on the fire scene. In this role, it's duties shall include:
 1. Lighting to sides three (3) and four (4) of the scene (if operating at night).
 2. Electricity to sides three (3) and four (4) of the scene.
 3. Horizontal ventilation on sides three (3) and four (4).
 4. Laddering of the building on sides three (3) and four (4).
 5. Forcible entry to sides three (3) and four (4) of the building.
 - iv. If Requested:
 1. Primary search of the floor above the fire floor

- c. By default, the squad shall be positioned on side three of the structure (or as close as is practical) so as to best facilitate the completion of the duties listed in above.
 - i. Exception to positioning include:
 - 1. The first-due truck company cannot access the structure.
 - 2. If the first-due truck has NO access to the structure, the squad shall take side one (1) of the structure and function as the first-due truck.
 - 3. If the first-due truck has access to the structure in a location other than side one (1), the squad shall position opposite the first-due truck.
 - 4. Access to the entire structure is limited (i.e. long driveway, narrow streets)
 - ii. The squad shall be positioned so as to not obstruct access to the structure by the first due engine.
- d. The squad crew shall still perform the duties of the second due truck, either utilizing equipment from the squad or first-due units, depending on the access.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Members operating on a fire scene shall only perform assignments within the scope of their training and experience. (e.g. Two members who have just recently completed Firefighter I shall not undertake VES operations or a Squad Operator without Firefighter I shall not assist with fire suppression)
- b. If a member is assigned a task outside of their scope of training, it is that member's responsibility to inform their commanding officer and request another assignment.
- c. While the responsibilities listed above shall be considered the default operations of the squad, members may be assigned any task on the fire scene by command.
- d. Members operating on an emergency scene shall utilize the PAS Tag Accountability System. Members will give their PAS tags to either the commanding officer or accountability officer, depending on the ICS structure prior to commencing fireground operations.
- e. Members will ONLY perform operations on the fireground that they have been instructed to undertake by an officer. At NO time will any member freelance.