

Salt River Fire Department Operating Guidelines

Initial Attack Operations

April 2000

202.02C

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Purpose:

To provide a safe working environment for all personnel operating on the scene of a structure fire. To allow for quick rescue of trapped/down victims. To provide operational guidelines for units arriving on the scene prior to the assembly of four firefighting persons. To ensure proper documentation in the event of an entry into an IDLH without four persons assembled on the scene.

Procedures:

The Fire Department will not initiate interior fire/rescue operations until at least four persons are assembled on the scene of the incident. When four persons are assembled, two may perform interior operations while the other two must remain outside the IDLH and be prepared to perform rescue of the entry crew. The interior crew must maintain constant contact with one another and the outside crew must have communications with the interior crew. One of the two persons outside may be engaged in another task, but this task must be one, which can be abandoned if rescue is required. These tasks include incident command, pump operations, securing utilities, and water supply. One of the outside personnel must be in full PPE with SCBA donned. The second should have full PPE worn with an SCBA readily available.

When a unit arrives on the scene of a working interior structure fire, the officer must evaluate the situation and make the following decisions:

- Is there an immediate rescue situation present?
- If so, actions can be initiated without the assembly of four persons on the scene?
- Does the situation warrant outside operations until the arrival of at least four persons on the scene?
- What type of outside operations can be accomplished prior to the arrival of at least four persons?
- 360 degree recon, secure utilities, establish hose lines, evacuation of surrounding area

If the unit makes the decision that an immediate rescue situation exists, they may proceed with the rescue, working in pairs if possible. Whether a victim is found or not, an Exception Report must be filled out and become part of the incident documentation. (See attached)

Exceptions:

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- When a life hazard exists that requires immediate action.
- When the fire is in an incipient stage that could be controlled by a portable fire extinguisher

Applications:

This procedure should be implemented on all of the following:

- Offensive interior structure fire operations
- Hazardous materials operations
- Trench rescue
- Confined space rescue
- Other life safety risk type incidents

Once more resources arrive on the scene; a full Rapid Intervention Crew should be assigned.
(See SOG-Rapid Intervention Crew)