

Salt River Fire Department Operating Guidelines

Safety and Risk Management Profiles

March 2003

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Operating at Emergency Incidents poses an inherent risk of injury – or worse, death. The purpose of this procedure is to describe the Regional Operating policy regarding risk assessment and safety management of emergency incidents.

We are committed to providing the safest possible work environment for our members. It is important that all members operating at incidents operate in a safe manner. Each must practice as a “Safe Person” for their own safety, as well as to minimize risk to others. Towards that goal, all members are expected to operate under the following risk management profiles.

- *We **Will** risk our lives a lot, in a calculated manner, to save **SAVABLE** lives.*
- *We **Will** risk our lives a Little, in a calculated manner, to save **SAVABLE** property.*
- *We **Will Not** risk our lives at all for lives or property that are already **Lost**.*

This risk management profile will be applied to all emergency incidents and will be continuously re-assessed throughout the incident operation.

When considering the **SURVIVAL** profile of any victims, members must consider the conditions present in the “compartment” or area of fire conditions or other conditions affecting survival. A fire in a rear bedroom of a house, with smoke throughout the house may allow a survivable environment if a search and rescue effort is initiated quickly. We may extend risk, in a calculated manner, with these conditions.

A significant fire in a residence with dense smoke under pressure to floor level throughout the building likely means victims could not survive. A very cautious, calculated rescue and fire control operation would be warranted.

A well-involved building would likely represent a zero survivability profile. Similar conditions in an abandoned building would indicate little survivability and little property to be saved and members should avoid an offensive firefight.

Victims buried by a trench collapse or under water for 10 minutes or more, would be unlikely to survive therefore an extremely cautious and a well planned, safe, recovery operation is required.

Rescuers should consider notification time; dispatch processing time, response time, and time on-scene as part of the calculation.

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Actions in a calculated manner requires:

1. Incident Command established (where applicable)
2. Proper personal protective equipment
3. Accountability system established.
4. Safety procedures in place.
5. Continuous risk assessment by all members