

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

Page Number: Page 1 of 2 **Effective Date:** 04/01/2011 **Reviewed with No Changes:** 2/29/2007 **Supersedes Editions:** 03/17/10, 01/01/97, 04/01/93, 05/01/91, 01/01/2005

Purpose: *During firefighting operations, building stability may rapidly deteriorate, or other conditions may be present that pose an immediate threat to fire fighter safety. This procedure establishes the measures to be taken if emergency scene evacuation becomes necessary.*

Definitions:

In Command Accountability System:

An electronic system used for accountability of firefighters at an incident scene.

T Pass Personal Accountability Report (PAR):

A PAR is the electronic communication, using only the In Command Accountability System electronic notification to the T PASS 4 and an acknowledgement from each member with the T PASS 4.

Personal Accountability Report (PAR): Without T Pass 4 System

A communication, either by radio or face to face, between crews at an incident scene and the Incident Commander or Accountability Officer. A PAR shall be done when ordered by the Incident Commander, Safety Officer or Accountability Officer. *(When all personnel at an emergency scene have T PASS 4 devices, the preferred T Pass PAR method is to use the In Command Accountability System. All members, however, should know the process of conducting a PAR via radio, as mutual aid fire departments may not be equipped with the T PASS 4 devices, or there may be a failure of the In Command Accountability System.)*

Roll Call:

Is the electronic activation of a members T PASS 4 in conjunction with radio/face-to-face with the Accountability Officer.

Procedure:

1. Any officer may direct an emergency evacuation of the scene. The following are the steps to be taken when this decision is made.
2. The officer shall call radio and signal that they have an "Emergency Message and need the alert tone sounded". Radio is to acknowledge and listen to the message. Radio shall activate the alert tone and repeat the emergency message. Radio will simulcast this message on all operations channels.
3. The Accountability Officer shall send an Evacuation Command using the In Command Accountability System.
4. Upon hearing the Emergency Evacuation message, all apparatus operators at the scene, regardless of what they are doing, shall make long blasts of the apparatus air horns. Such blasts shall be approximately five (5) seconds in duration. Air horn blasts shall be done for approximately one (1) minute.

Standard Operating Procedures are meant only to be guidelines. Actual conditions may warrant alternative actions.

Okolona Fire Department
Standard Operating Procedure

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5. Upon hearing the evacuation message, personnel inside a structure shall immediately leave the interior, taking only the equipment necessary for a rapid and safe evacuation. Members on scene shall not reset an evacuation call on their T Pass 4 devices until such time they are out of the evacuation/danger area.
6. All personnel shall form up in crews upon leaving the structure. The Rapid Intervention Team shall hold in position, except as necessary for their safety.
7. A Roll Call report shall be made using the In Command Accountability System upon the completion of the Emergency Scene Evacuation. Alternatively, a Personal Accountability Report (PAR) may be performed at the discretion of the Incident Commander or Accountability Officer.
8. Immediate and prompt evacuation is stressed, as firefighter safety is in jeopardy in these situations. Abandonment of any equipment not essential for safe evacuation is acceptable in emergency evacuations.
9. If fire fighters are trapped, the Incident Commander should consider requesting a second alarm. EMS, if not already on the scene shall be requested. The Rapid Intervention Team shall be deployed as directed by the Incident Commander or Operations Officer.

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