

Operating Guidelines

Section: Fireground Procedures

Subject: Rapid Intervention Teams

Number: 907

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Purpose

To establish guidelines to provide for effective deployment and operations of RIT at incidents where there is and IDLH environment/structural fires to ensure safety of personnel at the scene.

Scope

This guideline is to be followed by all department members.

Guidelines

907.1

The incident commander shall establish a RIT sector prior to firefighters entering a structure. RIT may be established using department personnel, but mutual aid shall be activated immediately in order to replace the department RIT team who can then be redeployed to provide additional manpower to deal with the incident.

907.2

In certain circumstances, a IC may choose to have fire fighters enter a dwelling prior to a RIT sector being established. These circumstances would involve the need to have an immediate task being conducted such as an easily definable rescue or quick extinguishment of a specifically defined fire. The IC will only take these actions if extra resources will be momentarily available. The task that is required will be clearly defined to the fire fighters prior to an action being taken and once completed the fire fighters will promptly return to a safe exterior position. If the IC implements this discretionary option they will at the end of the emergency response promptly provide the Fire Chief with a written account of the situation and their reasons for using this discretionary option.

907.3

A RIT sector shall consist of a minimum of one (1), two (2) person team.

907.4

All team members shall be equipped to the agreed PPE standards as well as have donned SCBA.

907.5

RIT sector personnel shall be ready to rescue a firefighting and shall not perform any other regular fireground duties.

907.6

RIT team duties should also include, RIT staging, rescue ladder placement, ongoing size up, monitoring of radio communications, building construction identification, entry/egress identification, liaison with IC.

907.7

Recommended equipment required for RIT shall include, RIT staging tarp, 2 portable radios with host frequency, axe, pry bar (Biel tool) 2 flashlights, a search rope and bag, 1 spare complete SCBA preferably with a URC (Universal Rescue Coupling) and a trans-fill hose.

907.8

Host department shall provide a dedicated hoseline, ladders.

907.9

A mutual aid RIT may also bring preferred equipment such as Thermal Imaging Camera(s), additional portable radios with host frequency.

907.10

Mutual Aid partners shall agree on, and train to, a minimum standard of training to support the purpose of this guideline.