

Operating Guidelines

Section: Personal Protection

Subject: On Scene Firefighter Rehabilitation

Policy #: 204

Date Issued: February 1, 2016

Date Revised: October 3, 2017

Purpose

To establish policy and procedures to regulate the amount of fatigue and emotional trauma suffered by fire ground personnel during sustained operations.

Procedure

204.1

Officers should frequently assess the physical condition of their assigned personnel. When crew members exhibit signs of serious physical or mental fatigue, the members showing signs should be rotated with staged or stand-by crews.

204.2

A regular cycle of rotation for firefighters should be established at any prolonged emergency scene.

204.3

If crew members exhibit signs of serious physical or mental fatigue, the Officer in charge of the members will remove them from duty and have them examined by EMS.

204.4

It is the intent of this policy and procedure to reduce the fatigue and trauma experienced during difficult operations to a reasonable and recoverable level and is in no way intended to lessen the individual and collective efforts expected of all members during all operations.

204.5

Officers in charge shall ensure their crews are well hydrated at all times.

204.6

It is every firefighter's responsibility to be aware of the signs and symptoms of dehydration and to treat accordingly.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of all Officers and Firefighters to abide by these policies and procedures to regulate fatigue and emotional trauma suffered by ground fire personnel.