MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT

POLICY NO. _____105.06_____   VOLUME: _____1_____

SUBJECT: Accountability at Scene

SIGNED: _____   DATE: _____3/6/2019 - revised_____
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PURPOSE: This procedure identifies a system of incident site fire fighter accountability. The purpose is to account for all fire fighters, at any given time, at the emergency scene. Use of this system will provide enhanced personal safety for the individual fire fighter, and will provide the Incident Commander an improved means to track and account for all personnel.

The accountability system shall be activated at any IDLH scene or in which a fire fighter is at risk of becoming lost, trapped, or injured by the environment or structure. This would include entering a structure reported to be on fire and operating in close proximity to the structure during exterior operations or natural disaster.

Accountability

Accountability involves a personal commitment to work within the safety system at an incident.

➢ The Incident Commander will maintain an accurate tracking and awareness of where resources are committed at an incident through the use of the Accountability Tactical Work-Board/Passport system.
➢ The Incident Commander will be responsible for including accountability as a major element at the fire scene, and must consider and react to any barriers to effective accountability.
➢ Crews arriving on the scene should remain intact for all intents and purposes. A minimum crew size will be considered two or more members.
➢ All crews entering an IDLH (Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health) must be supervised by a ranking individual or designated team leader.
➢ All department members entering an IDLH will have a portable radio.
➢ All crews will go in together, stay together, and come out together. Reduced visibility and increased risk will require a heightened awareness of this requirement.

Personnel Accountability (PAR)

A personnel accountability report (PAR) will be required for the following situations:

➢ Any report of a missing or trapped fire fighter (Incident Commander initiates a PAR of all crews on the scene).
➢ Any change to operational modes (investigative, offensive, transitional, and defensive).

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➢ Any sudden hazardous event at the scene (flash over, backdraft, collapse, etc.) – Incident Commander initiates a PAR of all crews at the scene.
➢ At every 20 minutes of elapsed time.
➢ At a report of fire under control.

The Accountability Tactical Work-Board/Passport system will function as follows:

➢ The Incident Commander will setup at the most advantageous positon at the scene and he or the designated accountability officer will establish the accountability process. The Accountability Work-Board/Passport system will be utilized.
➢ Using the Accountability Tactical Work-Board, the Incident Commander shall monitor the status of all personnel at the scene. This will include personnel in the hot zone, in rehab or in staging.
➢ All members operating at the scene will be added to the Accountability Tactical Work-Board.

Lost/Missing Firefighter

An absent member of any crew will automatically be assumed lost or trapped until otherwise determined safe. Company Officers/Team Leaders learning of a missing team member(s) must immediately report the absent/lost member(s) to the Incident Commander. The Incident Commander will immediately request a PAR of all companies at the incident. Simultaneously with these actions, the Incident Commander must adjust on-scene strategies to a priority search and rescue effort.

PARs Procedure - The Incident Commander will announce "All units stand-by for PARs." A request will then be requested from the Incident Commander for each individual team to report PAR status. Only then will the Company Officer/Team Leader (senior person in the team) announce team's location, number of individuals and lowest SCBA reading.

Example:

• Incident Command: "Command to all units standby for PARs. 11 (one-one) report status."
• Engine 1's LT: "11 (one-one) to Command, third floor Bravo-Side, two (number of individuals in the team), 2200 (lowest SCBA reading)."
• Incident Command: Command received. Command to 32 (three-two) report status."
• Engine 3's AO: "32 (three-two) to Command, first floor Delta-Side, missing FF Smith (name of missing FF), 1900 (lowest SCBA reading)." This allows all individuals on the scene to be aware of who is missing and last known location.

Terminating the Accountability System

The Accountability System will be maintained until the Incident Commander determines that the IDLH has been eliminated, making it unnecessary for the Accountability Tactical Work-Board/Passport

system.