



MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT

POLICY NO. 105.13

VOLUME: 1

SUBJECT: Rapid Intervention Crew(s)

SIGNED: _____

DATE: 3/7/2018 - revised

Chris J. Mullins, Fire Chief

SCOPE AND PURPOSE: To establish standard guidelines and procedures that will serve to provide a safe working environment and to reduce the risk of injury or death as a result of fireground operations at emergency incidents. This will provide guidelines for affecting the rescue of personnel who become lost, trapped, or disoriented during incident operations by establishing Rapid Intervention Crews.

POLICY: To provide additional safety for firefighters at emergency incidents by establishing Rapid Intervention Crew(s) to provide immediate rescue or other assistance in the event of a "MAYDAY" (See Policy 105.12).

Procedure:

A. A Rapid Intervention Team (4 firefighters recommended) will be established when operations are being performed in an IDLH atmosphere as soon as is practicable.

B. The establishment of a Rapid Intervention Crew(s) is the responsibility of the Incident Commander and crew size will be based on the following:

1. Incident type
2. Building construction and size
3. Number of personnel operating within the IDLH atmosphere
4. Access/egress points
5. Geographical size

C. Incident Commander Responsibilities:

1. Establish a RIC, appoint team leader, and establish communication.
2. Select a RIC staging area (consideration should be given to the following - multi-sided view, proximity to points of access/egress, distance away from noise, traffic, and primary operations).
3. At a high-rise fire or other large-scale operation, the Incident Commander may stage RIC at other tactically advantageous positions (e.g. floor below the fire floor, perimeters).

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4. Brief RIC Team Leader
5. Complete IC's Rapid Intervention Crew Checklist.
6. RIC shall not be assigned to routine fire fighting activities.
7. In the event of a RIC deployment, the IC shall move incident operations to another tactical channel, only the firefighter(s) being rescued and RIC operations will remain on the original channel. IC should consider appointing an Operations Officer to command rescue operations.
8. Obtain PAR on secondary TAC channel.
9. IC shall assign personnel to assist the RIC with the rescue effort.
10. IC shall provide personnel to establish a second RIC when the original RIC has been deployed.

D. RIC Team Leader Responsibilities:

1. Report to IC for briefing
2. Conduct "RIC Incident Size-up" and consider access/egress points.
3. RIC Team Leader shall review the building features, floor plan and preplans and be familiar with what units are operating, and their locations in the building.
4. Complete RIC Team Leader's Checklist.
5. Soften Doors and Windows to prepare egress/access.
6. Throw ground ladders on multi story structures and consider scene lighting.
7. Maintain Radio Communication to receive RIC deployment and monitor operations for ongoing size up.

E. RIC Equipment:

1. The RIC shall be fully equipped with the appropriate protective clothing, protective equipment, SCBA, and any specialized rescue equipment that might be needed given the specifics of the operations in which Companies are engaged.
2. The RIC Unit shall determine the availability and location of Aerial and portable ladders, portable lights, extrication tools and/or other tools and equipment which might be needed to perform rescue duties. At a minimum, RIC members shall be equipped

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with the following, which can be staged outside the building:

- RIC Team Leader: hook, thermal imager, search rope
- A/O: 6' hook, Pack Tracker, search rope
- Firefighter: Irons/RIC pack
- Plugman: Irons/RIC pack
- Additional tools for specialized operations shall be placed on the Yellow RIC tarp:
 - Backboard, Utility rope, 4 spare SCBA, Pack Tracker, Box Light, K-12, TNT, Closet hook, Reciprocating saw, scene lighting, attic ladder, 6' pike pole, chainsaw, portable ground ladder for structures more than one floor, bolt cutters.

Incident Commander

Rapid Intervention Crew Worksheet

Pre-Deployment

- Assign RIC Company.
- Determine best RIC staging location.
- Brief RIC Team Leader.
- Establish communication channel for continual size-up from RIC Team Leader as well as receiving orders from command.

Deployment

- Stop unnecessary radio traffic for Emergency Traffic/MAYDAY.
- Receive LUNAAR (location, unit, name, assignment, air, needed resources) information for proper deployment.
- Instruct personnel to stay calm, activate PASS, and take measures to increase survivability.
- Deploy available resources (RIC Team, Crews in immediate area).
- Assign fireground operations to secondary TAC channel, so as to clear original channel and isolate for rescue (RIC, Ops, and Crews immediate to area).
- Request additional resources to handle rescue efforts.
- Consider expanding command to include an Operations Chief to manage rescue.
- Establish another RIC company for ongoing incident.
- Obtain PAR (every 10 min.)
- Evaluate current mode of operation (offensive/defensive, etc.), changes could be needed.
- Assess structural stability continuously.

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RIC Team Leader

Rapid Intervention Crew Worksheet

Pre-Deployment

- Assemble RIC Team and equipment at designated RIC area with yellow tarp.
- Report to IC for incident briefing.
- Conduct RIC size-up. Consider additional means of egress and soften structure (removing security bars, force windows and doors, laddering structure). Permission must be obtained from IC before making any changes to the structure....**DO NOT VENTILATE!**
- Monitor Operational Radio Channel
- Consider scene lighting for nighttime deployments

Deployment

- Receive LUNAAR (location, unit, name, assignment, air, needed resources) information for proper deployment from IC.
- Deploy first two man RIC team to locate downed firefighter(s)
- Make entry with secondary RIC team after first RIC team radios what additional resources are needed.
- Consider alternative egress points.
- Monitor air supply of secondary RIC team.
- Ventilate and maintain tenability.

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