

FREWSBURG FIRE DISTRICT OPERATIONAL POLICY	Section 7	EMERGENCY OPERATIONS	
	SUBJECT	INCIDENT COMMAND	
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I. SCOPE

All members of this department shall adhere to the following guidelines under normal circumstances. This guideline is in accordance with NFPA 1561 Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management System and Command Safety.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this section is to establish guidelines regarding the procedures members of this department will follow in the process of mitigating emergency and non-emergency incidents. These guidelines are not expected to, nor can they provide exact guidance for all circumstances that may arise at an incident scene. Furthermore, these guidelines are designed to ensure that the members of this department perform designated and implied tasks in a standard, safe manner.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Incident Commander (IC)

- A. The Fire Chief/Assistant Chief will be the IC, unless there will be a delay in their arrival, then the first arriving engine company's highest-ranking member will be designated IC until the Fire Chief or an Assistant Chief arrives on the scene.
- B. The IC is the ultimate authority and has the overall responsibility for the mitigation of the incident. The IC shall consider the circumstances of each incident and follow the command sequence listed in this section.
- C. The IC will immediately size up the incident to identify critical incident factors.
- D. The IC will determine the strategy and tactics to be used to control and mitigate the incident.
- E. The IC will implement an action plan or assign tasks by appointing qualified individuals such as an Incident Safety Officer (ISO), Rehabilitation Officer and a Sector Commander to perform duties to complete the action plan or assigned tasks. The IC shall adjust the overall tactical plan, as necessary.

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- F. The IC will ensure the department's personal accountability system is enforced.
- G. The IC shall have backup personnel available to enact the "Two in Two out" rule.
- H. The IC will maintain a record of all members who respond via their POV.
- I. The IC will take appropriate measures to ensure independent actions by fire fighters are not being performed. At no time will an individual be permitted to perform independent work.

2. Incident Safety Officer (ISO)

- A. The Incident Commander may serve as the ISO until one can be designated.
- B. The ISO has the direct responsibility to focus on the safety aspects of the incident and to inform the IC immediately of any observations concerning the incident.
- C. The ISO will monitor and assess for safety hazards or unsafe conditions. The ISO has the authority to alter, suspend, or terminate unsafe acts or hazardous activities and the responsibility to immediately inform the IC as to what actions were taken and why.
- D. The ISO will develop measures for ensuring personnel safety. The ISO will ensure fire fighters wear full personal protective equipment to include SCBA while engaging in fire suppression and overhaul operations.
- E. The ISO will ensure members work in teams in hazardous areas.
- F. The ISO will assist the IC in ensuring the department's personal accountability system is enforced.
- G. The ISO will assist the IC with enacting the "Two in Two out" rule.

3. Rehabilitation Officer

- A. The Rehabilitation Officer will establish an area in order to rotate crews at incidents that place a physical demand on firefighters.
- B. The Rehabilitation Officer will follow the procedures established in the Incident Medical Guidelines.

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4. Sector Commander

- A. The Sector Commander will be appointed by the IC when personnel are available.
- B. The Sector Commander will manage specific geographic areas of the incident scene or specific fire ground functions.
- C. The Sector Commander shall be directly subordinate to the IC and may act as an ISO in the absence of an ISO.

5. Team (Crew) Leaders

- A. The Team (Crew) Leaders shall be responsible for the safety of their crew members and the accomplishment of their assigned mission. The Team (Crew) Leaders shall be directly subordinate to their Sector Commander or the IC.