

<b>FREWSBURG FIRE DISTRICT</b>  <b>OPERATIONAL POLICY</b>	Section 7	EMERGENCY OPERATIONS	
	SUBJECT	STRUCTURE FIRE GUIDELINES	
	Policy <b>7-05</b>	PAGE 1 OF 4	DATE: 01-01-2023

## I. SCOPE

This policy covers general assignments to be followed by Frewsburg Fire District members when responding to/ operating at structure fires.

## II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure a uniform approach to incidents and to increase fire ground safety and efficiency. These assignments are flexible and may be changed to address specific strategic and tactical needs, as well as staffing requirements. Apparatus crews should be assigned as companies whenever possible to preserve crew integrity and accountability.

## III. PROCEDURE

The first arriving unit will be the initial IC and will complete the following actions:

1. Perform initial size up of structure and report conditions to Dispatch, providing the following minimum indications and instructions:
  - A. Type of building
  - B. Number of floors
  - C. Conditions evident
  - D. Staging / Water Supply/ Assignment Instructions
  - E. Announce Firefighting Mode (Investigation, Offensive/Working Fire, Defensive, Transitional)
2. Establish command and assign division and group responsibilities, as necessary. Conduct fire ground operations with the following priorities in order:
  - A. Life Hazard (firefighter and civilian)
  - B. Incident Stabilization (Fire Control)
  - C. Property Conservation
3. In lieu of specific orders, first arriving companies should operate within the framework of Response Assignment Guideline below. Radio communications by personnel responding to or operating on the fire ground should be carefully

<b>FREWSBURG FIRE DISTRICT</b>  <b>OPERATIONAL POLICY</b>	Section 7	EMERGENCY OPERATIONS	
	SUBJECT	STRUCTURE FIRE GUIDELINES	
	Policy 7-05	PAGE 2 OF 4	DATE: 01-01-2023

considered based on their likely interference with the communication needs of interior and working companies.

4. The establishment of a sustained water supply is recognized as a critical firefighter safety issue when companies are operating in an IDLH atmosphere.
  - A. Interior operations undertaken without a supply line established must be conducted with extreme caution, and the booster tank water level must be constantly monitored.
  - B. Under no circumstances will more than one 1 ¾" hand line be charged off a booster tank when personnel are committed to interior operations.
5. The Incident Commander and all responding companies shall engage in continuous risk analysis and report observations to command. The IC will include risk analysis and feedback into the Incident Action Plan (IAP). Risk significant situations include, but are in no way limited to:
  - A. Fires attacking the structural components of the building.
  - B. Fires involving multiple floors of the structure.
  - C. Obvious degradation of the structure.
  - D. Imminent collapse hazards
  - E. Advanced basement fires
  - F. Fires in void spaces (ceilings, walls, attic, floors)
  - G. Rapid fire growth conditions.
  - H. Building construction features such as lightweight wood or steel trusses and metal deck roofs.
  - I. Obviously abandoned or derelict structures.
6. Members engaged in structural firefighting shall always use an SCBA while in an IDLH atmosphere. Respiratory protection may be relaxed by the IC after the fire is controlled, the structure is ventilated, and the air quality verified.
7. Minimum Requirements for IDLH / Interior Operations:
  - A. Crew size of at least 2 Certified Firefighters
  - B. Full firefighting PPE in use.
  - C. SCBA in use with operational PASS device
  - D. Personal lights

<b>FREWSBURG FIRE DISTRICT</b>  <b>OPERATIONAL POLICY</b>	Section 7	EMERGENCY OPERATIONS	
	SUBJECT	STRUCTURE FIRE GUIDELINES	
	Policy 7-05	PAGE 3 OF 4	DATE: 01-01-2023

- E. Minimum of 1 portable radio per crew. Tools required for task assignment.
- F. Assemble, or receive direction prior to entry with the IC, Operations or Sector Officer to receive assignment, coordinate interior efforts, and provide accountability of members entering the structure.
- G. Remain in visual or voice contact with members of their crew.
- 8. The IC will ensure that at least 2 personnel equipped for firefighter rescue are available outside of the structure prior to IDLH entry as soon as available.
- 9. When necessary the fire ground should be lighted as soon as possible to reveal trapped occupants, structural features, power lines and for firefighter safety.
- 10. Sides of the building should be identified in a uniform manner as outlined below:
  - A. Sector A (ALPHA) -Front of the fire building (side of the building where the main entrance to the building is located.) Proceeding clockwise, structures and properties are identified in order.
  - B. Sector B, (BRAVO) -Next side clockwise
  - C. Sector C, (CHARLIE) -Rear of the building
  - D. Sector D. (DELTA) -Next side clockwise
- 11. Interior areas of the building should be designated as follows:
  - A. Ground floor –1st floor, 2nd floor, etc...,
  - B. Any floors fully below ground floors should be designated as “Basement”.
  - C. Multiple below ground floors should be designated as “Basement 1, Basement 2” from the ground floor down.
  - D. The roof of the building will be identified as Roof Sector.
- 12. Exposures should be labeled as above and will be numbered outward from the fire building. Exposures to a fire in a townhouse row would be labeled (ex: B, B-1, D, D-1) starting with the closest occupancy and moving away from the fire.
- 13. Upon receipt of the emergency evacuation signal (3-five second blasts of the air horns), all personnel in, or on the structure shall exit immediately and

<b>FREWSBURG FIRE DISTRICT</b>  <b>OPERATIONAL POLICY</b>	Section 7	EMERGENCY OPERATIONS	
	SUBJECT	STRUCTURE FIRE GUIDELINES	
	Policy 7-05	PAGE 4 OF 4	DATE: 01-01-2023

report to their respective Division/Group Officer. The Division/Group Officer then advise the IC if they have PAR.

14. Members will take all necessary precautions to avoid accidental PASS device activations. Any member hearing an activated PASS device shall:
  - A. Attempt to locate the source.
  - B. Report alarm to Interior Division or immediate officer for coordination of search.
  - C. Interior Division shall notify IC.
  - D. The IC should activate the RIT team if the activated PASS is not quickly resolved as accidental.
15. Salvage and loss control operations should be undertaken as soon as staffing and fire conditions permit. Prompt ventilation of the structure and the use of salvage covers before beginning overhaul and wet down activities can limit collateral damage to personal belongings and other property.
16. Upon fire control and confinement, a secondary search of the fire building should be performed, and results reported.
17. Building security must be always maintained during firefighting activities. Any member noticing an unauthorized person in the building should have them escorted out and notify the IC. The IC will:
  - A. Coordinate fire building security with law enforcement. The IC will coordinate with the Sheriff's Department/ other local law enforcement and Building representative prior to leaving the scene to ensure that building is secured.