
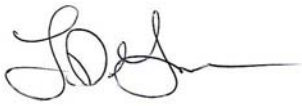


CLEARWATER FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE		
	SUBJECT: High-Rise Operations	
	S.O.P. 615	
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	CATEGORY: Operations	SUBCATEGORY: Suppression & EMS
	APPROVED BY:  JAMIE D. GEER, FIRE CHIEF, FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT	
FORMS REQUIRED: NOTE: Current forms are located on the Department's Share Drive.		

PURPOSE:

To provide procedures that will coordinate strategic and tactical firefighting operations that deal with the complexities of high-rise emergencies.

615.1 Strategic Plan

- A. Life safety is the primary concern.
- B. Clearwater Fire & Rescue Department personnel must rely upon accurate evaluation of fire and smoke conditions throughout the structure and quickly assess the need for evacuation.
- C. Any relocation of occupants must be coordinated with the fire control effort.
- D. The most effective tactical approach in the majority of high-rise fires is an aggressive fire attack.

615.2 Immediate Priorities

- A. Second (2nd) alarm with any report of fire prior to arrival.
- B. Multiple alarms.
- C. Identify the fire floor, fire location, and attack stairwell.
- D. Provide a fire attack with adequate water supply.
- E. Provide search and rescue operations for persons in immediate danger.
- F. Maintain accountability, utilizing division and groups within the ICS as necessary.
- G. Establish Lobby Control.
- H. Evaluate:
 - Fire floor conditions
 - Fire extension
 - Ventilation needs

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615.3 Initial High-Rise Response

- A. Four (4) engine companies
- B. Two (2) truck companies
- C. Two (2) rescues
- D. One (1) squad
- E. Two (2) Assistant Chiefs
- F. One (1) Fire Medic Lieutenant (LR49)

615.4 Unit Assignments

A. First (1st) Engine:

1. Positions vehicle away from building to ensure effective position for truck companies.
2. Entire crew will take appropriate equipment into building.
 - a. High-rise/standpipe pack (see SOP 616)
 - b. High-rise/standpipe bag
 - c. Appropriate hand tools
3. Announces initial accountability location.
4. Checks and marks annunciator panel for fire location.
5. Secures available keys. (NOTE: only take keys needed, leave extra in box or lobby)
6. Selects and verbalizes appropriate method of ascent.
7. Elevator will NOT be used for fires on or below the sixth (6th) floor (*SEE 615.6 ELEVATOR GUIDELINES*).
8. May be assigned by command to assume fire floor “division”.
9. Considers silencing the fire alarm on the fire floor to ensure effective communication.
10. Coordinates deployment of hoseline with initial search and rescue operations.
11. D/O will assume control of standpipe connection; ensuring proper fire flow is maintained. (*NOTE: see 615.8*)
 - Connect attack line to floor below, ensure in-line gauge is properly connected.

B. First (1st) Truck:

1. Positions aerial apparatus based upon assessment of fire location and the need for secondary means of egress.
2. When aerial operations are unnecessary, crew proceeds to fire floor for purposes of truck company operations. (Search & rescue, forcible entry, locate fire)
3. Brings appropriate tools. (Forcible entry equipment, thermal imager, etc.).

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4. Leaves any unneeded equipment at Staging Area two (2) floors below the fire floor.
5. Leaves accountability tags at 1st Engine.

C. First (1st) Rescue:

1. Positions vehicle away from building to ensure effective position for truck companies.
2. Report to 1st Engine OIC for assignment.
3. Brings forcible entry tools (haligan, flat-head axe and K-tool).
4. First (1st) Rescue does NOT report to upper floors until joined with a fire suppression unit in the Lobby. (Actions should include checking/marking panel, secure building keys, identifying stairwells)

D. First (1st) Squad:

1. Proceeds to the Staging Area two (2) floors below the fire floor and establishes initial Rapid Intervention Team.
2. Brings appropriate Rapid Intervention Team tools (Irons, K-tool, rabbit tool, thermal imager).
3. Accountability tags are left at assigned location.

E. Second (2nd) Engine:

1. Establishes water supply and supplies Fire Department Connection (FDC) as detailed in Section 615.8.
2. Driver/Operator remains at pump panel.
3. Balance of crew proceeds to fire floor, reports to fire floor, and assists 1st engine with hose line deployment.
 - a. High-rise/standpipe pack (see SOP 616)
 - b. High-rise/standpipe bag
 - c. Appropriate hand tools

F. Second (2nd) Rescue:

1. Assigned to assist 1st Squad as RIT.
2. Brings RIT bag if available.

G. Third (3rd) Engine:

1. Proceeds to lobby to establish Command and Lobby Control (*SEE 615.7 LOBBY CONTROL FUNCTIONS*).
2. Secures and controls elevators if not already accomplished.
3. Maintains accountability tags accurately.
4. Controls fire alarm system.
5. Accesses and employs any internal communications systems.
6. Controls building maintenance systems.

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7. Attempts to contact Building Engineer/Maintenance Director.
8. Controls movement of evacuated occupants.

H. Second (2nd) Truck:

1. Assigned with 4th Engine to floor above the fire.
2. Leaves accountability tags at assigned location.
3. Brings appropriate tools and equipment (hooks, forcible entry equipment, spare air cylinders, etc.)

I. Fourth (4th) Engine

1. Assigned with 2nd Truck to floor above the fire.
2. May be required to deploy back-up line on fire floor.
4. Leaves accountability tags at assigned location.
5. Crew is to bring the following equipment:
 - a. High-rise/standpipe pack (see SOP 616)
 - b. High-rise/standpipe bag
 - c. Appropriate hand tools

J. First (1st) Assistant Chief:

1. Establishes Command.
2. Requests additional alarms to Level II staging for any working incident.
3. Maintains span of control.
4. Maintains location of units operating within the structure.
5. Evaluates safety of overall operations until a Safety Officer is assigned.
6. Utilizes/coordinates multiple radio channels. (Monitor talk-around channel)

K. Second (2nd) Assistant Chief:

1. Upon arrival, conducts a 360-degree size up (when possible) and reports face-to-face with Command to discuss tactical objectives.
2. May be assigned to establish Operations at the Forward Staging Area two (2) floors below fire floor.
 - Provides update of situation status to Command.
 - Coordinates rescue/fire attack efforts utilizing face-to-face communications as much as possible.
 - Evaluates safety of interior operations until a Safety Officer is assigned.
 - Requests additional resources via Command and/or Base.

L. Fire Medic Lieutenant (LR49):

1. Establishes a Medical Group.

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2. Maintains accountability of all evacuated occupants.
3. Ensures that a Rehab is established for fire personnel.
4. During incidents involving multi-casualty transports, a separate tactical channel will be devoted to the Medical Group to coordinate treatment and transport without impacting fire operation's communications.
5. Requests additional resources.

M. Administrative Staff:

1. Will respond to the scene upon notification of a working incident.
2. Assumes Incident Management System roles as assigned by Command.

N. Additional Alarm Units:

1. Report to Level II staging area.

615.5 Benchmarks Upon Arrival of Multi-Alarm Companies

- A. Immediately supplement Rapid Intervention Team with an engine company (ideally) at Staging Area two (2) floors below the fire.
- B. Maintain sufficient resources at Staging Area two (2) floors below the fire floor under direction of Fire Operations.
- C. Establish a Rehab Group with coordination of L/R at appropriate location inside/outside the building.
- D. ALL MULTI-ALARM COMPANIES, WHEN REPORTING TO STAGING AREA TWO (2) FLOORS BELOW THE FIRE, SHOULD CARRY AS MUCH EQUIPMENT AS THEY POSSIBLY CAN INCLUDING SPARE AIR BOTTLES.
- E. ANY BREAKAGE OF GLASS TO THE EXTERIOR BY FIRE PERSONNEL WILL BE A CLOSELY ORCHESTRATED EVENT BY THE UNIT(S), FIRE OPERATIONS, AND COMMAND.

615.6 Elevator Guidelines

- A. Only elevators equipped with "fire service controls" will be used for FD operations during fire situations.
- B. All elevators will be recalled and placed under fire service control.
- C. Elevators will NOT be used for fires on or below the sixth (6th) floor.
- D. All personnel deploying in elevators shall wear full protective equipment, bring forcible entry tools, portable radio(s), and a portable extinguisher.
- E. Face pieces will be placed in a position for quick donning.
- F. All personnel will familiarize themselves with the stairwell location prior to elevator use.

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- G. Initial ascents should attempt to stop the car every five floors to confirm that the FD override is functioning and to evaluate smoke conditions in the shaft.
- H. Use of elevators is not permitted if there is any indication of smoke in the shaft
- I. In the event that elevator operations become erratic or smoke conditions occur, activate the emergency stop.
- J. If this fails, pry open the car door to trip the interlock.
- K. Should this fail, personnel should don their face pieces, get low in the car and prepare to exit to the nearest stairwell under the limited protection of the portable extinguisher.
- L. Elevator crews will maintain the following equipment in the car at all times:
 - 1. Full protective clothing
 - 2. Portable radio
 - 3. Forcible entry tools
 - 4. Portable extinguisher
 - 5. Folding ladder
 - 6. Spare air bottle
- M. Only appropriate numbers of fire fighting personnel along with the elevator operator will operate the car at a time to avoid overload and to allow for emergency maneuvers if necessary.
- N. In buildings where a working fire has been declared, elevators will only be used with officer discretion. Examples include when the elevators are housed in an area remote from the involved section of the structure.
- O. Crews will exit the elevator at least two (2) floors below the reported fire floor.
- P. Elevators will not be used for occupant evacuation until the fire situation has been declared under control.

615.7 Lobby Control Functions

- A. Control of personnel and civilians entering and exiting the building.
- B. Differentiate and maintain separate fire attack and evacuation stairwells.
- C. Maintain an accurate accountability of all FD personnel entering and exiting the building.
- D. Recalls all elevators and places them under FD control. Designates an FD elevator operator when operation of such is required and considered safe.
- E. When possible, makes contact with Building Engineer/Technician to assist with control of building systems.
- F. Locates fire control rooms, public address systems, internal communication systems, and fire alarm panels where available.
- G. Access and ensures operation of fire pump.

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- H. Confirms building height identified by elevator floor indicators.
- I. Directs evacuated occupants to a controlled area at least 200 feet away from structure.
- J. Medical group will account for occupants at this location.

615.8 Water Supply Guidelines

- A. Proper fire flow is the result of coordination between the second engine Driver/Operator and the control person on the attack line.
- B. The D/O of the second-arriving engine company hooks to the building standpipe system and uses the following starting pressures for a 200' 2 ½" hand line w/ 1 " tip:
 - 1. Floors 1 to 10 are pumped at 135psi
 - 2. Floors 11 to 20 are pumped at 180psi
 - 3. Floors 21 to 30 are pumped at 225psi
- C. The D/O of the first arriving engine company assumes control of the attack line at the standpipe valve and ensures proper flow is maintained as well as the attack line remains free of kinks.
 - 1. Ensure that the in-line gauge is connected to the standpipe
 - 2. Figure proper friction loss and nozzle pressure for the length of attack line
 - 3. 50 lbs nozzle pressure
 - 4. 6 pounds friction loss per 50 feet of 2 ½" hose
- D. Indicate operating pressure on wall near connection to ensure proper flow is maintained at all times.