



## Northeast Fire Department Association

Operations

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### ***Tactical Guidelines: Rescue***

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**NEFDA President**

#### **I.**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose is to establish adequate response coverage that consists of the strategic location of emergency resources to provide NFPA 1006, 1407 and 1670 compliant rescue response capabilities throughout the NEFDA jurisdictions. Traffic, egress and access issues throughout our region directly affect the deployment and response of these resources. The response region will be the fourteen NEFDA member communities and will alert through the North Richland Hills Dispatch Center dependent upon location of the event. The fourteen NEFDA cities will be divided into two response groups as defined in the Standard of Response. The rescue disciplines are supported by two Heavy Rescue Units located in Grapevine and Haltom City. Both of these units are capable of supporting; High Angle, Confined Space, Trench, Structural Collapse, Vehicle/Machinery Extrication and Rapid Intervention Rescue operations. Five cities provide Rescue Technicians that respond to the rescue needs of NEFDA; Grapevine (GFD), Haltom City (HCFD), Hurst (HFD), Keller (KFD), and Southlake (SFD). Euless (EFD) will provide two Hazardous Materials Technicians and Watauga (WFD) will provide two Medical Specialists with an MICU to respond with the Rescue Group.

#### **II.**

#### **Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of every member of each department to know and understand the rationale, details, and intent of these procedures. It is the responsibility of each officer to comply with these and to ensure that all members under their command comply.

## Rescue

### III. Response Capabilities

A total of seven NEFDA Rescue response cities make up the USAR Task Force;

- Two Heavy Rescue Units (GFD & HCFR)
- 15 Rescue Technicians (on-shift)
- Technical Rescue Trailer (HCFR)
- 2 Hazardous Materials Technicians
- 2 Medical Specialists
- Task Force Leader
- Assistant Task Force Leader
- Safety Officer

With the above response, NEFDA is capable of having a response of a Type IV USAR team with a minimum of 22 people that can respond to structural collapse, confined space, trench, rope rescues and vehicle/machinery incidents. This compliment is made up of three rescue technicians from GFD, HCFR, KFD, HFD and SFD. Two Hazardous Materials Technicians will come from Euless and two medical specialists from Watauga. Both Grapevine and Haltom City will send a Chief Officer with their response. Logistics will be provided within the team.

Every response mode has limitations and ours are dependent on the availability of the Heavy Rescues, the Rescue Technicians, Medical Specialists, and the Hazardous Materials Technicians because of emergency activity competing for the resources. Traffic, egress and access issues throughout our region directly affect the deployment and response model.

### IV. Hazard Assessment

The Tarrant County Hazard Assessment identified the following critical public safety hazards potentially affecting 171 square miles and a population of over 450,000 within the NEFDA communities;

- Structure and other fires (residential, commercial, multi-family, wildland, vehicles, trash, etc...)
- Emergency Medical Issues (personal and public health)
- Transportation
- Industrial
- Construction
- Hazardous Materials (fixed facilities and transportation)
- Natural Events (flooding, heat, tornadoes, earthquakes, wind, hail, drought, ice, etc...)
- Terrorist and other Manmade Hazards

## **Rescue**

To address these identified and other unidentified hazards, a comprehensive rescue capability and an adequate concentration of rescue assets capable of addressing simultaneous multiple rescue events must be maintained. The Rescue Deployment and Staffing Model in Section VI effectively and efficiently address the identified hazards to protect lives and property in our communities and our responders.

Without the cooperation and sharing of tactical assets and staffing in all disciplines of NEFDA, each of the fourteen NEFDA cities would be individually responsible to develop, fund and maintain a response capability to address each of these identified hazards.

### **V. Standard of Response**

The apparatus and equipment of NEFDA are administered to provide the targeted response criteria as equitably as possible to all participating NEFDA jurisdictions. This performance baseline provides a guide for decision-making concerning all resources. All deployment resources are staffed by qualified rescue technicians in the appropriate discipline. The performance targets to meet this standard of response are;

- All calls received for technical rescue deployment by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Dispatch Office will be received and will then notify the North Richland Hills (NRH) dispatch within 60 seconds in 90% of the time.
- All calls for technical rescue deployment received by NRH Dispatch will in turn dispatch the Heavy Rescues and rescue technicians within 5 additional minutes in 90% of the time.
- The first due Heavy Rescue shall turnout and be enroute within 5 minutes with a travel time of 15 minutes. The second due Heavy Rescue shall have a travel time of 30 minutes in 90% of the time.
- All additional rescue technicians shall be enroute to the emergency within 15 minutes and complete the rescue response within 45 minutes in 90% of the time.
- NEFDA Technical Rescue personnel will be qualified in the appropriate rescue disciplines as per NFPA 1006, 1407 and 1670 standards by their Fire Chief prior to deployment.
- The total number of Rescue Technicians will be the responsibility of each rescue department in support of the staffing and deployment model.
- A Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) deployment will be dispatched on all second alarm assignments by the NRH Dispatch Center. Either Rescue 47 (HCFR) or Rescue 56 (GFD) will respond with a minimum of 3 trained personnel and a Chief Officer within 5 minutes in 90% of the time.

## Rescue

### VI. Rescue Deployment and Staffing Model

The following is the staffing for response to the different disciplines of technical rescue which includes Rope Rescue, Structural Collapse, Trench Rescue, and Confined Space Rescue.

- 2 Heavy Rescues with 6 Techs
- 9 Techs from Southlake, Keller, and Hurst
- 2 Chief Officers from HCFR and GFD
- 2 Hazardous Materials Techs from Eules
- 2 Medical Specialists from Watauga

The following is the staffing for response to the different disciplines of Vehicle/Machinery and Rapid Intervention.

- 1 Heavy Rescue with 3 Techs
- 1 Chief Officer from the city the Heavy Rescue is responding from.

For a single Heavy Rescue response, the following groupings will be utilized:

- Group 1 – Keller, Watauga, Hurst, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills, Roanoke and Haltom City (Haltom City Rescue 47 will respond)
- Group 2 – Westlake, Bedford, Trophy Club, Southlake, Colleyville, Grapevine and Eules (Grapevine Rescue 56 will respond)

For a Rapid Intervention response, the following groupings will be utilized:

- Group 1 – Keller, Watauga, Hurst, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills, Roanoke and Haltom City (Grapevine Rescue 56 will respond)
- Group 2 – Westlake, Bedford, Trophy Club, Southlake, Colleyville, Grapevine and Eules (Haltom City Rescue 47 will respond)