**PURPOSE:**

To establish a standard operating procedure to supplement Fire Department MAYDAY policy, to comply with 29 OSHA 1910.12, OSHA 1910.134, OSHA 1910.156, NFPA 1500 Chapter 6, NFPA 1561, Chapter 4 and to accomplish the safety of all fire personnel as mandated in NFPA 1710.

**DEFINITIONS:**

* Accountability Officer - A person(s) responsible for tracking and accounting for all personnel at an incident.
* Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH) - An environment that poses a threat of exposure to airborne containments when that exposure is likely to cause death or immediate or delayed permanent adverse effects or prevent escape from such an environment.
* Personnel Accountability Report (PAR) - The results of a roll call which accounts for all personnel on the emergency scene.
* Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) - Personnel on standby to initiate rescue operations in the event that a firefighter(s) is in distress.
* LUNAR – The term used for information given to the RIT from the emergency personnel declaring the “MAYDAY”. L-location (if known), U- unit, N- name, A- air supply remaining and injuries and resources needed for rescue.

**POLICY:**

This policy is to establish procedures to assign a rapid intervention team to any atmosphere deemed to be Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH). It will be the responsibility of the Incident Commander (IC) to request any additional equipment and or personnel to accomplish scene safety for the firefighters by establishing the rapid intervention team.

**PROCEDURE:**

* The RIT shall be established when the atmosphere is considered to be IDLH, to include hazardous material incidents.
* RIT should be established as soon as available resources arrive on scene.
* The RIT shall consist of a minimum of three (3) personnel, one of which shall be an officer.
* The RIT officer becomes the IC of the RIT operation.
* Multiple RIT(s) may be needed in the event that an incident has involves a large structure where two or more egress locations have been deemed necessary. This shall be at the discretion of the IC.
* It shall be the discretion of the IC on what unit(s) to assign the task of the RIT.
* The RIT officer shall determine an area for staging RIT personnel and equipment that will not hinder the operation of the incident.
* It is recommended that the RIT be equipped with following:
* Full turnout gear including SCBA, PASS devices and hoods.
* Two (2) - 100 foot lengths of rope in rope bag. The ends of each rope to have carabineers permanently attached to hook to fixed object before entry. Rope to be marked every twenty (20) feet for distance. The mark shall be smaller for entry, larger for exit.
* Four (4) - 15 foot sections of webbing or rope with carabineers attached at each end for crew work off the Main line.
* Portable radios for each RIT member.
* Two sets of Flathead axes and Halligan tool.
* Pike Pole
* Flashlight for every member
* Power tool, preferably a K-12 or equivalent with appropriate blade for the job.
* A minimum of four (4) - door chocks for each member.
* Spare SCBA bottle for each member.
* Device to mark doors that have been checked. Example; Street crayon, door marker
* etc.
* RIT pack
* Thermal Imaging device
* Stokes Basket

RIT operations will be conducted on the original tactical assigned for the incident. Radio traffic directing other incident operations will relocate to the emergency channel. (1A or 16A are the same frequency)

The RIT shall be deployed once a MAYDAY has been transmitted.

In the event a MAYDAY is transmitted, all units operating at the incident shall follow the department’s MAYDAY policy #502-13.

ONCE THE RIC HAS BEEN ACTIVATED, THE INCIDENT COMMANDER OR HIS DESIGNEE SHALL PUT IN PLACE A SECONDARY RIT. THIS WOULD ALLOW THE INCIDENT TO MAINTAIN ITS SAFETY INTEGRITY FOR THE REMAINING EMERGENCY PERSONNEL.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

* It is the responsibility of the IC to establish RIT
* It shall be the responsibility of the RIT to properly size-up the incident and prepare a plan
* To overcome any or all obstacles preventing the safe rescue of any or all emergency personnel in the event a MAYDAY is declared. The size-up shall consist of a full three-sixty (360) view of the structure.
* The RIT should establish secondary means of egress by forcing doors, placing ground ladders, etc. in each division as applicable.