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Atmospheric Monitoring

Atmospheric Monitoring at Fires

1. At any reported fire, (structure, kitchen, etc) atmospheric monitoring shall take place immediately after the incident is placed under control. This monitoring shall consist of, at a minimum, Carbon Monoxide (CO), Oxygen (O2), and Hydrogen Cyanide (HCN).
2. Metering of contaminated atmosphere shall take place throughout the overhaul and salvage operations to evaluate and assess the need for any or additional ventilation.
3. SCBA shall not be removed at any time prior to ensuring a clean atmosphere – a clean atmosphere consists of ALL of the following:
    a. Carbon Monoxide levels < 35 PPM
    b. Oxygen levels > 19.5%
    c. Hydrogen Cyanide levels <4 PPM
4. The scene shall not be transferred over to the building owner until meter readings throughout the building fall below the following:
    a. Carbon Monoxide levels <5 PPM
    b. Hydrogen Cyanide levels <1 PPM

Auxiliary Brake “Jake Brake” Operation

The Jake Brake is to be used at all times in equipped apparatus except when road conditions are wet and slippery; and/or on snow-covered roads

Backing and Maneuvering of Fire Apparatus

In order to prevent damage to fire department vehicles, personal vehicles, and possible injury to personnel, the following procedures should be followed.

1. A spotter should be used at all times when one is available. The spotter may be any firefighter riding on the apparatus or any available firefighter as designated by the operator of the truck.

2. There are instances where the operator of the apparatus is the sole occupant and no spotter is available. The operator of the apparatus should take necessary precautions prior to backing up any piece of apparatus and make sure that there are no pedestrians, vehicles, or other hazards, which could create a problem.

3. When backing into the bays at the fire department, it is not recommended that personnel be used to stop traffic on the Post Road

Camera Use

No member is allowed to use a camera of any kind (including but not limited to personal cell phone cameras, helmet cameras, iPad cameras, digital cameras, or developable film cameras) at any emergency response or training exercise without authorization from the Chief of the Department, OIC, or the IC.

In the event the IC or OIC decides that photos or movies of training or emergency responses is beneficial to the department for the purposes of future training, evidence, or public relations, they will designate a person(s) to take official photos or movies. All photos will remain department property. It is very important to remember HIPPA laws prohibit us from sharing any information that identifies victims of incidents, this includes pictures. This identifiable information includes pictures of persons, license plates, or any other personally identifiable items.

Furthermore, no pictures or movies of any kind will be posted to social media without consent from a Chief Officer.

Chain of Command

The chain of command at the Noroton Fire Department and respective command duties and responsibilities are as follows:

Chief of Department
1. Oversee and supervise service board officers.
2. Work with the executive board officers on the town budget and such other administrative matters as may pertain to the apparatus and truck floor.

First Assistant Chief
1. To assist the Chief wherever possible.

Second Assistant Chief
1. Assist the other Chiefs in their duties.
2. Act as the Training Officer (arranging for drills, etc.).

Captains of Trucks, Engines, and Marine Division
1. Work with the Chiefs.
2. Oversee their respective Lieutenants, apparatus, and equipment.

Mechanical Supervisor
1. Maintain the vehicle fleet.
2. Maintain the ancillary equipment of the Department.
3. Maintain a log of vehicle maintenance.
4. Maintain a preventive maintenance schedule for all apparatus.
5. Schedule maintenance, as needed, with outside vendors.

Lieutenant of Ladder 30
Lieutenant of Engine 31
Lieutenant of Engine 32
Lieutenant of Rescue 33
Lieutenant of Marine Division—Unit 34
1. Check the ongoing operation of their individual apparatus.
2. Verify all apparatus and equipment is in working order.
3. Notify the Mechanical Supervisor and Assistant Mechanical Supervisor of any defects or mechanical problems with their apparatus.

Assistant Mechanical Supervisor
1. Assist the Mechanical Supervisor with his duties

Superintendent of Alarms
1. Maintain records of drill and alarm attendance
2. Notify the Secretary of the Department of the active status of all members.
3. Ensure all radio equipment is in working order
4. Act as recording secretary for the service board.

Controlling Utilities

When encountering utilities (including but not limited to electric, natural gas, propane, oil, water).

1. Isolate only the involved appliance or area of the structure when possible.
2. If unable to isolate individual appliances or areas turn off the involved utility at the main supply to the structure.
3. If the problem is electrical in nature, do not turn off each breaker at the panel, rather, turn off only the Master breaker switch. This helps in the event a fire investigation needs to take place.
4. Once an appliance or utility is turned off, DO NOT TURN BACK ON. Instruct the homeowner to contact their local utility or licensed professional.

Deus 3300 Controlled Descent Device (Bailout Kit)

Overview:

It is the goal of the Noroton Fire Department that every person engaged in interior firefighting will be issued the Deus 3300 Controlled Descent Device. The purpose of this document is to provide general information for the Deus 3300 Controlled Descent Device and its components, as well as the inspection process. The device's primary use is for emergency escape from an upper floor after all other options have been exhausted. This device is pre-rigged with a rope, anchor hook, carabiner, and lanyard and attached to the firefighter's Class II harness. Together, these components are referred to as a Personal Escape System (PES). This document details the components of the PES. Personnel should rely on training and experience to determine when to deploy their PES. All firefighters who are issued the PES are expected to wear it at all times.

System Components:

1. **Crosby Hook-** Attaches to a substantial object or window sill
2. **Rope-** 50' 8mm Safe Tech / Nylon Fire (heat and abrasion resistant)
3. **Pequa Carry Pouch –** bag to store system while in user's turnout pant pocket
4. **Deus 3300 controlled descent device-** Completely automatic "hands free" control descent device. Utilizes the following four independent brakes for control and safety to lower user at 3 meters per second:
    1) **Disk brake-** Operated with control knob to provide hands free "stop" or "go". Device should remain in "go" position by gently turning knob counterclockwise.
    2) **Centrifugal brake-** Operates automatically to guard against freefall. As descent increases, the centrifugal brake gradually applies braking force.
    3) **Figure eight brake-** Operates automatically through friction of rope passing around posts within the device.
    4) **Manual brake (sliding cams)-** Operated when rope on the non-loaded side of the device (rope from pocket side) is pulled downward (same motion as rappelling). A sliding cam also applies tension to the rope on the loaded side of the device to aide with automatic descent.
5. **Carabiner and Lanyard-** Attaches the device to harness with a "soft" connection. Lanyard can utilize a girth hitch or basket weave.
6. **Harness-** Class II harness worn outside or integrated into turnout pant.

Basic Operation:

1. Locate a suitable anchor point (i.e. large object, window sill, radiator)
2. Reach into pocket and pull out Crosby hook with right hand.
3. Hook Crosby to window sill or tie off Crosby to a suitable, remote anchor. If using a remote anchor, release rope tension to travel horizontal to window sill. Pay out enough slack so system will reach exterior of window sill.
4. Exit window, remaining low across window sill, in a smooth manner, while keeping tension on the rope. This transition is the most dangerous part. Ensure hook is set or remote anchor is secure then release inside leg to allow body to pendulum into an upright position.

Packing the System:

1. Stuff rope into Pequa pouch
2. Feed or confirm rope is fed through the device with Crosby hook on the hinge side ("Hook to Hinge").
3. Leave approximately 8" of rope between the Crosby hook and device.
4. Stuff remaining rope into pouch. Lay device in pouch or pocket with the knob toward the user's thigh.
5. Place the hook in its holder outside the pouch or pocket. If using a pouch, the rope must pass over the Velcro of the flap to allow for easy deployment.
6. Attach small red carabiner from lanyard to sliding D ring on the harness.

Training:

PES should be trained on annually. Training dates to be set by Training Officer. Training rope is only to be used for training. It is manufactured without a fire-resistant rating and designed for repeated use (approx. 20 slides). **Personally issued rope should not be used for training**. It is good practice to disconnect your issued PES from your harness and during bailout training. You will then attach one of the eight training systems to your harness for the training period. After which you will then reattach your personal PES.

A belay must always be used. 24 to 30-foot pieces of webbing are to be used as a "hasty harness" which the belay line will be attached to.

Ratings and Certification:

NFD's PES is certified to NFPA 1983 (2012 ED) "Fire Escape" safety standard. The system ratings are as follows considering a 15:1 safety factor:

- Minimum weight= 88 pounds
- Maximum weight= 310 pounds
- Maximum height= 100 feet (NFD's limitation is 50 feet due to rope length. However, the end of the rope will not pass through the system thus keeping the user on the system at maximum rope length)

Care and Maintenance:

A quick field inspection will be conducted monthly. (Refer to the **PES Inspection** document) The following components will be checked:

- Deus 3300 Controlled Descent Device
- Rope
- Crosby Hook
- Carabiner and Lanyard
- Harness

**Every three years each Deus 3300 Controlled Descent Device must be inspected, tested, and maintained by a Deus-certified individual or group.

Inspection
Deus 3300:

1. Check the **rope path** for metal shavings and burrs
2. Inspect the **drive wheel triangle** does not make contact with the drive wheel.
3. Check **main body bolts** for tightness.
4. Ensure **sliding cams** operate.
5. Check **control knob** for smoothness in both directions
6. Confirm **drive wheel stops** when control knob is turned clockwise to **"stop" position**.
7. Confirm **drive wheel spins** when control knob is turned counterclockwise to **"go" position**.
8. Check that **cover closes** smoothly.
9. Inspect **main body for bends and cracks**.
10. Confirm **device closes smoothly with rope**.

Rope:

1. Check **mantle** for frayed fibers, cuts, abrasions, fibers pulled from the braid, and dirt.
2. Check **core** for soft spots by running fingers along entire rope.
3. Check brittle and disintegrating fibers indicating **UV damage**.

Carabiner:

1. Check for **cracks or bends.**
2. Ensure **gate opens and closes** properly.
3. Check that spring allows **auto-lock** to engage.

Lanyard:

1. Check for broken stitches, cuts, abrasions, and dirt.

Harness:

1. Check webbing for broken stitches, cuts, abrasions, and dirt.
2. Check hardware for cracks, bends or buckles that do not open and close properly.

Down Grade in Response

To promote safety for both the public and fire personnel, the following procedure will be followed for down grading response of apparatus.

When responding units receive information from Dispatch, the following procedure will be followed when instructed to "Down Grade" or “Reduce Response”: by an Officer. A “Down Grade” in response is not the same as a canceled response.

1. Operator will shut down Emergency LIGHTS and SIREN.
2. Apparatus will proceed with the flow of traffic.
3. All traffic laws will be adhered to.
4. Responding units will still proceed to the scene for verification until their response is cancelled by a fire officer on scene.
5. All pertinent information will be obtained for the report.

Drills and Training

The Second Assistant Chief is responsible for coordinating the annual training calendar and related personnel certification files for the department. This responsibility includes selecting drill topics and instructors for each scheduled drill. The drill schedule shall be posted at least one full calendar month in advance.

Drills will be held on Friday evenings at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. unless posted otherwise. Both Friday's and Sunday's will consist of training consisting of live scenarios, company operation review, small instructional groups, driver and operator training, equipment training and maintenance, and will follow the outlined drill schedule at the IC's discretion. All equipment and apparatus must be restored to working order and placed into in service, to the satisfaction of the IC. General cleaning around the fire department should be done at the completion of each drill.

The monthly drill schedule will be read at each Service Board Meeting, posted in the dayroom, and emailed to the department.

No member should leave a scheduled drill until an officer assigned to that drill releases that individual or the drill is completed.

Ideally, two assigned service board officers will coordinate drills as assigned by the Second Assistant Chief. If an officer assigned to lead a drill cannot attend, a replacement should be identified and communicated to the Second Assistant Chief.

To be considered a firefighter in active status, a member must attend at least twelve Friday nights and six Sunday morning drills in a calendar year. All firefighters who are qualified to drive fire apparatus must be re-qualified each year by the qualifying officers as determined by the Chief of the department at the January Service Board meeting. Several dates will be incorporated into the drill schedule for these re-qualify days.

The Town of Darien Drill Tower should be cleaned after every use. The IC of the drill should notify a Fire Commission member if any vehicles remain at the drill property for an extended period.

It is the goal of the Noroton Fire Department that all firefighters be trained to the State of Connecticut Firefighter 1 Level.

OSHA Yearly Required Courses:

1. Blood Borne Pathogens
2. Confined Space
3. SCBA Drill
4. Haz Mat Awareness

Driving Apparatus

The Chief shall dictate which officers will be responsible to qualify drivers. These members shall be appointed at the beginning of each year and posted with the list of qualified drivers at the January Service Board meeting.

A list of qualified drivers will be posted on the truck room floor bulletin board.

All personnel shall have a State of Connecticut Q Endorsement or CDL and shall be requalified by the department for each apparatus annually. No personnel shall be allowed to drive any apparatus (except utility vehicles) without a valid/appropriate license.

Driving of Personal Vehicles

1. All personnel responding to a call in their personal vehicle shall obey all traffic laws, without exception.

2. All personnel shall respond to the firehouse first. For larger incidents, if all emergency vehicles are already at the scene, then you may respond directly to the scene.

3. Upon arrival at the scene, all personnel are to park away from the incident, preferably on side roads, so as not to block access to hydrants or the apparatus movement or placement. Do not block the path of emergency vehicles.

Duty Related Injuries

Incident Related Injuries

Whenever a firefighter becomes injured while at the scene of an emergency:

1. The ICIC should be notified immediately.
2. Injured personnel should be removed from the hazard zone and if possible, taken to the staging area for examination by EMS.
3. Injured personnel should have a preliminary examination from a departmental EMT or EMR who will make the determination as to whether EMS should be contacted.
4. Protective equipment should be worn by all personnel coming into contact with the injured party.
5. For rescuing trapped firefighters, see "Firefighter Trapped—Mayday" SOG.
6. The "Firefighter Casualty" section of the NFIRS report should be completed.
7. A CIRMA "First Report of Injury" form should be completed and submitted to the Chief.
8. The Chief should be notified immediately of any injury.

Drill Related Injuries

The following procedures should be implemented when a firefighter becomes injured during a departmental training session:

1. The IC should be notified immediately.
2. Injured personnel should have a preliminary examination from a departmental EMT or EMR who will make the determination as to whether EMS should be contacted.
3. Protective equipment should be worn by all personnel coming into contact with the injured party.
4. Injured personnel who refuse transport to a hospital by EMS should refrain from continuing to participate in the drill.
5. A CIRMA "First Report of Injury" form should be completed and submitted to the Chief.
6. The Chief should be notified immediately of any injury.

In-Station Related Injuries

1. Injured personnel should have a preliminary evaluation from a departmental EMT or EMR who will determine if EMS should be contacted.
2. Protective equipment should be worn by personnel working with the injured party.
3. The Chief should be notified immediately of any injury.

Required Paperwork

An officer should complete the following paperwork. This is in addition to the NFIRS Fire Service Casualty report.

1. CIRMA First Report of Injury – This report should be submitted to the Chief. A copy of the report should be filed with the Darien Fire Marshal.
2. The Chief should record the injury on the OSHA 300 form.

Workers' Compensation Claims

Additional steps should be taken in order to process worker's compensation claims. The following procedures should be carried out in order to ensure timely processing of workers' compensation claims.

1. Complete the CIRMA First Report of Injury. The form should be submitted to the Chief with a copy sent to the Darien Fire Marshal's office.
2. Call the injury into CIRMA.
3. The Chief should complete the OSHA 300 form.
4. When seeking medical care, the firefighter must state to the medical provider that the injury was workers' compensation related.

All medical bills should be forwarded directly to CIRMA. Do not send these bills to Town Hall or submit them to the Fire Department

The Town of Darien is committed to reducing and controlling the frequency and severity of work related accidents. If you are injured while performing job-related duties you may be eligible for workers' compensation benefits.

It is the responsibility of every employee to report all accidents, incidents and occupational illness immediately to their Supervisor. Supervisors are required to complete an Employee Injury Report and contact the insurance carrier the same day if practicable. In addition, an accident investigation will take place to determine the cause of the accident and take steps to prevent similar accidents or injuries in the future. (Town of Darien Policy)

Fire Ground Staging

Fire ground staging for the purposes of this standard operating procedure is defined as "to plan and arrange for the assembly of resource equipment and personnel at a designated safe area for use at the emergency scene."

1. The first arriving piece on the scene shall proceed to the scene directly to assess the situation, unless otherwise directed by on scene personnel.

2. All responding personnel should stay with their apparatus crew and wait instruction from their officer. The officer of the apparatus will be the only member to request instruction from command. Freelancing will not be tolerated.

3. Personnel arriving in private vehicles should park away from the scene, not blocking access to hydrants, driveways, etc.

Firefighter Accountability System

Purpose:
Per OSHA Law 1901.156F and NFPA Standard 1500.6-1.6, the Incident Commander must have a system to account for all Personnel at the scene of an Emergency.

The purpose of the Firefighter Accountability System is to improve the manner in which the Noroton Fire Department accounts for its firefighting personnel operating in hazardous or potentially hazardous environments. The system enables Command Personnel to have an immediate method of accounting for all personnel and most importantly, have the ability to determine if anyone is missing.

It is to be used at every call by all personnel. This includes but is not limited to structure fires, carbon monoxide calls, confined space and below grade rescues, and miscellaneous gas leaks.

Fireground Staging:
All responding personnel should immediately report to the designated accountability area. This area shall be at the first responding apparatus unless otherwise designated by the IC. For further details refer to the standard operating procedure discussing fire ground staging.

Personal Accountability System:
Each firefighter should be issued a set of two personal identification tags that should be affixed to a turnout coat buckle and worn at all times.

On the way to all alarms, each firefighter will pass one accountability tag to the officer or senior firefighter on the apparatus, this individual will attach each tag to the Apparatus Tag. The Apparatus Tag remains on the apparatus for the duration of the call and is a master list of who arrived on each apparatus. Before operating inside of the structure, the officer or senior firefighter for each crew committing to the structure should turn in the second accountability tag for each member of their crew to the Safety Officer or IC. If a Safety Officer is not immediately assigned the crews will put their tags in a 5 gallon pail by the entrance to building. The Safety Officer (or IC) will register the turned in tag on the Accountability Board along with the crew assignment.

Each firefighter entering the structure should ensure their SCBA PASS alarm is activated.

Upon conclusion of the incident, and prior to returning to Fire Headquarters, each firefighter should collect their accountability tag to log out. A PAR (Personnel Accountability Report) should be conducted to ensure all members are accounted for.

Safety / Accountability Officer:
The IC, Safety Officer or designate of the Chief should manage the accountability system for the duration of the incident. The accountability officer is responsible for ensuring that all firefighters check-in whenever entering or leaving the hazard zone. A roll call/PAR may be conducted by the safety officer or IC at any time, but particularly whern a rapid change in conditions occurs.

The accountability officer reports directly to the IC.

For complex incidents, an accountability officer should be designated for each point of entry sector. For small incidents and typical residential fires, there will typically be a single accountability officer.

Firefighter Rehabilitation

At any physically taxing or extended incident, IC may wish to establish a firefighter rehabilitation (Rehab) area. The following guidelines will be followed:

1. A designated Rehab area will be setup away from the hazard zone.
2. Post 53 will be called to the scene to perform Rehab and observation of all involved members
3. All firefighters will check out with the designated Safety Officer and proceed to the Rehab area immediately after leaving the hazard zone.
4. Once cleared by medical personnel firefighters may return to duty.
5. Firefighters must check back in with the Safety Officer before receiving additional work assignments.

Firefighter Safety

1. All personnel responding to emergency calls are required to take and pass the annual physical examination offered by NFD, or another physical by a Chief of Department approved physician. All members that require donning of SCBA, deemed "interior" members, must pass the department issued physical with interior qualification.

2. All personnel must be trained in accordance with the NFD training procedures. At a minimum, all personnel must have completed their "Probationary Member Sign Off to Ride" ("CTR') packet prior to riding any apparatus responding to alarms.

3. Full protective clothing shall be worn at all emergency scenes. Any firefighter not in compliance shall be barred from the scene until in compliance.

4. All personnel will obey all applicable standard operating procedures.

5. No firefighter shall begin to perform any firefighting or rescue task without being directed to do so by an officer, or the senior firefighter in an officer's absence. Violation of this policy will result in discipline, up to and including removal from membership.

6. All non-essential personnel shall remain in a safe staging area as determined by the IC. Those entering the hazard zone should use the accountability system. See SOG pertaining to Firefighter Accountability for further information.

7. No personnel shall enter a hazardous or potentially hazardous atmosphere without properly trained and equipped firefighters available outside of the hazardous area to act as rescuers if needed. These individuals may have other duties besides rescue, but they must be in communication with an officer on the scene who can direct a rescue if needed. The Two-In Two-Out SOG must be followed

8. Emergency medical personnel shall be notified to stand by at a safe staging area at any hazardous or potentially hazardous scene.

9. A firefighter accountability system shall be used at every call where firefighters will be working in a hazardous or potentially hazardous environment.

Firefighter Trapped--Mayday

If a firefighter becomes disoriented, trapped, missing or imperiled by structural collapse or any other hazardous situation, a "Mayday" should be initiated and Rapid Intervention Team ("RIT") should be immediately summoned. Any firefighter working is empowered to call a Mayday when the above conditions exist for themselves or another firefighter. This can be during response; on-scene of any incident or any time when a firefighter is in trouble and a portable radio is available. Early identification of a Mayday situation is critical. A Mayday is initiated by any firefighter communicating "Mayday, Mayday, Mayday" via portable radio.

Upon receipt of a Mayday, implement the following:

1. Immediate notification of the IC. If not already acknowledged by IC, Fire Dispatch will initiate a response to assure IC and other units are aware.

2. All non-emergency radio traffic will cease

3. Upon initiation of a Mayday, the IC shall:

   - Advise "We have a Mayday on the scene, all units hold your traffic"
   - IC will attempt direct radio contact with mayday firefighter, and advise them to proceed with their mayday. The mayday should be given in the LUNAR format (**L**ocation **U**nit **N**ame **A**ir **R**esources needed)
   - IC directs mayday firefighter(s) to activate PASS device
   - IC/RIT officers assess LUNAR report for appropriate response
   - Mobilize RIT ops

   After LUNAR report:
   - IC requests that Dispatch transmit the mayday tone
   - Summon additional units and ALS EMS as appropriate
   - Ensure radio communications are necessary

4. IC shall assume RIT Command and may assign a fire ground command officer. The existing fire ground frequency will be for RIT/rescue operation only; all other fire ground traffic will switch to an alternate frequency

5. IC will immediately assign or request a second RIT team to standby scene

6. All officers should initiate Personnel Accountability Report (PAR) and be prepared to report PAR to IC upon request.

7. The IC should then organize and direct scene activities guided by the following priorities:

   (a) Rescue of fire personnel
   (b) Protection of civilians
   (c) Protection of property

It is imperative that all firefighters already operating on the fire ground with assigned tasks continue focusing on those objectives unless otherwise directed by IC. If the hazards/fire are mitigated, the rescue operations have a better chance of success.

Foam Operations

1. Foam operations are primarily for flammable liquid responses, but can be used in others.

2. Foam operations should not be started until enough foam concentrate is on scene to complete the operation. IC should consider requesting additional resources (i.e. a foam trailer) or mutual aid.

3. Foam shall be applied with use of a 1-3/4" hoseline in combination with an inline foam eductor, TFT adjustable nozzle, air aspirating nozzle attachment, and pails of foam concentrate.

4. The foam eductor should be placed within 200ft of the nozzle. The air aspirating nozzle attachment must be secured to the TFT adjustable nozzle. The foam eductor wand shall be placed inside the foam pail.

5. The pressure supplied by the pump operator must be 200PSI at the foam eductor. Insufficient pressure will result in inadequate foam.

6. The foam eductor should be set to 1% for hydrocarbons and 3% for all other fires, unless hazard specific information is available (i.e. ERG)

7. To ensure an uninterrupted foam concentrate is supplied, new pails of foam concentrate should be poured into the existing pail with the eductor wand inside.

8. Foam should be applied in one of three methods: Rain Down, Roll On, or Bank Off.

9. All personnel should take care to avoid disturbing the foam blanket once it has been applied.

10. The ProPack on E32 may be used for small quantity hazards.

Ground Ladders

The following general guidelines should be used for using ground ladders:

1. Extreme caution shall be used when working around charged electrical circuits or power lines. All members should check for overhead obstructions before raising or lowering any ladder.

2. All ground ladders shall be placed against the structure with the fly section out.

3. All ground ladders should be placed against a structure at an angle of approximately 75 degrees to maximize strength.

4. The ladder pawls and halyard shall be properly secured before climbing the ladder.

5. All ground ladders shall be footed or secured while being climbed either by a firefighter or another means. The ideal means of securing a ground ladder is for a single firefighter to foot the outside of the bed section with a good athletic stance, leaning into the ladder with arms extended and a foot on the ladder, while keeping alert of what is going on above.

6. Only one person at a time should be allowed on each fly section unless a rescue is being performed. This includes operations of the aerial ladder on Ladder 30.

7. All ground ladders shall be visually inspected at least once every month and after each use. Visual inspection shall include all rungs for snugness and tightness, cracks or apparent defects, butt spurs or pads for excessive wear or other defects, halyards for fraying or kinking, and checking heat sensors for exposure.

8. Any ladder exposed to direct flame or significant heat shall be removed from service until it can be tested.

9. Any problems found with a ground ladder shall be corrected immediately or it should be taken out of service until repaired.

10. All ground ladders shall be tested once a year by a third party testing company in accordance with NFPA standards.

Hydrant Hook-Up

1. Whenever the crew size permits, the officer should direct that hydrant hook-up be performed by two people. This should provide for a quicker hook-up.

2. On a confirmed or suspected fire, the first due engine officer should establish a water supply plan.

3. The hydrant crew should immediately take the following actions once the apparatus has stopped completely:
   (a) Wrap 5" supply line around hydrant.
   (b) Remove Hydrassist valve from engine
   (c) Take portable radio.
   (d) Take hydrant bag (should include hydrant wrench, spanner wrenches, flares, 2½" gate valve and mallet)
   (e) Hand light

3. Once the hydrant crew has removed all required equipment from the engine and the 5" supply line is wrapped around the base of the hydrant, the hydrant crew should immediately signal to the apparatus operator to proceed to the scene.

4. Once the apparatus is clear of the hydrant area, the hydrant crew should immediately open the hydrant to determine if the hydrant is operational as well as flushing any debris. Any issues should immediately be relayed back to the engine.

5. The crew should hook up Hydrassist valve to the hydrant's steamer connection, then attach the 5" supply line and the 2½" gate valve. After the hydrant hookup is complete, the hydrant crew should radio to the engine pump operator and advise them of the status. An example of this is "Hydrant to E31, the hydrant is dressed." The crew should then wait until the order is given by the pump operator to open the hydrant.

6. When the order is given to open hydrant, the hydrant should be opened fully. Not opening hydrant fully will cause the ground surrounding hydrant to be undermined.

7. The hydrant crew may leave hydrant only after the water supply has been established and supply line checked for leaks.

8. For a reverse lay: All the same applies as for a forward lay. The only difference is that you don't need to wrap the hydrant. The engine operator should lay past the hydrant to avoid a short lay. Break the 5" hose at the nearest coupling, once engine is past hydrant.

9. When closing hydrant, be sure hydrant is completely closed and drained. Don't over-tighten steamer and spud caps.

Hydraulic Rescue Tools and Air Bag Operations

All personnel who respond to motor vehicle accidents should have a working understanding of the set-up, use, and operation of the hydraulic rescue tools and air bags.

The tactical operation of the hydraulic rescue tools will be under the direction of the IC at the scene of an accident or senior qualified person, in conjunction with EMS operations.

When the determination is made to place the hydraulic rescue tools into operation, the following will be considered:

1. Appropriate placement of the apparatus or power unit away and preferably uphill and upwind of the wreckage. The operator should check the scene for potential sources of ignition and any other hazards.

2. When setting up the system, the operator of the tools will ensure all hoses are appropriately connected to the tool(s) and power unit.

3. The vehicle should be stabilized prior to using any hydraulic rescue tools or air bags.

4. All personnel involved in any aspect of the hydraulic rescue tools or air bags will be in full turnout gear, including eye and hand protective clothing.

5. Additional personnel should be utilized to assist in the operation. This may include keeping hydraulic lines free from the wreckage, removal of trim or glass prior to using the tool.

6. A charged hose line should be advanced to be utilized for the protection of the firefighters and vehicle occupants.

7. Air bags should be positioned to avoid hot and sharp objects.

Incident Reports

The proper completion of each two-part Noroton Fire Department Incident Report Form is vital to proper record keeping and determining member attendance. The completed white top sheet goes on the clip board and the yellow second sheet (folded) into the box with the slotted top (both alongside E-31).

The senior officer on each alarm is responsible for the filling out of this form as appropriate. If another member assists the officer, there is a place on the form for that individual to also sign.

Infection Control

Purpose:

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure is to establish basic rules that, when followed, will provide maximum protection for emergency care providers and patients.

This SOG will be reviewed regularly for possible updates that will reflect the best practices recommended by industry standards. (OSHA, NFPA, etc.)

Personal Protective Measures:

Personnel shall use the proper PPE while treating potentially infected victims. Treat all patients as potentially infected! (Body Substance Isolation)

Noroton Fire Department personnel shall be trained in compliance of OSHA Regulation 29 CFR 1910.1030: Occupational Exposure to Blood borne Pathogens, as well as NFPA 1581: Fire Department Infection Control Programs.

Training shall take place annually for all active members. There shall be initial training for all new members in regard to tasks where exposures may occur.

Proper hand washing is the most effective practice in the prevention of communicable disease. Wash hands after every patient contact. Use soap and water. Let the soap remain in contact with the skin of your hands for 30-60 seconds before complete rinse.

Personal Protective Equipment:

Noroton Fire Department shall maintain an adequate supply of PPE to be used by personnel, including, but not limited to; Examination gloves, eye protection, structural firefighting gear, etc.

Equipment Cleaning and Disinfecting:

Whenever personnel are involved in the cleaning and disinfecting of possible contaminated equipment, they must take all precautions they normally would to avoid exposure. (I.E. exam gloves, eye protection, splash protection, etc.)

Personnel should recover equipment used at an incident to the best of their ability.

Whenever personnel are unsure of the proper cleaning method or solution for contaminated equipment, such equipment shall be placed out of service, bagged, the IC notified, and remain out of service until properly cleaned.

All contaminated disposable items (gloves, mask, dressing, etc.) should be placed in a red bag and sent to the hospital for proper disposal. Never place a red bag for contaminated items in a trash can. Never place items for proper cleaning in a red bag.

Tools (extrication equipment, hand tools, etc.) that are possibly contaminated should be inspected and washed with a solution of one cup bleach and hot soapy water and allowed to air dry.

Badly contaminated turnout coats, bunker pants, firefighting gloves should be bagged and sent out to be disinfected and inspected.

Exposures:

If an exposure has likely occurred then:

1. The IC is to be notified, if he is not already aware of the incident.

2. Appropriate documentation will be completed. (Exposure Form, Accident Report).

3. Exposed personnel will be transported to local hospital immediately for evaluation and treatment, if necessary.

4. Exposed personnel will NOT contact any outside agencies in regards to a victim's medical condition, status, disposition, diagnosis, etc.

5. The IC will forward the Exposure Report to the Chief A.S.A.P. The Chief will notify the Health Dept so that the She/he may request the appropriate information from the medical facility regarding the victim(s) status and the exposed personnel's status.

The department recognizes that communicable disease exposure is an occupational health hazard. Communicable disease transmission is possible during any aspect of emergency response, including in-station operations. The health and welfare of each member is a joint concern of the member and the department as a whole. While each member is responsible for his own health, the department recognizes a responsibility to provide as safe a workplace as possible.

Master Stream Operation

A master stream is any device that flows over 350GPM.

Purpose: To be used for defensive exterior fire suppression, hazardous materials incidents, or as part of a transitional fire attack.

Defensive Operation: Master streams may not be deployed until all of the following criteria have been met as determined by the IC or his designated representative:

1. Interior fire attack has been stopped and all interior personnel have exited the structure and have been accounted for, and a roll call has been taken.

2. All personnel working on the roof or other exterior parts of the structure have been evacuated and accounted for.

3. A collapse zone has been established.

4. All personnel and equipment have relocated outside of the collapse zone.

5. The deluge/deck gun has been secured.

6. Firefighters operating the master stream devices must be in radio contact with the IC.

Aim at the flame. Keep the stream moving to avoid damaging the structure. Shut down and reposition the stream after knockdown.

Angle the stream to hit the ceiling or floor.

Transitional Attack Operations: Upon arrival at the scene where first arriving companies find advanced fire conditions, the IC might determine the best approach to extinguish the fire and save the structure for search and rescue operations is a transitional attack. During a transitional attack the IC will instruct crews to hit the fire from the outside of the building with Master Streams and/or handlines. Once the fire is knocked down, crews then can advance into the structure with handlines. Note, a water source is immediately necessary in most cases as master streams flow large volumes of water.

Notification of Fire Marshal's Office

Objective: To identify where the Darien Fire Marshal's Office shall be notified. These situations are discussed in the Connecticut General Statutes 29-302 through 29-311.

Situations requiring investigation by the Fire Marshal:

"The local Fire Marshal shall in accordance with the provisions of section 29-311 investigate the cause, origin, and circumstances of any fire or explosion within his jurisdiction, by reason of which property has been destroyed or damaged, or any person injured or killed, or any incidents which threatened any property with destruction or damage or any person with injury or death by reason of fire or explosion, and shall especially investigate whether such fire was the result of an incendiary device or the result of carelessness, design or any criminal act……." Sec 29-302.

Using this criterion as a guide the Darien Fire Marshal's Office shall be notified for the following types of situations:

1. All Structure fires; includes kitchen fires, room and contents fires, etc.
2. Any Fire resulting in injury or death to Civilians, Firefighters, Police Officers or EMS personnel.
3. Any fire involving a juvenile or children playing with a heat source.
4. Any fire with a possible suspect on the scene; this would include vehicle fires.
5. Any incident involving a person being burned by fire or hazardous materials.
6. On vehicle fires that appear to have been incendiary (set) in nature.
7. Vehicle fires where the vehicle is less than 5 years old.
8. Explosions.
9. Incidents where evidence of explosive materials are found.
10. Incidents where fireworks were involved in starting a fire (not simple discharge of fireworks).
11. Bomb Threats.
12. Incidents of Terrorism or suspected Terrorism.
13. Multiple responses or alarms to the same location.
14. Any fire related situation involving a serious threat to life and safety
15. Where a fire alarm system or fire suppression system must be shut down and taken out of service.
16. Tampering with fire alarm or fire suppression equipment.
17. Activation of a fire suppression system without a fire (including kitchen hood systems).
18. Overcrowding of restaurants or bars.
19. Obvious fire code violations or fire hazards such as the accumulation of flammable materials, obstruction of means of egress, damage to fire alarms or suppression equipment, or any other situation that could endanger life or property.
20. Any situation that the Police or Fire IC (IC) might deem necessary

Notification Process:

The IC shall normally make the notification request to Darien Fire Dispatch. The IC (either Fire or Police) should provide a preferred contact phone number or request other means of contact.

Darien Fire Dispatch shall then attempt to page the Fire Marshal via the Fire Department radio system and request that the Fire Marshal contact the IC as well as assign the unit FM1 to the call in CAD; this is so that all members of the Fire Marshal's Office can receive the page as well as a text message or email alert.
If after a reasonable amount of time (5-10 minutes, unless the matter is extremely urgent) the page is unanswered, the dispatcher shall attempt to notify the Fire Marshal via telephone.

Positioning of Fire Apparatus

At Structure Alarms:

Special consideration should be given by the first responding officer/senior firefighter as to the type of alarm you are responding to, i.e. automatic alarm, smoke in the house, structure fire, etc.

Incident Command shall fall to the first-due officer, unless/until otherwise directed/agreed by additional arriving more senior officers.

1. First Due Engine

(a) The first due responding officer/senior firefighter has the responsibility of performing and relaying a size up and 360 of the alarm and positioning the first engine so as not to block incoming aerial apparatus, while still keeping the engine close enough for proper hose placement.

(b) The first due engine should develop, relay over the radio, and begin to implement a water supply plan so as not to obstruct additional arriving units.

2. Aerial Apparatus

(a) Aerial placement should be accomplished so that at least two sides of the involved structure can be accessed, while avoiding collapse zones. The driver operator and officer should survey the fire ground scene to look for any obstructions, i.e. overhead wires, tree branches, trees, etc. Unless otherwise directed by on scene personnel, the first due aerial apparatus should position on the alpha side of the structure.

(b) Driver and officer should make sure the apparatus is positioned to allow access to stowed ground ladders.

3. Second Due Engine

(a) The primary responsibility of the second due engine is to ensure an adequate water supply has been secured, unless otherwise directed by IC.

4. **Rescue Truck**

(a) The rescue truck shall stage in such a position as not to block access to the scene but close enough for air bottle replacement and easy access for rescue tools. Placement should also be made during night operations so that lighting on the truck may be utilized.

At Motor Vehicle Incidents

Special consideration should be given by the first due officer/senior firefighter as to the type of incident you are responding to, i.e. motor vehicle accident with injuries, extrication needed, vehicle fire, etc.

1. First Due Engine

(a) The first due responding officer/senior firefighter has the responsibility of performing a size up and 360 of the incident and positioning the apparatus in such a way as to not block the incoming ambulance (if it's not already on the scene) or rescue truck, should extrication be needed.

(b) It should be parked to best protect the scene from oncoming traffic, while secondarily, parking uphill and upwind.

2. Rescue Truck

(a) Position the rescue truck to protect the scene, while providing access to equipment and leaving room for the ambulance personnel to have access to their vehicle.

3. **Second Due Engine**

(a) The second due engine should park as directed in a way to provide additional scene protection or as otherwise directed by IC.

Positive Pressure Ventilation

1. The primary purpose of positive pressure ventilation (PPV), as used by Noroton Fire Department, is for the systematic removal of smoke, heat and toxic gases at structure fires, contaminated atmospheres, smoke conditions, and overhaul.

2. To avoid spreading the fire to uninvolved areas, PPV should not be performed until the following conditions are met.
   (a) The location and extent of the fire should be identified.
   (b) Charged hose lines are manned and operating.
   (c) The fire is reasonably contained and under control.
   (d) The location of a smoke exit opening has been established, and personnel in protective gear are ready to create the opening.
   (e) All occupants are out of the building.

3. PPV shall be used primarily for overhaul purposes, but may be used at the discretion of the IC for fire suppression purposes.

4. The PPV fan shall be manned at all times by a firefighter who is in constant contact with personnel by radio. This firefighter must be immediately aware of any condition changes on the inside.

5. The PPV fan should not block the primary means of egress. The fan should be placed about 6 to 8 feet outside the entry point on the unburned side of the structure to get a cone of air completely surrounding the entry doorway to prevent churning.

6. The exit opening should be made as close to the seat of fire as possible and on the opposite side of the fire from all personnel operating inside the structure. The opening should be 75 per cent as large as the entry opening

7. PPV SHOULD NOT be used in any situation where personnel are located between the fire and the exit opening

8. Personnel should not block the entry or exit air from the structure.

9. If PPV ventilation is unsuccessful; or if there is a delay in water being applied to the fire; or if PPV is suspected of spreading the fire to uninvolved areas, the PPV fan should be shut down immediately until the problem(s) are remedied.

10. The PPV fan should be shut down as soon as ventilation objectives have been achieved.

11. PPV shall be discontinued immediately in the event personnel become trapped in the structure. PPV can commence at the direction of the IC once trapped personnel have been removed from the structure.

12. PPV should not be used in explosive atmospheres.

Probationary Member Training Standards

Upon acceptance to Noroton Fire Department as a probationary member, each probationary member will be assigned a personal copy of the "Noroton Fire Department Probationary Member Knowledge Guide" (Probationary Guide) by the Second Assistant Chief.

All Probationary Members will be required to successfully complete their Cleared to Ride ("CTR") Packets within 90 days of their appointment as probationary members. Failure to do so will likely result in expulsion, unless otherwise approved by the Chief.

Under no circumstances will a Probationary Member be permitted to ride apparatus to an emergency call until they have completed their CTR.

Probationary Members are required to attend a minimum of drills as determined by the Service Board Officers (a total of 24 drills with a minimum of 18 being Friday drills,) during their Probationary period. Generally, Probationary Members are encouraged to attend as many drills as possible, to help officers with truck checks and equipment maintenance, are encouraged to spend time around the dept., and to jump in wherever possible to maximize the gain during their probationary period.

Additional drills required to be completed during the probationary period include:

1. Orientation
2. Safety & Protective Equipment
3. Chemistry of Fire & Fire Behavior
4. Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
5. Fire Extinguishers
6. Hose and Fire Streams
7. Ladders
8. Water Sources and Supply (includes pumping fire apparatus)
9. Water Rescue
10. Motor Vehicle Extrication
11. Forcible Entry
12. Ventilation

The Probationary member will be permitted to respond to the firehouse upon receiving the pager.

Upon successful completion of the CTR, probationary members will be permitted to respond to all calls except Mutual Aid out of town.

Probationary members are **prohibited** from working inside a structure fire and performing any structural firefighting operations inside the hazard zone until they have received their Fire Fighter 1 certification or have passed all equivalent in house training. Prohibited operations include but are not limited to interior attack, search and rescue, ventilation, forcible entry.

Probationary members cannot perform any function at an emergency scene outside the hazard zone until they have received departmental training on that specific function.

Protective Clothing

The following shall be the standard for the wearing of protective clothing by all personnel. All protective clothing shall meet or exceed all appropriate standards.

Equipment Issued:

The following protective clothing shall be issued and/or approved by the Noroton Fire Department:

1. Helmet
2. Turnout coat
3. Bunker pants with suspenders
4. Boots
5. Firefighting Gloves
6. Firefighting hood
7. Safety Glasses

The following shall be provided for use at emergencies:

1. SCBA to be worn where personnel are in a hazardous or potentially hazardous environment or area.
2. SCBA shall be treated as part of the turnout gear package and shall be worn on all calls until such time as the IC specifically orders them not be worn for that particular call.

Proper Usage:

Protective clothing shall be worn as follows:

1. Helmet - Worn at all times.
   Chin straps worn at all times.

2. Coat - Worn at all times.
   Buttons and buckles fastened.
   Collar up and fastened.

3. Pants - Worn at all times
   Buttons and buckles fastened.

4. Boots - Bunker boots shall be worn with bunker pants.

5. Gloves - Worn at all times.

6. Hood - Worn at all fires except brush fires.
7. SCBA - Worn at all times that personnel are in a hazardous or potentially hazardous environment.
   Personnel shall don SCBA prior to entering hazardous area.

All personnel using SCBA shall work in teams with a minimum of two people.
PASS alarms shall be turned on.

8. Medical gloves and safety glasses -
   Worn at the scene of all motor vehicle accidents and at any other time where personnel are involved in treating or assisting injured persons.

The decision to allow personnel to "downgrade" their level of protective clothing shall be at the discretion of the IC.

Radio Communications

General Communication Guidelines:

1. **Listen before transmitting** and wait to transmit until a message transaction has been completed.
2. **Think then speak.** Before transmitting know what you are going to say. Follow "DIM WIT" principle—"Does it Matter What I Transmit?"
3. **Plain English:** Radio messages should be in plain language to reduce risk of confusion or miscommunication. Use precise terms to communicate the desired message as clearly and briefly as possible without wasting air time. Use of "signal codes" or "10-codes" is no longer authorized or recognized.
4. **Prioritize messages.** Let critical messages go first. Maintain situational awareness of radio traffic and how your message fits in. Order of Priority
   a. May Day
   b. Emergency or Urgent Traffic (defined as events or conditions that create a hazard to crews (e.g: possible building collapse, major shift in fire behavior, loss of water supply during interior attack, etc)
   c. Routine fire ground/response communication
   d. If there is already radio traffic wait for a break in communications before transmitting, UNLESS your message is emergency or urgent traffic.
5. **The call sign for fire dispatch is "Darien Fire Dispatch."** In the event you need to call Darien PD the call sign is "Darien Police Dispatch."
6. **Order of Transmission**: Speak unit number first, then speak your intended receiver (e.g.: "Engine 31 to Command" or "Ladder 30 to Darien Fire Dispatch."
7. **Wait for acknowledgment before sending message.** After calling intended unit, await their acknowledgement before sending message, so as to reduce risk that message is not heard.
8. **Speak clearly and in a normal voice volume.** Do not yell into radio, it fouls message modulation. Pause for a second prior to speaking once you have keyed your mic.
9. **The receiver should acknowledge they received the message.** The receiver should acknowledge and repeat back the message to the sender to ensure proper communications.

Response Radio Communication:

Upon receipt of alarm, one officer -- typically the responding chief officer, or the senior officer in a Chief's absence -- acknowledges dispatch on the radio.

1. 301: "301 to Darien Fire Dispatch"
2. Dispatch: "301"
3. 301: "301 responding to [address or] station"

This advises Darien Fire Dispatch that NFD units are on the air and responding. After the first Noroton officer advises Dispatch of their response, no further individual officers need call out enroute to station (until they are responding on apparatus). This keeps radio traffic to minimum. **Exception:** First marine unit officer or designated skipper calls out "responding to the boat". If Darien Fire Dispatch does not receive acknowledgement from a fire officer receiving the page they will re-page the alarm after 4 minutes.

Arrival Communication (on Scene):

1. "E31 to Darien Fire Dispatch" Await acknowledgment
2. "[Unit #} on the scene [address]….[Building/area description + Height (# stories) + Occupancy (single family/ multifamily/ office building/ retail/ senior living, etc] + Obvious problem/conditions + Action taken + Needs + Command disposition"] e.g.: "301 on scene [address]..a 2 story frame single family residential, smoke showing alpha side 2nd floor, evacuating building now, all units continue in, 301 is Gardner Street Command"

Additional Arriving Unit Communication:

1. "[Unit #] to Darien Fire Dispatch" Await acknowledgment
2. "[Unit #] on the scene"

FIREGROUND COMMUNICATIONS

1. As a general matter, all fire ground communication are directed with and through the IC, unless otherwise directed by IC or company officer
2. All company fire ground communication will be administered by the company officer, unless otherwise designated (e.g." Engine 31 officer, this is E31 pump with emergency traffic….[await acknowledgement]… E31 has lost water supply")
3. All companies should agree which member will carry radio comms for special tactical teams denoting their fire ground function, for example:
   a. "Ladder 31 roof"
   b. "Engine 31 search"
   c. "Engine 32 crew" (when officer splits a crew, 2 & 2 for investigation, for example)
   d. "Engine 31 nozzle"
   e. "Engine 32 pump"
   f. "Engine 31 hydrant"
   g. "Rescue 33 officer"

Passing Command:

Clarity of fire ground chain of command is vital for all responding/working companies. When first unit arrives that officer will establish command (see **Arrival Communication**, above)
When a senior officer/ chief officer arrives on scene, the IC establishes direct communication with that officer to confirm that the chief officer will take over command. Once CAN report and initial situation report is transferred to the arriving chief, dispatch and all units must be notified of the change in command as follows (example):

1. Command: "Near Water Command to Darien Fire Dispatch"
2. Dispatch: "Near Water Command"
3. Command: "331 is passing command to 300. 300 has Near Water command"

Passing command is also important when NFD arrives 1st to other districts and that district's Chief arrives after we do. (e.g.: "302 passing command to 400…400 has Post Road command"

Mayday Operations:

When a "Mayday" occurs on the fire ground, it is imperative that radio discipline is maintained to affect a positive outcome. When a "Mayday" occurs, Command should request radio silence so he can communicate with the downed firefighter. After this, command should ask that all units operating on the fire ground switch to a different channel; the incident commander, RIT, and downed firefighter will stay on the assigned incident channel.

Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)

1. At all events with IDLH atmospheres the IC will designate a backup team to standby in case of need for firefighter rescue. This team will be designated the Rapid Intervention Team (RIT).
2. The RIT will consist of at least four interior qualified firefighters. One team member, preferably an officer, will be designated the RIT Officer.
3. The RIT Officer will maintain communication with the IC and help the IC and Safety Officer monitor all radio traffic.
4. The RIT will stage within eyesight of the primary means of entry to the involved structure as well as within eyesight of the IC. Team members should deploy a tarp on the ground and stage any and all equipment required on this tarp. All equipment on the tarp will be for RIT use only.
5. RIT members may participate in other fire ground activities assuming they do not prohibit the member from RIT duties. Examples include throwing ground ladders and "softening" the building.
6. RIT team should perform their own 360 to assess building/incident conditions
7. If the RIT team is put into action by the IC the following procedures will be followed (ie. In the event of a Mayday):
   A. The RIT officer will have a face to face meeting with the IC and RIT Command, if possible. They should discuss LUNAR report and all other pertinent information.
   B. RIT Team shall establish radio communication with RIT Command (See Mayday SOG for further information).
   C. RIT team will deploy taglines and proceed into the structure.
   D. RIT team members should have predesignated assignments when finding a downed firefighter. At a minimum, air supply, extrication path, rigging firefighter for removal, and officer/communication.
   E. Once RIT has located a downed firefighter, they should immediately silence the firefighter's PASS device, check the firefighter's air supply, and communicate their findings and any additional resources needed to RIT Command.
8. RIT team operations are not over until all downed firefighters are out of the building.
9. When one RIT is committed to the structure another RIT must be established or called to the scene.

Reporting Damage to Fire Apparatus

In the event of an accident, the IC or senior firefighter shall immediately check for injury and establish scene safety.

In event of injury, IC or senior firefighter will request EMS, as appropriate.

Any accident or collision involving damage to any vehicle or property or injury to any person shall be reported immediately to the IC, the Chief and appropriate law enforcement agency.

In the event of an en-route/response accident, IC or senior firefighter will advise dispatch that apparatus is "out of service and unable to continue response" and request that other units be dispatched to original call. The IC or senior firefighter will then follow protocol outlined above. Do not leave the accident scene until released by the Darien Police or a senior NFD officer.

No member on scene shall discuss the incident, speculate as to cause or detail with anyone except IC or senior firefighter, Chief, EMS or law enforcement.

In order for all department and town liability insurance to respond appropriately, no member is to make an offer of repair to any third party property.

Riding in Fire Apparatus

1. All personnel will be seated on the fire apparatus. NO standees will be allowed anywhere on any fire apparatus while that apparatus is in motion (except when repacking supply line.)

2. All personnel will have their seat belts fastened while the vehicle is in motion.

3. All personnel will be wearing their full protective clothing (except helmets) while responding on the apparatus. Refer to the standard operating procedure for Protective Clothing.

No member may not ride in the back of R-33 or utility vehicles
NOTE: The driver of the apparatus is permitted to wear only boots and bunker pants when responding to the scene of an emergency. Once on the scene, the driver will don full protective clothing.

Two In/Two Out Regulation (Structure Fires)

The Two In/Two Out Regulation is governed by OSHA 1910.134: Respiratory Protection.

1910.134(g)(4)(i)
At least two employees enter the IDLH atmosphere and remain in visual or voice contact with one another at all times.;
1910.134(g)(4)(ii)
At least two employees are located outside the IDLH atmosphere; and
1910.134(g)(4)(iii)
All employees engaged in interior structural firefighting use SCBAs.

Note 1 to paragraph (g): One of the two individuals located outside the IDLH atmosphere may be assigned to an additional role, such as incident commander in charge of the emergency or safety officer, so long as this individual is able to perform assistance or rescue activities without jeopardizing the safety or health of any firefighter working at the incident.
Note 2 to paragraph (g): Nothing in this section is meant to preclude firefighters from performing emergency rescue activities before an entire team has assembled.

In summary, Firefighters operating in hazardous areas shall operate in teams of two or more. Team members shall stay in contact with each other using visual, audible, or physical means. When operating inside an IDLH atmosphere, there shall be two or more firefighters outside responsible for maintaining constant awareness of the number and identity of members in the hazardous area, their location and function, and time of entry. The backup team should be in direct contact with the Safety Officer assigned with managing the Firefighter Accountability System. The firefighters assigned as the backup crew MUST be in **Full Protective Clothing including S.C.B.A.** and have a **charged** 1¾ line ready to be deployed in the event of an emergency. Only one of these firefighters can be involved in another task, providing that the task can be dropped in the event of a rescue. The IC should know the location and activities of the backup team at all times. This policy will remain compliant with OSHA regulations.

All personnel of the Noroton Fire Department will adhere to the following procedure and any deviation of this policy can result in severe disciplinary action.

1. Upon the arrival of the first unit on the scene, an initial size up of the scene will be made to determine the magnitude of the call.
2. The IC will relate his findings of the size up over the radio.
3. After the size up has been made, the IC will make the determination if a **Second Alarm or** Mutual Aid is needed. (Refer to SOG referring to Mutual Aid Requests).
4. The crew will stretch the hose lines and prepare for an initial attack.
5. If lacking adequate manpower and there is no impending life safety issues, the first crew will attempt to control the fire from the exterior of the residence until adequate manpower has arrived.
6. Once adequate manpower has arrived at the scene, an interior attack will be performed to contain the fire.

This policy applies to all structural alarms and does not apply nor change our current policies for Car Fires, Brush Fires, and Dumpster Fires.

Use of Blue Lights

1. The use of blue flashing lights by NFD personnel is restricted to active membership status. Probationary members are not allowed use of a blue light.

2. All active members MUST obtain a valid blue light permit, issued and authorized by the Chief of the Department. A copy of each permit will be maintained on file.

3. All lights MUST be colored blue when facing forward in the vehicle. Other color variations can be utilized in combination with a blue color in rear facing lights. Colors other than blue must be approved by the Chief.

4. All vehicles using blue lights MUST obey all traffic laws per the State of Connecticut. The blue light is a courtesy light only. Motorists are not required to give vehicles with blue lights the right of way. Any violation in the use of a blue light will result in a revocation of the blue light permit and possible disciplinary action.

5. The use of "wig-wag" or "hi-lo" headlights or the manual flashing of high beams is prohibited.

6. No vehicles shall be equipped with sirens or other non-permissible audible warning devices unless properly permitted and approved by the Chief.

Use of Emergency Lights When Returning from Alarms

All operators of emergency vehicles shall turn off all emergency warning lights when returning to the firehouse after a call, or while driving the apparatus while on non-emergency calls. The traffic director (yellow lights) on the rear of the apparatus may remain on at the discretion of the officer.

The exception to this rule is when apparatus are backing into the fire house. To warn on-coming traffic and vehicles behind the emergency vehicle, all operators shall turn on all warning lights when backing onto the front ramp from the Post Road.

Vertical Ventilation

1. The main purpose of vertical ventilation at a structure fire is to aid in the removal of smoke and fire gases from a structure.

2. Incident commanders should be mindful of the acronym "RECEO-VS" when determining incident priorities. (Rescue, Exposures, Confinement, Extinguishment, Overhaul, Ventilation, Salvage) Vertical ventilation should only be performed if manpower is appropriate and completing other incident priorities in a timely manner is not sacrificed.

3. Vertical ventilation MUST be coordinated with the interior attack; untimely ventilation of any sort may negatively impact fire ground operations and put interior crews at risk.

4. The incident commander and ventilation crew shall ascertain as soon as possible if the roof is of lightweight or truss construction; if it is, the incident commander shall consider other types of ventilation (horizontal, positive pressure) before committing firefighters to the roof because of the tendency for lightweight roofs to collapse.

5. While operating on a roof, firefighters must work off a roof or aerial ladder while performing ventilation. All roof crews must be in full PPE while working on a roof.

6. Before cutting a vent hole, firefighters should look for natural openings (skylights, etc.) to expedite the ventilation process. Ideally, vent holes will be at least 4 ft x 4 ft and cut over the fire.

7. While working on a roof, firefighters must consider having two means of egress off the roof in case their initial access if cut off by fire or becomes inaccessible.

8. Once vertical ventilation is accomplished, the ventilation crew should relay this to the Incident Commander and firefighters shall exit the roof as soon as possible to reduce the risk of injury or collapse.

9. If solar panels are present, the IC should consider other modes of ventilation. Firefighters should stay as far away from solar panels as practical.