

Campbell County Fire Department

Standard Operating Procedure

Operations

Emergency Evacuation

401.06

I. PURPOSE:

To define clear and concise terms, that describe different levels of command and firefighter responsibilities when a building or an area becomes unsafe to occupy either for citizens or firefighters or both. To outline procedures for emergency withdrawal and abandon

II. SCOPE:

This procedure shall apply to all emergency and training operations when the need arises to evacuate, withdraw from or abandon a structure or area.

III. PROCEDURE:

1. Definitions:

1.1. Evacuate: Applies ONLY to the procedure where citizens are required to leave a structure or area because of an emergency. An example is "no evacuation noted".

1.2. Withdraw: Applies ONLY to the procedure where firefighters are required to leave a structure or area because of a change of conditions creating unnecessary risk. Withdraw means firefighters shall get out quickly, taking their equipment, hoselines etc. with them.

1.3. Abandon: Applies ONLY to the procedure where firefighters are required to leave a structure or area because of an immediate life threatening risk. Abandon means drop everything and get out NOW.

2. When the emergency withdrawal of a structure or area is initiated, the Incident Commander shall initiate the emergency withdrawal process in the order below:

2.1. COMMAND using the assigned tactical channel (and RIT assigned channel if necessary) shall immediately and clearly transmit the following:
"URGENT, URGENT, URGENT... all units withdraw from the building, all units withdraw from the building."

3. When an emergency abandonment of a structure or area is initiated, the Incident Commander shall initiate the emergency evacuation process in the order below:

3.1. COMMAND using the assigned tactical channel (and RIT assigned channel if necessary) shall immediately and clearly transmit the following:
"URGENT, URGENT, URGENT ... all units abandon the building, all units abandon the building."

3.2. COMMAND using the assigned tactical channel, shall then clearly transmit the following:
"Initiate the Emergency Abandon Signal."

3.3. Emergency Abandon Signal:

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Don Huber, Fire Chief

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- 3.3.1. Air Horns: The engineer or operator of the apparatus on scene shall sound the air horn with consecutive blast of approximately five seconds in duration followed by a three second pause. One member should key a radio microphone near the apparatus for no longer than 15 seconds to broadcast the emergency evacuation signal to members in the building. The signal shall be continued for a period of 30 seconds, at which time there will be radio time available to conduct a Personal Accountability Report (PAR).
- 3.3.2. A PAR shall be completed as soon as personnel have reached a safe zone.

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| Initial Approval: July 2008 Revision Date: | Page 2 of 2 | Don Huber, Fire Chief ORIGINAL SIGNED |
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