

Standard Operating Procedure	PEORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT
Safety Committee	Administration
	100.11
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PURPOSE

Firefighting is one of the most hazardous occupations in North America in terms of occupational death and injury statistics.

These deaths and injuries may occur as a result of direct line of duty accidents, training or during routine activities. In addition to these accidents, there are an increasing number of firefighters who suffer debilitating injuries or who develop occupational disease and medical conditions that may result in disabling or fatal consequences forcing them to discontinue fire service activities.

In addition to fire suppression activities, the delivery of emergency medical and rescue services, and hazardous material response has increased the opportunity for exposure to toxic, carcinogenic or infectious diseases.

It is the intent of this standard operating procedure to reduce or eliminate the exposure to injury or illness that may be encountered by emergency personnel.

POLICY

Due to the complex nature of the fire service and its constantly changing environment, it is impossible to completely address all aspects of safety. Therefore, each member of the fire department is responsible for not only following these procedures, but using a common sense approach to all situations and to report possible unsafe situations to the proper authorities. Constant awareness of each emergency scene and operation is the key to reducing death and injury.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Fire Chief: The Fire Chief shall appoint a Fire Department Safety Coordinator

Occupational Safety and Health Committee:

The committee members shall consist of:

- Fire Department Safety Coordinator and the Labor Co-Chairman
- Fire Department Safety Captains (3) Company Officers
- Appropriate Division Manager
- Other individuals may be assigned by the Safety Coordinator by nature of specialized knowledge

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Committee Responsibilities: The committee shall conduct research, develop recommendations, and study and review matters pertaining to occupational safety and health within the fire department. In addition, the committee shall hold regularly scheduled meetings a minimum of every six months. Written minutes of each meeting shall be retained and shall be made available to all department members.

The committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Fire Chief.

Department Safety Coordinator: The Department Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for the periodic review of all safety regulations contained herein for possible addition, deletion, and or policy changes.

Company Officer: It is the responsibility of all company officers to review these safety procedures on an annual basis with all crewmembers. An electronic or hard copy Fire Department training report will be completed documenting the annual review.

Company Members: It is the responsibility of each member of the Fire Department to follow these procedures during all activities.

Approved:



3/1/06

Robert McKibben, Fire Chief

Date