

COMMAND AND CONTROL OF RESCUE OPERATIONS

A. Purpose and Scope:

To define a unified management of emergency medical personnel (EMS), fire department personnel, and equipment utilization at extrication and other rescue type incidents and to dispatch qualified members and equipment to incidents requiring extrication or other rescue oriented skills. This procedure does not intend to address the individual activities of EMS and extrication specialties.

B. In District Responses:

1. Emergency calls that require rescue/extrication will be dispatched as a rescue to send the Rescue Team and an Engine Company.
2. For rescue calls in District 1, Stations 62 & 63 will respond with Eq-62 & Eq-63.
3. For rescue calls in Districts 2 & 3, the station will respond with E-6x and Eq-6x respectively along with an Engine and Rescue 61 from Station 61.

C. Mutual Aid Responses:

1. Emergency calls that request rescue/extrication will be paged as a rescue to send the Rescue Team and R-61 from Station 61.
2. If the MA request is north of FM1960 West and west of IH45; qualified personnel and Eq-62 will respond from Station 62. This means to include Klein's and Champions' districts south of FM1960 West.
3. If the MA request is south of FM1960 West and west of IH45; qualified personnel and Eq-63 will respond from Station 63. This means to include Little York's and Northwest's districts south of FM1960 West.
4. If the MA request is north of FM1960, and on IH45 and/or east of IH45; qualified personnel and Eq-63 will respond from Station 63.

D. Initial Command

1. If extrication or other rescue requirements are required. The first fire department unit arriving on the scene shall establish command. This is dependent upon available radio communications, but the incident command structure shall begin at this time. The consideration is that the patient's well

being is directly cared for by CCEMS. It is normally at this time when a decision process leads to the determination of either CCEMS or the fire department being overall site Command. The fire department is concerned with overall scene security and activities as described further. In any case, the working relationship is that of total cooperation in scene management.

E. Initial Assessment

1. The initial assessment of the incident shall include the following:
 - a. Description of the Incident
 - b. Special Hazards Recognition
 - c. Resource Requirements

F. Site Command and Control

1. Command (Overall Site Command): Command has the broad view responsibilities of site control and hazard mitigation, coordination with EMS activities and other groups, and may provide input for the Extrication Specialist to develop, establish, and perform the required extrication techniques with the available resources.
2. The following tasks are the minimum command objectives:
 - a. Safety
 - b. Overall Site Control
 - c. Hazard Mitigation
 - d. Extrication
 - e. Triage/Treatment
 - f. Transportation

G. Rescue Division / Extrication Specialist (ES): The Rescue Division is established with an Extrication Specialist as the Division Officer. The ES is a qualified fire department member with the following responsibilities:

1. Coordinate with EMS and fire personnel to establish a compatible rescue plan
2. Determine number, location and condition of victims
3. Verify primary search has been completed (Primary search area is a minimum of a 50 feet radius)
4. Evaluate resources required and develop a working plan
5. Advise Command of the required resources and plan; adjust if necessary
6. Allocate and supervise the rescue/extrication task
7. Provide Command with progress reports
8. Verify secondary search has been completed (Secondary search area is a minimum of 100 feet radius)
9. Coordinate with other groups

H. Medical Division: The Medical Division is established to manage all Triage, Treatment and Transport needs of the rescue incident.

1. Triage/Treatment/Transport (T/T/T): The T/T/T group responsibility is to triage and begin initial treatment of the victims (normally this is CCEMS personnel, however fire personnel may be required to fill or supplement these positions due to delayed CCEMS response or additional staffing needs). Victims should be stabilized and continually monitored.
2. Determine if additional resources are required and advise Command
3. Identify and establish suitable treatment areas:
 - a. For multi-casualty incidents provide high, moderate, and low priority areas
 - b. Make these areas accessible for transport
 - c. Maintain accurate count and where transported
4. Determine transportation priorities

I. Air Operations Division: The Air Operations Division is established to manage all air medical transport needs.

If air operations are required, Command is to be notified and proper Landing Zone Guidelines will be implemented.

See also: Landing Zone

RESCUE OPERATIONS ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

