

New Durham Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG)

SOG 405 Personnel Accountability System

PURPOSE: To provide for a system to account for all emergency personnel, at any given time, within the “Hazard Zone” of an incident. To provide for enhanced personal safety for the individual member and to provide Incident Command with a means of tracking and accounting for all personnel in the “Hazard Zone,” which presents as Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) of the member..

SCOPE: Any member entering a “Hazard Zone” defined as an area that requires a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), or in an area in which a member is at risk of becoming lost, trapped or injured by the environment or of a structure. (This would include entering a structure reported to be on fire or containing hazardous material, operating in close proximity to the structure during exterior operations; or entering a wide area such as in a forestry search and rescue operation).

SPECIFICS: All members shall provide for the safe operation at an incident inclusive of providing for ongoing accountability of their whereabouts in a defined work crew.

- Command will maintain an accurate tracking and awareness of where resources are committed at an incident.
- Command will be responsible for including accountability as a major element in the strategy and attack planning.
- Sector Officers will maintain an accurate tracking and awareness of crews assigned to them.
- All crews will work for Command or a Sector Officer. Any member not assigned will report to **Personnel Staging**.
- Crews arriving on scene shall remain intact and shall report to **Personnel Staging**. A crew size shall consist of two or more members with radio communication.
- All crews entering the “Hazard Zone” shall be supervised by a Sector Officer.
- Each crew will enter the “Hazard Zone” together, will stay together, and will exit together.
- Each crew shall have at least one radio. If radio communication is lost, the crew will exit the “Hazard Zone.”

DATE: 2013-03-17