



Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

STRUCTURE FIRES

TOPIC: Structure Fire Search and Rescue Tactics

TIME FRAME: 1 Hour

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION: Level II

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: A written quiz

Behavior: The student will list and describe search and rescue procedures to be used in a burning, smoke-filled room.

Standard: With a minimum of 70% accuracy

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- End of the Line, Phoenix Fire Department Videotape
- Appropriate visual aids
- Audio visual equipment

REFERENCES:

- IFSTA, Essentials of Fire Fighting, 2nd Edition, Chapter 7
- IFSTA, Fire Service Rescue Practices, 5th Edition, Chapter 5
- CDF, Health and Safety Handbook 1700, 1999

PREPARATION: Searching a fire building has two objectives: locating and removing victims. Every fire building should be thoroughly searched and the search must be done systematically.

Few things can happen in the fire service that are more serious than failing to find a victim in a structure fire because of an inadequate search.

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STRUCTURE FIRE SEARCH
AND RESCUE TACTICS

PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<p>I. SEARCH AND RESCUE</p> <p>A. Check with Building Occupants Who Have Escaped</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Are others inside?2. Where might they be?3. What is the condition of the building?4. How far has the fire progressed? <p>B. Check with Neighbors</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Occupants habits?2. Room location?3. Did they see the occupant? <p>C. Advise the Officer in Charge</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Never begin a search without advising the IC, ECC or next arriving unit that you are entering the fire building2. Advise I.C. when you have exited the building <p>D. Building Size Up</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Gather facts before entering2. Consult pre plans3. Look at entire building and the surrounding area	<p>Upon arrival, what are possible sources of information to be utilized by rescuers before making a building search?</p>

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<p>4. Try to become well oriented before entering</p> <p>E. Try to always use the buddy system and back-up team approach (2 in – 2 out)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety 2. More thorough 3. Quicker 4. Easier to move a victim <p>II. SEARCH OPERATIONS</p> <p>A. The search should be divided into two components.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary search - a rapid but complete search of the fire building for victims <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Conducted simultaneous with other firefighting operations b. Commence in room or on floor of greatest involvement and work outward or upward from that room or floor <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Depending on assessment of where peril is most imminent c. Search every room every time d. Ventilating as you go is a good practice if it does not create further fire extension <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Opening windows will clear <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Heated vapors and gases (b) Humidity (c) Toxic materials 	<p>Information sheet #1</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. E1POK, E35SOK3. Latch straps over door knobs4. Tag on door knob5. Mattress rolled up6. Whatever method is used, it must be clearly known to all personnel <p>D. Use a System Where You Are Going to Start and Finish at the Same Point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. When entering the first room turn right or left<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. This establishes the pattern to be used for the rest of the building no matter how large or small2. Upon exiting the room, always turn in the same direction (i.e., right or left) you entered3. Always exit a room at the same point you entered<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. This insures a complete search <p>E. Victims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Get help to move victim2. Stabilize quickly if necessary	<p>Have students cite other methods of marking a room.</p> <p>Information sheet #3</p> <p>What should you do when you find a victim?</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Perform first aid outside building3. Leave the room by turning in the opposite direction you entered<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. This leads you back to the entry pointb. Allows you to subsequently return and continue to search where you left off4. Report immediately to I.C.5. To make victim removal easier<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Consider stairs vs. ladders<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) More people can be removed(2) Much faster(3) Safer(4) Less panic(5) Easier to handle the elderly and invalids(6) Less exposure to falling objects(7) Less chance of victim falling(8) Easier to remove unconscious victims(9) May only have to direct them to the floor below the fireF. Room Search<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Feel door with back of ungloved hand prior to opening from side opposite hinges2. Open doors slowly	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Gain access to areas within building(2) Create exit opening if trappedc. Flash lightd. Radioe. Long handled tool<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Sweep large areas(2) Probe under objects-use caref. Latch straps<ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Latch straps can be used to keep doors open that close and lock by themselves(2) They can be made easily using a truck inner tube(3) They can be carried easily(4) They may also mark a room that has already been searched	

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SUMMARY:

The two main objectives of fire building searches are: finding victims and removing them. Always search in pairs, use a plan, maintain communications, and search in a safe manner.

EVALUATION:

A written quiz.

ASSIGNMENT:

To be determined by instructor(s).