

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT</b> <b>CHAPTER 2: SUGGESTED OPERATING GUIDELINES</b></p>
<p>Part 4: I.C.S. - Operations Function Subject: Extrication Page 1 of 2 Effective Date: 07-01-95</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Section: 2-4-5 Reviewed/Revised Date: 04-26-10</p>

Part 4: I.C.S. - Operations Function

Subject: Extrication

Page 1 of 2

Section: 2-4-5

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- 5.01 Goal. To provide a guideline for Extrication Group activities.
- 5.02 Description of Function. The Extrication Group is used in multi-patient incidents and in situations which require physical extrication of trapped victims. The Extrication Group is responsible for locating, removing and transporting patients to appropriate treatment areas.
- 5.03 Responsibilities. When this function is activated, the Extrication Group Officer will be responsible for the following:
- A) Determine the location, number and condition of patients.<sup>7</sup>
  - B) Determine whether triage will be conducted "on site" or at a Treatment Area.
  - C) Evaluate resources needed for extrication of trapped patients and removal of patients to the Treatment Area.
  - D) Communicate resource requirements to Command.
  - E) Allocate assigned resources.
  - F) Supervise assigned companies.
  - G) Establish an Assembly Area for patients with minor injuries (Priority Green) to await delayed transportation.
  - H) Report progress to Command and advise when all patients have been removed.
  - I) Coordinate with other divisions/groups as required.

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<sup>7</sup> These activities will be coordinated with EMS personnel, who are responsible for direct care of the patient. However, conditions can exist (fire/explosion hazards, multi-casualty, etc.) where the Extrication Officer and crew members may be required to make the initial assessments.

5.04 Guidelines.

- A) The Extrication Officer should assign personnel to help size-up the situation.
  - 1) Count the number of patients.
  - 2) Determine extrication requirements.
- B) A commitment of one group per five (5) victims is the guideline when numerous patients are involved.
- C) The Extrication Officer should locate in a readily visible location. This position must be accessible to arriving units with a view of the scene.
- D) Face to Face communications should be used within this group.
- E) Walking patients should be removed from the action circle as soon as possible. Personnel should place these persons in a safe area where they will wait for transportation.
- F) If the patients are spread out over a large area, groups should be assigned to a specific area of patients. Firefighters must determine the immediate needs of these persons and request assistance as needed.
- G) The Extrication personnel will assist moving patients under the direction of EMS personnel.
- H) Trapped patients requiring prolonged extrication should be triaged by EMS personnel and treated as needed.
- I) The Extrication Officer is responsible for safety within the action circle.
- J) If the incident site involves a large area, it may be necessary to create more than one Extrication Group. In such cases, the site will be divided geographically with Extrication Groups assigned as needed.