CARVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guidelines

Section 5.06 – Command Thoughts **June 15, 2013**

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to provide our expectations and thoughts regarding your responsibilities when assuming Command. This is not a procedure as much as it is wisdom and experience coming from those who do it regularly.

1.1 SCOPE

All Carver Fire Department members who may be assuming the position of Command as first arrivers at an emergency incident

1.2 COMMAND

01. Responding

A. As you are responding, think about establishing Command, good size-up, communicate and **take a deep breath**
B. Get all your gear on – vests in both cruisers
C. Size up the scene – biggest mistake I make is not identifying how many vehicles and how many victims
D. Establish communication with that first truck – Officers side

01. MVA's

A. Move the PD
B. Position the truck properly – one lane open
C. Keep Rescue as close as you can, Engine can utilize 200' pre-connect
D. Chances are that the Engine will be first piece, then the Rescue - save room for Rescue truck and ambulances – keeping one lane open
E. Keep private vehicles in the driveway and away from the scene
F. Stage second Engine until you know what you want and if you need it, which is fine, position somewhere it can get out for a second call
G. Easiest way to stay out of tunnel vision is to establish Operations, Safety and Manpower

H. First Engine line on the ground is a priority, then lighting, cribbing and jaws all secondary
I. After apparatus is positioned, Operations established, line on the ground, then go to work with lighting, second set of jaws, etc. – LOOK AROUND
J. Plan for Operations calling for the unexpected – have rams, extra jaws, seatbelt cutter, etc, laid out on a tarp, so if they are called for they are ready
K. Talk with EMS personnel and Police to let them know what you are doing – Tom Walsh, Rick
L. I find face to face communication with Operations works better than the radio – go up to him or her every once in a while to see what he/she needs
M. Talk with crowd - very important
N. Report when the victim is out of the vehicle - important
O. Remember manning at Stations – I like to keep them a little while to cover Town if they have equipment
P. Keep extra Firefighters busy, cribbing, set up extra tools, lighting, search
Q. **Prepare for the unexpected**

02. Building Fires

A. Move the PD – keep them in the loop, they can be a big help if approached properly
B. Size up – find the homeowner or reporting person
C. Stage up your apparatus, they will come at you very fast – if not, you will get boxed in and I will get mad
D. Position the first Engine properly – one lane open – Have a firefighter do it while you are sizing up
E. How far can I reach with a 200' line
F. Establish Operation ASAP so you don't get overwhelmed – first one there should stay in your job is to support Operations and cover the Town
G. If you have to go into a driveway, second Engine in will feed you with 4" and set up for Tankers
H. First Engine attack, second Engine attack or Water Supply, Rescue in driveway, Tanker in front of Water Supply Engine
I. Try to leave driveway open for Rescue
J. Get first crew attacking the fire
K. Establish Accountability – I usually take the first firefighter I see and put them at the door

L. Establish Operations

M. Cover the Town with Mutual Aid or Carver Engine, Engine 4 and a Breaker

N. Easiest way to stay out of tunnel vision is to establish Operations, Safety and Manpower. I find the most useful position is Manpower

O. Keep all extra firefighters up in Manpower

P. Keep studying the scene and fill in holes

1. Tangled pre-connects
2. Enough lighting
3. Use your manpower

Q. Keep conducting face to faces with all sectors

R. Keep private vehicles in the driveway and away from the scene

S. Stage second Engine until you know what you want and if you need it, which is fine, position somewhere it can get out for a second call

T. Plan for Operations calling for the unexpected – have extra tools laid on a tarp near Manpower

U. Have extra lines on the ground with Manpower

V. Talk with EMS personnel and Police to let them know what you are doing – Tom Walsh, Rick

W. I find face to face communication with Operations works better than the radio – go up to him or her every once in a while to see what he/she needs

X. Talk with crowd - very important

Y. Report when the fire is knocked down

Z. Try to rotate Firefighters – important - Keep extra Firefighters busy