

Procedure	Effective Date	Rescinds
RAPID INTERVENTION CREW SOG	6-11-96	
Reference		
Norwich Township Fire Department - Revised Cols RIC SOG		Page 1 of 3

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this procedure is to provide a guideline for the operation at incidents or situations that may arise during the course of an operation. Each member is expected to know, understand and operate according to this guideline as each situation arises.

RESPONSIBILITY:

- I. It shall be the responsibility of all department officers to implement this operating guideline.
- II. It shall be the responsibility of all department officers to train members in the application of this guideline.
- III. It shall be the responsibility of each member to know, understand and use this guideline as it applies to the situation at hand. Each member will use good judgment in the use of this guideline.

GUIDELINE:

- I. On all working incidents at least one **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW (RIC)** shall be maintained by the Incident Commander. This shall include all incidents where an interior fire attack is made or whenever an operation places crews in a hazard zone.

A. In the initial stages of an incident, at least one member shall remain outside the hazard zone and be responsible for maintaining a constant awareness of the number, location, function, time of entry, and identity of the members operating inside the hazard zone.

- 1. The initial stages refers to the tasks undertaken by the first arriving fire company with only one team operating in the Hazard Zone.
- 2. The standby member from (A) shall be permitted to perform other functions such as apparatus operator or incident commander.
- 3. The standby member shall don a complete set of protective clothing, including SCBA.
- 4. The standby member shall be permitted to perform a rescue of the one operating crew if it becomes necessary.
 - a. If the standby member is attempting to perform a rescue, he shall first notify the FAO and the FAO shall notify all incoming companies.

- B. Once a second crew is assigned or operating in the Hazard Zone, the incident is no longer considered to be in the initial stages and at least one RIC shall be established.

- II. A **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW** shall consist of at least three(3) members and shall be available for rescue of a member or crew if the need arises. **RAPID INTERVENTION CREWS** shall be fully equipped with the appropriate protective clothing, protective equipment, SCBA, and any specialized rescue tools and equipment that might be needed given the specifics of the operation underway.
- A. The **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW** composition shall be flexible and its structure shall be at the discretion of the IC, based on the type and complexity of the incident.
1. The RIC may be made up of on-scene personnel who are dedicated as the RIC and who perform no other functions; or
 2. The RIC may be made up of personnel who are performing other functions outside the Hazard Zone but are ready to redeploy as the RIC.
 - a. If this type of RIC is created, the IC must notify these personnel that they will be the RIC until further notice.
 3. A RIC Team Leader will standby with the IC and follow radio traffic to stay familiar with the operations that are functioning in the fire building.
- III. **RAPID INTERVENTION CREWS** shall be fully dressed and equipped and standing by ready for immediate deployment. The standby location of this crew shall be at the discretion of the Incident Commander, but normally close to the point of entry with due caution to the collapse zone.
- IV. **RAPID INTERVENTION CREWS** shall be maintained at least until a Situation Contained is reported. After the situation is contained, the Incident Commander shall determine when a **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW** is no longer needed.
- V. If the **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW** is used, the Incident Commander must immediately make arrangements to replace them. If on-scene resources are not adequate to accomplish this, additional companies must be requested.
- VI. At the time the **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW** is committed to a rescue operation, the **IC** will assign an Operations officer for the rescue operation.
- VII. The **IC** shall direct all radio traffic to another talk group for the original incident. This will allow the victim(s), **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW**, and all members working under the command of the rescue operations officer, a talk group with less traffic.
- VIII. On multiple alarms and complex incidents, more than one **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW** may be needed. The **IC** shall maintain as many **RAPID INTERVENTION CREWS** as is determined to be necessary.
- IX. The Fire Alarm Office will automatically dispatch an additional Engine Company to fill the **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW** on all working incidents, unless otherwise directed by the Incident Commander.

- X. During High Rise Incidents, a **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW** shall be dispatched to the floor below the involved floor. (For more detail on High Rise Operations, refer to the High Rise SOG.)