

Halifax Fire Department

October 6, 2003

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

May Day Procedure

9.01 PURPOSE

- A. To address any situation when a firefighter is lost, injured, or trapped in a hostile or potentially hostile environment.

9.02 POLICY

- A. The firefighter/company officer shall declare the May Day as soon as they or a firefighter found to be unable to accomplish the tactical objective assigned by Command due to being injured, lost, or trapped and is unable to vacate the structure.

9.03 PROCEDURE

- A. The firefighter/company officer shall transmit MAY DAY, MAY DAY, MAY DAY. Once acknowledged by either Command or Fire Alarm the member in distress or the firefighter that located the member in distress shall give the following information:
 - 1. **Location** (ex; 2nd floor B side)
 - 2. **Identification** (ex; Halifax # 1)
 - 3. **Problem** (ex; injured by collapse need assistance)
- B. Command will deploy the initial Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) and designate a second RIT.
- C. Command will inform the dispatcher(s) that you have a MAY DAY, the RIT has been deployed, and to keep radio traffic to a minimum.
- D. All other companies shall continue with their initial assignment unless ordered by Command to assist the RIT in the rescue.
- E. Command will assign one ambulance and crew to the distressed firefighter(s) and the RIT.
- F. Command will summon a second ambulance and crew to the scene.

9.04 RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Command will have the overall responsibility for all fireground operations.
- B. The Safety Officer will be responsible for keeping command informed on the progress of the rescue operation and additional needs.
- C. The Dispatcher(s) will be responsible to keep radio traffic to a minimum.
- D. The ambulance crew assigned to the distressed firefighter(s) and RIT will be responsible for the treatment/rehab. of those members.
- E. It is the responsibility of all the firefighters on the scene to work in a safe manner and to ensure the safe return of all members.