

TAMAQUA FIRE DEPARTMENT

OPERATING GUIDELINES

OPERATIONS #108.00

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DATE: 04/03/06

(I.C Day to Day Ops.)

BACKGROUND

The Tamaqua Fire Department as a whole, will at all incidents, establish an Incident Command system, this may be as simple as one officer assuming command at a non emergency incident or a full development of a command structure at a large scale multi-department incident . This will ensure all personnel on-scene will know who is in charge of the incident and minimize numerous problems that can occur. The command staff structure should be comprised of the Chiefs, Captains and Lieutenants if need be. It is a reality that not every incident will have a chief officer on scene. When this occurs, those officers on scene will need to determine what positions are filled by the designated officers on scene.

PROCEDURE

The first arriving chief officer or officer of the engine on an incident shall assume command and provide an initial scene size up. When assuming command of a single incident the title will be known as “**Tamaqua Command**” This will eliminate any confusion with unit numbers and when or if command is transferred through out the incident. In the event of a multiple incident, the title will be known as the street location of the incident. (Example: Broad Street Command) This will allow all responding units to have pre-arrival information and a possible assignment before arriving on scene. The officer assuming command must stay positioned to the front of the address, this will allow access to this person by his appointed assistants. Command may be transferred to higher ranking officers when they arrive on-scene only after they have been briefed on

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what has taken place and the current action plan. The exchange of command must be made known to all assistants on the fire ground. The incident commander may appoint as many or as few assistants as they feel are required at the incident. All communications to the I.C. must come from one of the assistants, which will minimize radio traffic at an incident. A fire involving a structure of any type should follow the recommended command titles/structure below.

Interior Operations- This position will monitor the interior operations of the incident. This person shall position themselves at a close proximity to the interior operation as possible, porch, 1st floor, etc.. This position may require the assistance from other department officers to relay information from upper floors or other interior locations.

- Note this position requires the use of an SCBA in most cases.
- This command position can designate officers/experienced personnel to commands of certain areas. If these positions are needed, they will report to Interior Operations.

Ventilation Operations- This position will monitor all ventilation operations both vertical and horizontal. Ventilation is a key part of the fire ground operations and must be coordinated with the interior officer and I.C. If an aerial device is required for ventilation the ventilation officer will oversee that apparatus.

- Note this position may require the use of an SCBA.
- This command position can designate officers/experienced personnel to commands of certain areas. If these positions are needed, they will report to Ventilation Operations.

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Exterior Operations- This position will monitor all exterior operations. This position may also require assistants to help monitor exterior operations. Along with the above functions the initial concern for this officer will be apparatus placement and equipment usage, and water supply.

- This command position can designate officers/experienced personnel to commands of certain areas. If these positions are needed, they will report to Exterior Operations.
- Special attention should be placed on the rear of the structure due to the row home layout in the borough, this officer if possible should be positioned to the rear of the incident.

Exposure Operations- This position will monitor all exposure concerns and operations. This position may require assistants to help monitor all exposure depending on the incident.

- This command position can designate officers/experienced personnel to commands of certain areas. If these positions are needed, they will report to Exposure Operations.

Safety of all personnel on the fire ground is everyone responsibility all officers shall pay close attention to all operation that they are supervising and cease any unsafe actions, the I.C. has the ultimate control over safety at the incident.

* Reference TFD command Chart*

