

TAMAQUA FIRE DEPARTMENT

OPERATING GUIDELINES

OPERATIONS #107.00

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DATE: 01/11/06

(R.I.T TEAM)

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**BACKGROUND**

The Tamaqua Fire Department as a whole will provides R.I.T team support to surrounding communities at there requested, at any time these specialized team is requested the following is a guideline to follow.

**PROCEDURE**

The Schuylkill county 911 center will dispatch the team using the “All Call” page for both voice and Alpha pagers. Any Available Fire Department Certified R.I.T. team members will respond to either the first or second out of town companies. These are the only apparatus to respond on R.I.T. calls. Those companies can decide what apparatus they are taken with one exception that only one pumper from each company will respond. A minimum of 8 persons are needed between the two companied before responding and no more that what can be safely carried on the apparatus responded. No Firefighters shall respond in a personal vehicle, unless cleared through R.I.T team leader.

The R.I.T team chain of command will follow the Department chain of command as long as the officer is R.I.T certified. Chief, Captain’s by seniority, Lieutenants by seniority. The following officer’s need to be filled at all R.I.T responses:

R.I.T Command- Liaison between I.C. and R.I.T team.

Safety/Accountability- Responsibilities include tracking of personnel and safety.

Rescue Officer- Oversee rescue and extraction operations of trapped firefighters.

Stating/ Logistics- Establish staging area and equipment cache, prepare equipment.

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- The Safety/ Accountability officer may be split into two people if the manpower is sufficient.

The remaining manpower at the staging area will be broken into four groups.

- Search Team – Search, Assessment, Disentanglement.
- Extrication Team- Removal of trapped Firefighter to safe location.
- Enlargement team- Identify escape routes, create opening for removal of victims.
- Support team- Function at direction of Rescue Leader, assist above teams.

When R.I.T is activated at a scene the R.I.T Commander will request through the Incident commander that a second R.I.T team is dispatched to the scene and that an ALS medic unit is dispatched and an Aero-medical helicopter is placed on stand-by.

Also when activated the fire ground radio frequency will be used as the R.I.T channel and Fire ground operations will move to a separate channel.

Recommended equipment to staging area:

PRIMARY

Portable radio for each person  
R.I.T PAK  
T.I.C  
Flashlight for each person  
(2) Sets of Irons  
Sledge hammer  
(2) Pike poles  
Wire Cutters  
Door Chocks  
Primary search rope 200'  
(4)Personal search rope 20-50'  
Stokes Basket

SECONDARY

Air Bag System  
Hydraulic Rescue system  
Additional lighting  
Additional rescue tools & Equip.  
Additional T.I.C.'s  
Saws and cutting tools  
Additional forcible entry tools  
Ground Ladders  
Additional rope & webbing  
Cribbing  
EMS Bag / AED  
Backboard

The accountability system and Incident command system will be used on all incidents as a R.I.T team and will be strictly followed, No exceptions!