

Policy Number: 2019-029

Effective Date: 05/01/2019

Last Review Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Waterloo Vol Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines

## COLD WATER/ICE RESCUE

### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this Standard Operating Guideline is to establish a guideline for conducting cold water/ice rescue.

### **SCOPE:**

This policy shall apply to all members of the Waterloo Vol. Fire Department.

#### A. Personnel Response:

When the department is dispatched to a possible cold water/ice rescue within our district, it will be a full department response. For mutual aid response, it shall be determined by the officer in charge as to how many people will be needed and what equipment will be sent.

#### B. Vehicle Response:

Rescue 1641 - with cold water/ice rescue equipment and other units necessary to responding personnel.

#### C. Incident Command:

The job function of the incident commander:

- Establish ICS - with unified command.
- Request a water rescue team.
- Conduct initial size-up.
- Contact reporting party/witnesses to determine exactly what happened and where person is or was last seen.
- Determine number of victims and locations.
- Develop action plan.

#### Ice Rescue Operations:

- Rescue will not be attempted until two people are suited up to go, two more people must then be in the process of suiting up.
- All rescuers will be tethered to shore.
- All equipment shall be assembled on a salvage cover for deployment.
- All people near the shoreline or near the water or on ice shall wear personal floatation devices.
- An ambulance will be dispatched to scene.

Policy Number: 2019-029  
Effective Date: 05/01/2019  
Last Review Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Waterloo Vol Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines

- Visual contact will be maintained at all times, if possible, with rescuers.