

Standard Operating Procedure	NO: 04-04-04
Scriba Volunteer Fire Department Scriba, NY	Date: 04/15/2017
Topic: Operations	Page 1 of 3
Title: ROPE RESCUE	Revision: 0 Date:

PURPOSE

This guide is to provide a basic path by which to preform rope rescue evolutions, while reducing risk exposure to personnel and bystanders on the scene.

SCOPE

This policy should be followed anytime it is deemed that rescue of a person cannot be accomplished by conventional means such as ground or truck mounted ladders, stairwells, catwalks, or alternate paths.

Guideline

Initial Dispatch and Arrival

First and foremost it is important to identify the need for rope rescue. Once it is determined that special skills or equipment is needed, the following should occur;

1. Activate the Oswego County Technical Rescue Team
 2. Request a second activation for manpower
 3. Consider activating a mutual aid company for coverage
 4. Request a standby ambulance for rescue personnel
 5. Consult (victims) ambulance crew about possible need for medevac
- The first arriving chief or officer should establish scene control and gain control/remove non- essential personnel and civilians a minimum of 500 feet from the incident.
 - Consider the use of 2775 as a command post. This unit will provide an easily located base for all incoming units to check in. Also found in this unit is sufficient material for note and record keeping. If located on a trail head, have all responders' stage near the unit and tag in as they head to the "hot zone".
 - Identify all parties involved and those in need of rescue
 - Establish an incident action plan and fill the necessary positions of the Command Structure
 - Incident commander
 - Technical Rescue Officer (Operations officer)
 - Staging/ manpower
 - It is important to know that a large response is likely, with multiple agencies responding. If manpower is available it is advised to have an aid in the command post to assist with radio communications and note taking.

Standard Operating Procedure	NO: 04-04-04
Scriba Volunteer Fire Department Scriba, NY	Date: 04/15/2017
Topic: Operations	Page 2 of 3
Title: ROPE RESCUE	Revision: 0 Date:

Rescue

- Only after enough equipment and trained, competent personnel have been assembled should a rescue be under taken.
- A clear action plan should be reviewed with all rescuers. This action plan should cover how patient access is made, patient packaging, victim/rescuer recovery, any possible safety concerns, as well as an emergency plan in the event the primary rescuer becomes distressed.
- Establish operational zones with designated leaders so progress can be tracked. These zones should include;
 - Mainline riggers/operators
 - Belay line riggers/operators
 - Edge man/edge watch
 - Haul team
 - Attendants/medic
- A rapidly deployed Medic should gain access to the victim to assess needs or rescue concerns. This medic should report back through the edge watch what supplies will be needed and victim condition.
- The weather should be constantly monitored for any change in condition that may affect the victim(s) or rescuers.

Equipment

- Only equipment owned and maintained by either Scriba FD or an agency associated with the County Rescue team should be used.
- All equipment shall hold a rating in accordance with NFPA 1983.
- No rescuer should attempt a rescue until they are confident all the needed equipment is in present and in place.

Standard Operating Procedure	NO: 04-04-04
Scriba Volunteer Fire Department Scriba, NY	Date: 04/15/2017
Topic: Operations	Page 3 of 3
Title: ROPE RESCUE	Revision: 0 Date:

Safety

- If at any time, a member on scene sees an unsafe or potentially unsafe condition or act, that member shall call an “ALL STOP” at which time everyone on the scene will stop there work and hold their position until the safety concern is addressed.
- All rigging and equipment shall be inspected by a competent person prior to loading the system. This person should not have had an active role in the setup of that system.
- All equipment used during the incident shall be inspected by trained personnel. Any suspect equipment or equipment subjected to unknown loads shall be removed from service.
- Ensure that if any sources of hazard are present (electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, engulfment) they are controlled through lock out/ tag out (LOTO)