



# FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

February 14, 2014

## INSTRUCTIONAL BULLETIN #14-07

**TO:** All Fire and Rescue Personnel

**FROM:** Kurtis R. Wilson, Division Chief/ Operations *KRW*

**RE:** **MAYDAY Response**

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The Squad initiative is centered on improving staffing, training, equipment, and response in the event one of our members becomes trapped, lost, or out of air at a structure fire or other similar event. Nationwide practice sets *Mayday* as the signal or term used for help when firefighters find themselves in a situation they cannot get out of. This Instructional Bulletin is to clarify the roles & responsibilities of the following when a Mayday has been given *and is not intended* to replace SOG 408 Rapid Intervention Team. An updated RIT SOG will be forthcoming.

- Fire Communications
- The Incident Safety Chief (ISO)
- The Incident Commander
- The company or units assigned to RIT

### Fire Communications

- If a Mayday is heard, immediately notify the IC to ascertain they heard it too.
- Give one Alert 3 tone and repeat the crew's identification and mayday information for the benefit of the on-scene assignment.
- Dispatch one extra alarm to the scene.
- Dispatch any remaining Squads to the call.
- Page all senior staff about the Mayday.



### **Incident Safety Chief (ISO)**

- Once the Mayday has been given, the Incident Safety Chief will assume command of the RIT response and go by *RIT group*.
- Size up your problem and request any additional units you think might be needed.

### **Incident Commander**

- Continue to manage the event.
- Assign another chief to the Incident Safety Officer position.
- One extra alarm is en route and be ready to assign once on scene.
- In the event firefighters are hurt or killed, you must isolate and protect any and all PPE items removed from the firefighters, either on scene or at the hospital and ensure a chain of custody is begun.
- If not on-scene, notify JSO, PIO, and State Fire Marshal.
- Follow SAP 301 and make the outside agency notifications as required.

### **Company or Units Assigned to RIT**

- Now assigned to the *RIT Group* led by a suppression chief officer.
- Initial RIT Team may consist of one unit but could grow to one alarm or more.
- The RIT Checklist should have already been completed.
- Utilize whatever you need to resolve the mayday event.
- As additional Squads arrive on scene, they are to be assigned to RIT.