

City of Belleville Fire Department

Number: 1006

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Belleville Fire Department that standard Mayday procedures be followed in the event that personnel are reported injured, lost, missing or trapped at an emergency scene.

Date S.O.G. Comes Into Effect: May 19, 1997

Date S.O.G. Revised: March 8, 2017

Date Committee Approved S.O.G. : March 19, 1997

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GUIDELINE

1:00 **Purpose:**

1:01 To establish search and rescue procedures for locating injured, lost, missing or trapped personnel when a Mayday is announced.

2:00 **Procedures:**

2:01 **Injured, Lost, Missing or Trapped Personnel**

- *Personnel should immediately initiate a “MAYDAY” when they are in need of assistance. The earlier that it is activated and acted upon the greater the chances of a successful outcome.*
- Personnel, who believe themselves to be in need of assistance, injured, lost, missing or trapped and having a portable radio, should immediately transmit a “Mayday-Mayday-Mayday” alert. Immediately following a Mayday alert, personnel shall activate the emergency button on their radio.

THIS GUIDELINE IS NOT EXPECTED TO SUBSTITUTE FOR GOOD JUDGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE UNDER UNUSUAL CONDITIONS.

- Re-announce the **MAYDAY – MAYDAY -MAYDAY** followed by:
 - L**: Location: as accurately as possible.
 - I**: Identification: ie. Name of person in trouble
 - P**: Problem: ie. Trapped, lost, low on air, etc.

- Personnel shall immediately activate their PASS Devices. The device should remain “On” until rescued.

- Personnel shall try to stay calm and conserve air if they are lost or trapped.

- Look for possible escape routes (i.e. windows, breached walls, doors, etc).

- Feel for possible weakness in walls or between studding for potential “**Break Through**” points.

- Flash lights should be placed in a position and location that will assist rescue teams in finding you.

- Initiate verbal and physical noise.

2:02 **Procedures for Incident Command**

- Initiate immediate rescue operations.

- Have EMS respond and stand-by.

- Initiate an evacuation if necessary.

- Assemble additional R.I.T.

- Request all unnecessary radio transmissions to cease.

2:03 **Locating Injured, Missing, Lost or Trapped Personnel**

- Knowledge of last known location.

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- Tracing attack hose lines into last known location areas.
- Listen for sounds of SCBA's, PASS Devices, shouting, breathing, distress actions, portable radio transmissions, etc...
- Visual signs of a flashlight and other firefighting equipment (i.e. axes, pike poles, etc...).

2:04 When the rescue or self-rescue of the injured, lost, missing or trapped personnel is completed, the Officer in Charge will be notified and `all personnel shall be advised that the "Mayday" is cancelled.

3:00 **Scope:**

3:01 It shall be the responsibility of the Captain/ Officer in charge of each shift to ensure that this guideline is explained and followed.

3:02 It shall be the responsibility of **all employees** to understand and adhere to this guideline.

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