

City of Belleville Fire Department

Number: 1018

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Belleville Fire Department that ice water, surface water, swift water and boat assisted rescue services be provided with an ascending scale of risk applicable to life safety circumstances and training.

Date S.O.G. Comes Into Effect: June 12, 2004

Date S.O.G. Revised: March 14, 2017

Date Committee Approved S.O.G. : April 13, 2004

Page 1 of 2

GUIDELINE

1:00 Purpose:

1:01 To provide a safe and effective method during victim rescues and training evolutions at ice water, surface water, swift water and boat assisted instances.

2:00 Procedures:

2:01 When an emergency call is taken the RTO will acquire information regarding the type and location of the emergency and dispatch the appropriate Stations/apparatus.

2:02 Depending on the type of emergency (Level I land based, Level II boat based, Level III go entry), ensure that all appropriate equipment required for the emergency situation is assembled and ready to respond. (ie. Gear that is drying is replaced on the trucks, rope bags repacked, etc...)

2:03 First arriving emergency apparatus assumes command, assesses the situation and confirms with dispatch that the appropriate agencies have been notified. If there is visual or verbal contact with the victim, maintain this contact at all times.

2:04 Qualified go-entry personnel shall don the appropriate water/ice PPE and all other personnel shall don the shore based PPE before proceeding to the emergency location.

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

- 2:04 On scene qualified go-entry personnel shall attempt to make contact with the victim and encourage self-rescue if possible. If not possible, then through the progression of risk, the rescuer shall proceed to the talk-reach-throw-row-go type rescue.
- 2:05 Personnel who have met all the training criteria requirements for go-entry will be permitted in the boat, water or on the ice. Personnel who have met the 100m swim and training criteria shall be permitted to be a boat operator. All other personnel shall be shore based support only.
- 2:06 Rescuers will perform rescue using training methods and equipment provided. (i.e. Ice Commander suits, Wet Suits, PFD, helmets, gloves, boots, marsars sling, Fortuna boat, power boat and Stokes rescue basket.)
- 2:07 There shall be annual training (theory and practical) in ice water, surface water, swift water and boat operations to all Professional Fire Fighters of the Belleville Fire Department.
- 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.

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