

# City of Belleville Fire Department

Number: 1023

**POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Belleville Fire Department to ensure that all personnel are aware of the dangers involved in fighting fires in buildings constructed of "Lightweight Building Construction Materials".

**Date S.O.G. Comes Into Effect:** December 19, 2004

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

**Date Committee Approved S.O.G.:** October 19, 2004

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## GUIDELINE

1:00 **Purpose:**

1:01 To Promote Safety and Knowledge for all personnel in regards to Lightweight Building Construction.

2:00 **Procedures:**

2:01 There are special hazards associated with buildings made of lightweight construction. Firefighters should use extreme caution when operating on or under an unprotected lightweight truss roof or floor and firefighters should evacuate as soon as it is determined that the unprotected trusses have been exposed to fire. Firefighter safety and the likely hood of an early unpredictable collapse should be stressed.

2:02 The Incident Commander while conducting an initial size-up should try to determine the type of construction and if unable to determine the type of construction then assume that unprotected lightweight construction is present.

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

- 2:03 Consider employing defensive fire attack strategies where no threat to human life exists within a building that contains unprotected lightweight construction.
- 2:04 Use the thermal imaging camera to help locate fires burning below or within floor systems.
- 2:05 Regularly practice the emergency procedures for evacuating a building in danger of collapse.
  
- 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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