

City of Belleville Fire Department

Number: 1028

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Belleville Fire Department to utilize Thermal Imaging Cameras in every structure fire and any other situations as identified where it will enhance the safety of fire department personnel.

Date S.O.G. Comes Into Effect: November 28, 2005

Date S.O.G. Revised: March 23, 2017

Date Committee Approved S.O.G. : September 28, 2005

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GUIDELINE

1:00 **Purpose:**

1:01 To establish the most effective method for deploying the Thermal Imaging Cameras in a way that provides the most protection for all personnel.

2:00 **Procedures:**

2:01 Thermal Imaging Cameras will be located in the rear seat area of the first responding unit from each station. These Thermal Imaging Cameras can be used in any situation where a lack of visibility is a problem or the detection of heat is useful in resolving the incident. The Thermal Imaging Cameras are an addition to all of the tools and procedures used by the Belleville Fire Department and should not replace standard common practices used in any emergency.

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

- 2:02 It is the responsibility of the Fire Fighter in the rear seat closest to the Thermal Imaging Camera to remove and carry it into all reported structure fires or automatic alarms regardless of the initial report.
- 2:03 The Thermal Imaging Cameras may also be utilized at other situations such as the following:
- Structural searches
 - Non-Structural searches
 - Overhaul
 - Detection of abnormal conditions
 - Post fire inspections
 - Assistance to other agencies (i.e.: Fire Departments, Police, Ambulance, etc)
 - Rapid Intervention Teams
 - Water Rescues
- 2:04 At the start of each shift, the Fire Fighter in the rear seat closest to the Thermal Imaging Camera shall power up the unit to check the operation, battery strength and cleanliness.
- 2:05 After each use the Thermal Imaging Cameras shall be cleaned with a damp cloth and mild detergent. The Cameras shall be inspected for damage and the batteries shall be rotated and powered up to ensure the unit is working properly.
- 2:06 If any operational problems are detected with the Thermal Imaging Cameras they should be tagged, removed from service and reported to the Officer in Charge.
- 2:07 Consult the Thermal Camera Operating Instructions manual for other additional information or questions.
- 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.
- 3:02 It shall be the responsibility of **all employees** to understand and adhere to this guideline.

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