

# City of Belleville Fire Department

Number: 1031

**POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Belleville Fire Department to implement safe and effective ventilation procedures for Firefighter protection, improved visibility, reduced damage and fire suppression efforts.

**Date S.O.G. Comes Into Effect:** July 3, 2006

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

**Date Committee Approved S.O.G. :** May 3, 2006

Page 1 of 2

---

## GUIDELINE

1:00 **Purpose:**

1:01 To establish standard guidelines for effective positive pressure ventilation and roof ventilation during structural firefighting operations.

2:00 **Procedures:**

2:01 **Roof Ventilation:**

- If there is to be any roof operations command should assign a Roof Sector Officer during offensive fire incidents.
- Establish safe access to the roof and a secondary means of escape.
- Obtain a hose line and other equipment (ie. Ladder, saws, etc...)
- All personnel shall be in full personal protective equipment.
- Personnel reaching the roof shall evaluate conditions to assure it is structurally safe. The conditions must be continually re-evaluated as fire conditions progress.
- Observe wind direction and work upwind (if possible).
- Cut and open an adequate sized ventilation hole directly over the fire.
- Roof Sector Officer shall advise Incident Command that the ventilation hole(s) are completed and update on any other roof conditions.

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

2:02 **Positive Pressure Ventilation:**

- Early application of Positive Pressure Ventilation should be used at all offensive fire operations.
- Personnel should dismount apparatus planning to take Positive Pressure fans to the fire scene.
- If possible, set up the Positive Pressure fan on the windward side.
- Fans should be positioned back from the entry point with the objective to create a pressure “cone” effect around the opening and to allow access for personnel.
- Air flow from Positive Pressure Ventilation must be controlled throughout the operation. Too many openings reduce the effectiveness of Positive Pressure Ventilation. In some cases, windows and doors that are already open may need to be closed to direct the air flow into the fire area or the most densely affected area.
- Large buildings may require multiple fans and at more than one opening. These situations are more complex and require co-ordination with all Sector Officers. Incident Command should consider a Ventilation Sector at these types of incidents.

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.