

City of Belleville Fire Department

Number: 1036

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Belleville Fire Department that prudent practice be exercised in the proper use of Fire Streams and Coordinated Ventilation to improve safety and effectiveness on the fire ground.

Date S.O.G. Comes Into Effect: August 16, 2009

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

Date Committee Approved S.O.G.: June 16, 2009

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GUIDELINE

1:00 **Purpose:**

1:01 To reduce the risk of injury to all personnel through the proper use of Fire Streams and Coordinated Ventilation.

2:00 **Procedures:**

2:01 All personnel shall receive training on the use and application of Fire Streams and the need for coordinating Ventilation of fires with the interior fire attack.

2:02 Training programs for all personnel should include components on critical flow rates, nozzle pressures, reaction forces, possible dangers of using fog streams during interior attacks and the importance of coordinated ventilation.

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

- 2:03 A direct attack fire stream should be used in all interior firefighting situations. This method of applying water to the base of the burning material causes little disruption of the heated combustion products. By reducing the heat production at the base of the fire, the upward movement of more heat, smoke and gases is slowed or stopped. Too much water will create excessive steam and hinder the attack.
- 2:04 If the overhead needs to be cooled for entry into the building, quick bursts of water (penciling) from a straight stream can be directed at the ceiling which will reduce temperatures without creating dangerous amounts of steam or upsetting the thermal balance.
- 2:05 A straight stream directed at the combustibles allows a greater distance between the fire and the nozzle person thus reducing the danger.
- 2:06 Flashover is always a possibility therefore it is important to recognize this danger and prevent it. A straight stream of quick bursts of water (penciling) directed at the ceiling will provide more safety to personnel by reducing temperatures.
- 2:07 The early application of ventilation will be effective in removing the heat, smoke and gasses from the interior of a structure. The coordination of ventilation with the interior attack crew is very important in ensuring personnel safety.
- 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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