

# City of Belleville Fire Department

Number: 3013

**POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Belleville Fire Department to establish a cleaning, inspection and record keeping system for all life safety ropes.

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

**Date S.O.G. Revised:** May 2, 2017

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

Page 1 of 2

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## GUIDELINE

1:00 **Purpose:**

1:01 To provide all personnel with guidelines for the care, maintenance, inspection, retirement and replacement of all life safety ropes in accordance with NFPA 1983-2001 (Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components).

2:00 **Procedures:**

2:01 **Care and Maintenance**

**Care**

- Protect rope from sharp corners or abrasive edges
- Use of pulleys for any redirects
- Use caution to protect rope from chemicals, grease, oils, solvents or any other material which may degrade or impair the rope (ie. Do not store ropes in vehicle compartments that contain gasoline cans or gasoline appliances.)
- Do not stand on the rope
- Do not allow rope to become compressed between any objects

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

### **Maintenance**

- All ropes shall be washed and cleaned to remove dirt, debris or foreign objects
- Use warm water and mild soap for washing rope
- After washing, rope shall be rinsed in warm water
- Washed and rinsed rope shall be hung to completely dry

### 2:02 **Inspection**

- Before and after any evolution
- All ropes shall show no sign of fraying, splicing, cuts, tears, rips, elongation, kinks, distortion, chemical contamination or twisting in order to pass inspection
- Annually, all ropes shall be inspected by qualified personnel following the manufactures inspection procedures with the date and results recorded.

### 2:03 **Retirement and Replacement**

#### **Retirement**

- Any rope not passing an inspection shall be removed from service and destroyed immediately (NFPA 1983-2001, Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components, A.3.1.2)
- Any rope subjected to an excessive stress or shock load shall be removed from service and destroyed immediately (NFPA 1983-2001, Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components, A.3.1.2)
- Any rope due to age (according to manufactures specifications) shall be removed from service and destroyed immediately (NFPA 1983-2001, Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components, A.3.1.2)

#### **Replacement**

- All ropes removed from service and destroyed shall be replaced with equal and comparable ropes that have been properly tested and certified for life safety purposes by a qualified agency as soon as possible

### 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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