

PURPOSE

To outline a procedure that ensures the risks faced by District personnel are minimized through sound risk management and safety practices.

PROCEDURE

1. Upon initiation of Command, the IC shall integrate risk management when formulating a size-up and when developing strategy and tactics for the incident.
2. The risk to District members is the most important factor considered by the IC in determining the strategies and tactics that will be employed in each situation.
3. The management of risk levels involves all of the following factors:
 - A. Routine evaluation of risk in all situations.
 - B. Well-defined strategic options.
 - C. Sound tactical decisions.
 - D. Standard operating guidelines.
 - E. An in place accountability system
 - F. Full PPE and equipment.
 - G. Effective incident management and communications.
 - H. Safety procedures and safety officers.
 - I. Dedicated teams for 2 in 2 out or rapid intervention.
 - J. Adequate resources.
 - K. Rest and rehabilitation.
 - L. Regular evaluation of changing conditions.
 - M. Experience based on previous incidents and critiques.
4. The acceptable level of risk is directly related to the potential to save lives or property. Where there is no potential to save lives, the risk to District members must be evaluated in proportion to the ability to save property of value.
5. When there is no ability to save lives or property, there is not justification to expose District members to any avoidable risk, and defensive fire suppression operations are the appropriate strategy.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Risk/Benefit Value Statement:
 - ❑ No building or property is worth the life a firefighter
 - ❑ All interior firefighting involves an inherent risk
 - ❑ Some risk is acceptable, in a measured and controlled manner
 - ❑ No level of risk is acceptable where there is no potential to save lives or savable property
 - ❑ Firefighters shall not be committed to interior offensive fire fighting operations in abandon or derelict buildings.