**PIERCE COUNTY**

**TACTICAL OPERATIONS MANUAL**

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE**

**Ric, stand-by firefighter rescue**

**PURPOSE**

This procedure will define the response, tasks and organization of Rapid Intervention Crews (RIC) and initial Stand-by firefighters per WAC 296-305-5001.

**OBJECTIVE**

The objective of RIT is to have a fully equipped rescue team onsite, in a ready state, to immediately react and respond to rescue firefighters.

RIC will be established anytime firefighters are on air inside an IDLH atmosphere, or whenever command deems it necessary. On-Deck crews will have the initial function of RIC until assigned to a different task. At no time will firefighters enter an IDLH without meeting the requirements of WAC 296-305-5001.

**An On-Deck crew being used in the early stages of an incident to meet the requirements in WAC 296-305-5001(10a) must be identified as such and replaced should that On-Deck crew receive another assignment within the hazard area.**

**Stand-by Firefighter(s)**

Temporary two-person RIC assigned at the outset of an incident to allow teams to enter an IDLH, or potential IDLH atmosphere.

One primary Stand-by member must be solely dedicated to tracking interior personnel. Their function is to account for location of interior crews and initiate a fire fighter rescue. This position requires at a minimum an attack line, radio, PPE, and SCBA donned in a standby position.

The secondary Stand-by member is permitted to take on other roles, such as, safety officer, or equipment operator. This position requires a radio, full PPE and SCBA donned in a standby position.

1. Standard Exceptions to the RIC Requirement at Structure Fires

1. When there is a reported or suspected life hazard where immediate action could prevent the loss of life.
2. When the fire is in an incipient stage that could be controlled by a portable fire extinguisher.

**STAND-BY/ON-DECK RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Monitor tactical radio channel
2. Consider critical fire ground factors
3. Consider air management (elapsed time)
4. Monitor the location of interior crews
5. Establish tool cache (RIT Bag, TIC, Irons)
6. Consider alternative exit points

**RIC RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Monitor tactical radio channel
2. Establish tool cache (RIT Bag, TIC, Irons)
3. Recon the hot zone (apparatus placement, points of entry, alternate doors and windows)
4. Provide additional means of egress for roof operations or companies operating above the ground floor
5. Remove security bars/devices
6. Coordinate the opening of doors and windows
7. Illuminate entrance and exits
8. Confirm utilities are secure
9. Develop and discuss a search plan
10. Develop and discuss a rescue plan
11. Notify Command (C.A.N. report) when ready to deploy