

# SPRINGFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Series 100

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) Job Description</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>Category:</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>7/2017</b>

### GENERAL PURPOSE

1. A constant means of communication using voice, visual, or physical contact such as a tethered line shall be maintained at all times between members of the interior team. Interior personnel shall also maintain radio or other form of communication with IC, R.I.T., or other exterior officers as assigned.
2. The Rapid Intervention Team (R.I.T.) shall not perform any other assignments once interior entry has been made. The sole purpose of the R.I.T. is to constantly assess the situation, monitor communications, assemble rescue equipment, and remain properly outfitted and ready to respond should rescue of the interior crew become necessary. R.I.T. personnel must also continually size-up the situation noting fire progress, building conditions, entrances, available exits, and any other known hazards.
3. If sufficient personnel are not present to initiate an interior attack, fire personnel may initiate exterior operations such as, but not limited to: obtaining a water supply, exposure protection, laying attack lines to the structure entrance, preparation for ventilation, ladder placement, shutting down utilities, etc.
4. The fire officer or senior firefighter shall assume command. Upon his/her discretion, a call may be made for the response of additional personnel, and then designate the R.I.T. assignment to a responding company as it fits within the IC's priority of needs. As interior operations expand, the size of the R.I.T. may expand as requested and ordered by the incident commander.
5. In the extreme event that an imminent, life-threatening situation exists prior to the assembling of sufficient personnel, and where immediate interior operations may prevent the loss of life or serious injury, the IC has the authority to take action as deemed necessary.
6. However, before such action is taken, the IC must carefully evaluate the level of risk and the consequences of such action. If the situation warrants such action, the officer shall notify mutual aid of his/her intentions so that as other departments arrive, support can be provided as quickly as possible.
7. It is of the utmost importance that the first arriving unit gives a clear and accurate "size-up" of the situation. If a working fire has been identified through size-up. This IC should consider requesting for calling additional resources.

## **BUILDING COLLAPSE - PERSONNEL LOST**

Our emergency evacuation guideline will be adhered to and the evacuation signal activated to announce a structure collapse in which firefighters may have been trapped or unaccounted for. All radio traffic will be held except for transmissions by the IC and or safety officer. Upon the activation of the evacuation signal, all personnel are to report directly to staging for accountability purposes. Roll call will be initiated. The R.I.T. will ready themselves for immediate assignment. In many cases, an offensive attack may be continued as a high priority for the protection of lost or trapped firefighters from the effects of the fire.

## **TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT**

While standing by, the R.I.T. should anticipate possible rescue situations and assemble necessary equipment, such as, but not limited to: