

# **NORTHERN YORK COUNTY FIRE RESCUE STATION 15 – FIRE POLICE STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES (SOG)**

## **PURPOSE OF THE FIRE POLICE**

The purpose of the Fire Police is to support emergency operations by ensuring scene safety, maintaining traffic control, protecting emergency personnel, and safeguarding the public. Fire Police assist incident commanders by controlling traffic flow, securing emergency scenes, and maintaining safe access routes for responding apparatus and emergency personnel.

## **ARTICLE I – ORGANIZATION AND COMMAND**

### **1.1 Purpose**

Establishes the organizational structure and operational authority of Fire Police personnel.

### **1.2 Authority**

Fire Police operate under the authority of the Incident Commander, Fire Chief or designated officer, and local law enforcement when present.

### **1.3 Chain of Command**

Incident Commander

Fire Police Captain or Supervisor

Senior Fire Police Officer

Assigned Fire Police Personnel

### **1.4 Duties**

Establish traffic control zones, maintain emergency access routes, protect responders and the public, prevent unauthorized entry to hazards, and assist law enforcement when requested.

## **ARTICLE II – TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

### **2.1 Minimum Training**

#### **2.1.1 Basic Fire Police Certification**

Members shall complete the Pennsylvania Basic Fire Police Training Program.

#### **2.1.2 Advanced Fire Police Certification**

Members shall complete the Pennsylvania Advanced Fire Police Training Program.

#### 2.1.3 Traffic Incident Management System (TIMS)

Members shall complete Traffic Incident Management System training or equivalent roadway incident safety course approved by the department.

#### 2.1.4 Hazardous Materials Awareness / Refresher

Members shall complete HazMat Awareness training and periodic refresher training.

#### 2.1.5 CPR Certification

Members shall maintain current CPR certification.

#### 2.1.6 First Aid Certification

Members shall maintain certification in Basic First Aid.

#### 2.1.7 Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Members shall complete AED training and maintain certification.

#### 2.1.8 Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC)

Members operating company-owned vehicles or POVs equipped with emergency red lights shall successfully complete an Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC).

## **ARTICLE III – RESPONSE PROCEDURES**

### 3.1 Dispatch

Fire Police may respond to fires, motor vehicle accidents, hazardous materials incidents, roadway hazards, disasters, and public events.

### 3.2 Initial Actions

Report to the Incident Commander, receive assignment location, establish traffic control as directed, and ensure safe apparatus access routes.

## **ARTICLE IV – EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

### 4.1 Personal Protective Equipment

ANSI compliant high-visibility reflective vest, identifying helmet, reflective gloves when directing traffic, and weather-appropriate clothing.

### 4.2 Traffic Control Equipment

STOP/SLOW paddle, high-intensity flashlight with traffic wand, portable radio, optional whistle, and a minimum of five traffic cones.

## **ARTICLE V – TRAFFIC CONTROL OPERATIONS**

### 5.1 Objectives

Protect emergency responders and the public, maintain emergency access routes, and reduce the risk of secondary collisions.

### 5.2 Traffic Control Methods

Traffic may be stopped, slowed, detoured, or routed through controlled lanes using approved hand signals and traffic control devices.

## **ARTICLE VI – COMMUNICATIONS**

### 6.1 Radio Use

Fire Police shall maintain radio communications with command or dispatch.

### 6.2 Status Reports

Personnel shall notify command of road closures, hazards, civilian issues, and unsafe conditions.

## **ARTICLE VII – TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE PLACEMENT**

### 7.1 Traffic Control Zones

Advance warning area, transition area, activity area, and termination area.

### 7.2 Cone Placement

Spacing shall be appropriate for roadway speed and conditions.

### 7.3 Night Operations

Additional lighting and reflective devices shall be used and personnel shall wear high-visibility garments.

## **ARTICLE VIII – FIRE POLICE SAFETY AND ESCAPE ZONES**

### 8.1 Situational Awareness

Personnel shall monitor traffic hazards, apparatus movement, weather, and scene hazards.

### 8.2 Escape Routes

Fire Police shall always identify a safe escape path.

### 8.3 Safe Positioning

Personnel shall not stand between vehicles, in blind curves, or in unprotected traffic lanes.

## **ARTICLE IX – AUTHORITY AND LEGAL POWERS**

### 9.1 Legal Authority

Authority derived from Pennsylvania Title 35 Chapter 74.

### 9.2 Scope of Authority

Fire Police may operate at fires, accidents, disasters, and public events authorized by municipalities.

### 9.3 Law Enforcement Oversight

Fire Police operate under direction of local or state police when present.

## **ARTICLE X – CONDUCT, ACCOUNTABILITY AND DOCUMENTATION**

### 10.1 Professional Conduct

Fire Police personnel shall conduct themselves in a professional manner.

### 10.2 Incident Documentation

Supervisors may document road closures, traffic incidents, public complaints, and safety concerns.

### 10.3 Accountability

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in disciplinary action in accordance with department policy.