

Central Joint Fire District

Standard Operating Procedure



Central Joint Fire District

SUBJECT: Training Safety

SOP Number: 220
Effective Date: 4/7/92
Revised Date:
Approved:

PURPOSE: It is the intent of this fire department to provide the highest level of training and education to all personnel while maintaining the highest degree of safety during training activities. This procedure provides the basic guidelines that must be followed to prevent injuries during training evolutions.

SCOPE: This procedure applies to all personnel conducting or involved in any official training provided by the fire department either on fire department property or any other designated site used for training.

ENFORCEMENT: The Training Officer, Fire Chief, and/or Safety Officer have the authority for enforcement of this policy. In addition, any officer or firefighter conducting or participating in any fire department training activity has the responsibility to adhere to this procedure. Authority to deviate from the procedure rests solely with the Training Officer who bears full responsibility for the results of any deviation.

APPLICATION:

220.1 General Training Safety Precautions

- 1) All departmental safety rules and regulations shall be followed during training exercises.
- 2) Proper personal protective equipment is required for all participants in any training exercise.
- 3) There shall be a sufficient number of qualified instructors or other supervisory personnel available to supervise training sessions. This number will vary on the nature of the training and the hazards involved.
- 4) All training must conform to the standards set by the Training Officer. Training subjects or techniques outside of those approved by the Training Officer are prohibited.
- 5) Personnel are not permitted to use any equipment or devices that were not purchased or issued by the department unless they have been inspected and approved by the Training Officer.
- 6) Complex or hazardous training sessions shall be carried out under the supervision of a Lead instructor and a Safety Officer, both of which shall be specifically appointed by the Fire Chief or Training Officer.

220.2 Lead Instructor's Responsibilities

- 1) The Lead Instructor shall be responsible for the overall safety of the training session. His/her specific responsibilities include:
 - a) Overall coordination of activities.
 - b) Assignment of other instructors to specific tasks.
 - c) Directing the placement of all apparatus and vehicles used or staged near the training ground.
 - d) Establishment of the Incident command structure on the training ground. This command structure shall resemble as close as possible the actual Incident Command structure that would be normally instituted for the incident for which the training would be conducted.
 - e) Establishment of an effective communication system on the training ground.

220.3 Safety Officers Responsibilities

- 1) The Safety Officer shall monitor all operations from a safety standpoint to assure compliance with basic safety rules and practices. He/she shall also be responsible for the following tasks:
 - a) Inspecting the training ground before the start of the session to mark or remove any hazard.
 - b) Check all personnel entering the training area to assure that all personal protective equipment is properly donned and in use.
 - c) Supervise all back-up and safety crews.
 - d) Watch for unanticipated hazards during the exercise and take any action necessary to eliminate the hazards or remove personnel from the hazard area.
 - e) On matters of safety, the decisions of the Safety Officer are final and override the authority of EVERYONE on the training ground including the Lead Instructor.

220.4 Special Hazards

- 1) The use of discarded household and industrial items and materials may provide realistic training at an economical price, but the dangers may outweigh the benefits. Any material used in training exercises must be carefully evaluated for potential health and safety hazards before they are used. The following items shall be prohibited:
 - a) Flammable liquids with flash points at or below 80 F
 - b) Unidentified solid, liquid or gaseous wastes not accompanied by a properly completed Material Safety Data Sheet.
 - c) Furniture or appliances with sharp edges, or large pieces of glass.
 - d) Closed or pressurized containers.
 - e) Any materials that contain or may possibly be contaminated with any type or amount of pesticides, fungicides or herbicides.
 - f) Any explosives, fireworks or ammunition.
 - g) Any other material, device or equipment that has a known or suspected health or safety hazard that could cause injury or illness when used during a training exercise.

220.5 Live Fire Training

1. In addition to the above precautions the following general precautions are required for all exercises involving a live fire and/or any exercise in which smoke is produced by burning a substance.
 - a) All operations shall conform to SOP 221
 - b) The burning or use of the following materials is prohibited during any type of live burn exercise:
 - Rubber tires
 - Unidentified substances
 - Closed containers of any type
 - Flammable liquids with flash points at or below 80 F.
 - c) Prior to any live burn or smoke drill in any structure, including department facilities, the instructor(s) and/or Safety Officer shall make a survey of the structure to assure that it is structurally sound and safe for training and that all part so the training conform to NFPA 1403. Any obvious personnel hazards shall be corrected. A Fire Department live Fire Safety survey shall be prepared and approved by the Training Officer prior to the start of the exercise.
 - d) All safety hazards and precautions shall be fully discussed with all personnel prior to the start of the exercise.