



PURPOSE

This policy states the Risk Management Plan for Russellville Fire Department.

All personnel shall follow this policy with respect to their individual assignments on any emergency scene.

POLICY

Managing risk must provide for three fundamental steps:

1. Identification of risk
2. Evaluation of the probability and the potential magnitude of losses related to those risks
3. Establishment of appropriate control measures

Risk Management can be addressed in by using the following process:

1. Identifying risk exposure
2. Evaluating risk potential
3. Ranking and prioritizing risks (High risk/low frequency)
4. Determining and implementing control actions
5. Evaluating and revising actions and techniques

The most important and difficult concept in the operational risk management process is the actual determination of the types and levels of risk that are present in each situation and the degree of risk that is acceptable for the personnel who are operating at the incident. There is always some degree of risk involved in conducting emergency operations. The Incident Commander must determine the limits of risk that are acceptable for each situation and direct operations to ensure that those limits are not exceeded. There are three simple guidelines that define acceptable levels of risk:

1. Activities that present a significant risk to the safety of members shall be limited to situations in which there is a potential to save endangered lives.
2. Activities routinely employed to protect property shall be recognized as inherent risks to the safety of members, and actions shall be taken to reduce or avoid those risks.
3. No risk to the safety of members shall be acceptable when there is no possibility to save lives or property.

All interior firefighting involves an inherent risk. Some risk is acceptable, in a measured and controlled measure. Firefighters shall not be committed to interior offensive firefighting operations in abandoned or derelict buildings.

Approved

Fire Chief

1 of 1