



PURPOSE

Russellville Fire Department regards safety of personnel as a high priority and shall provide a Rapid Intervention Crew/Company (RIC) for the protection of firefighters in hazardous areas.

This policy outlines the procedure for establishing a RIC.

Command shall provide a RIC for personnel operating in hazardous areas.

POLICY

A Rapid Intervention Crew/Company (RIC) should be designated to standby in a state of readiness should the need arise to initiate a rescue effort for downed or missing firefighters. A RIC is comprised of a minimum of two firefighters that are attired and equipped to perform the actions necessary to affect the rescue of other emergency workers.

The RIC should maintain awareness of where resources are committed on the incident. When the RIC is an assigned Company, the integrity of the Company should be maintained. The RIC should not be assigned to other duties that would in any way delay or impede its rescue effort.

Note: More than 1 RIC may be required for large-scale or complex operations. In these situations, the RIC terminology may be modified to "Rapid Intervention Group".

In the initial stages of an incident where only one crew is operating in the hazardous area at a working structure fire, a minimum of four individuals are required on-scene, consisting of two individuals working as a crew in the hazard area when entry into the area is required and two individuals present outside this hazard area available for assistance or rescue at emergency operations. The standby members shall be responsible for maintaining a constant awareness of the number and identity of members operating in the hazardous area, their location and functions, and time of entry. The standby members shall remain in radio, visual, or voice communications with the crew.

Once a second crew is assigned or operating in the hazardous area, the incident shall no longer be considered in the initial stage.

At least one Rapid Intervention Crew/Company shall comply with the following requirements:

1. On-scene members designated and dedicated as Rapid Intervention Crew/Company. Company integrity should be maintained.
2. On-scene members performing other functions but ready to redeploy to perform RIC functions. The RIC shall not be assigned to any task that if abandoning that task would jeopardize the safety and health of members operating at the incident.

Approved

Fire Chief



RUSSELLVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
POLICY MANUAL

Policy Number:
Section:
Original Date:
Revised Date:

If an incident expands in size or complexity, which includes an Incident Commander's request for additional resources beyond the fire department initial attack assignment, a dedicated Rapid Intervention Crew/Company shall be established and dedicated.

Rapid Intervention Crew/Company

Staging - The RIC shall stage themselves at stationary location, preferably on side A of the structure, and await assignment. They shall notify Command as soon as they are staged with equipment.

Equipment - The RIC will ensure all tools necessary for rescue are obtained prior to deployment. This may include but is not limited to:

1. Full structural protective clothing
2. Rapid intervention air supply (60 minute capacity)
3. Charged backup attack line
4. Hand lights
5. Thermal imager
6. Pick head axe and forcible entry tools etc.

Radio Communications - The RIC shall assist Command in monitoring radio traffic in the event of **Mayday**. Communications between Command, the RIC, and the missing firefighter(s) will remain on the radio channel from which the **Mayday** was received. Command will also establish a backup RIC as soon as personnel are available.

Once the rescue is complete command will give the **ALL CLEAR** for normal communications to resume.

Approved

Fire Chief

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