

C-75 Overhauling At Fire Scene

Emergency Manual

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Policy/Procedure

- **1.** Overhaul operations are those operations taken to completely extinguish a fire, to place the structure in a safe condition, and to aid in determining the cause of the fire. Overhaul may only require a few personnel for a short period of time or large numbers of personnel over an extended period of time and the utilization of relief crews. Heavy equipment may be required.
- **2.** It is important that extensive overhaul not commence prior to an investigation to determine the cause of the fire. It is a balance of trying to preserve any potential evidence in regard to fatalities and/or arson while keeping the fire from extending and/or starting back up. Once the investigation is complete, overhaul should continue to ensure that the premises are left as safe as possible and that all fires are extinguished.
 - 1. Overhaul shall be performed in appropriate PPE.
 - 2. Fire personnel shall begin overhaul only after approval from the Fire Investigator or Command.
 - 3. Fire personnel shall remove all partially burned materials that may rekindle.
 - 4. Fire personnel shall check all concealed spaces for extension. In addition, thermal imaging cameras shall be utilized, though not solely relied upon.
 - 5. Fire personnel shall preserve all evidence found after overhaul has begun and bring new discoveries or suspicions regarding the fire's origin to the attention of Command or Fire Investigator.
 - 6. Fire personnel shall secure the building as effectively as possible. Doors, windows, and roofs that were opened shall be secured or covered as needed and if possible.

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7. Fire personnel only shall enter the fire building during overhaul.

NOTE: 'Special Duty' When a Fire Officer, allows an occupant to re enter and occupy the home or place of business, they have assumed a "special duty" for them. The owner or occupant has legal reason to believe they are safe due to the Fire Officer's position as an "expert". The Fire Officer assumes a measure of liability for their safety.

See Also:

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