



GALENA FIRE DEPARTMENT
Standard Operating Guideline

RESPONSE AND EMERGENCY SCENE SAFETY

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Purpose: To reduce the threat of possible injury or death to any GFD member while responding to an alarm, and while operating on the scene of an emergency. This focuses on a philosophy that freelancing is prohibited and that no property is worth the life of a firefighter.

Personal Safety

The following safety procedures will be followed at any emergency incident or training exercise as deemed necessary by Incident Command.

- A Safety Officer will be assigned by the Incident Commander at all structure fires and at all major incidents.
- All personnel will wear full PPE including helmet, boots, bunker coat, bunker pants, gloves, protective hood, SCBA and mask.
- SCBA will be used by all firefighters who are exposed to respiratory hazards or who may be exposed to such hazards without warning. The hazard shall include car fires, dumpster fires, interior and exterior structure fires, overhaul, propane or natural gas leaks inside a structure and any hazardous atmosphere, or as determined by the Incident Commander or other GFD Officer.
- All firefighters will ride within the emergency vehicles. No Firefighter shall be allowed to ride on the exterior of any emergency vehicles. No firefighter will mount or dismount from any moving emergency vehicle.
- Any members responding in a personal vehicle or driving any emergency vehicle will obey all traffic laws.
- All emergency personnel should constantly be aware of their surroundings when arriving at an emergency incident in the interest of absolute scene safety.
- No non-GFD members shall be allowed on the fire ground without permission of the Incident Commander.
- Crew, Division, Group, and Branch and Incident Command Officers will account for all firefighters assigned to him/her.
- If one firefighter or officer of an assigned attack team must leave a structure fire for any reason, all other firefighters and officers of the attack team shall leave with that individual.
- Any orders to immediately withdraw due to safety may be issued by any GFD member, superseding all other orders, with total unquestioned compliance by all GFD members on the fire ground. The evacuation signal from a burning structure will be three (3) long blasts of the air horn accompanied by radio orders from the Incident Commander.