

VEHICLE RESCUE

Purpose:

- To establish a guideline to be followed by SVFD personnel when responding to Motor Vehicle Crashes.

Guideline:

- Scene assessment by first arriving officer.
 - Walk around the vehicle, first from a distance of 20-25 feet looking for any hazards (i.e. downed electric wires, fuel/gas leaks, etc.).
 - Make a second circle survey to locate victims and if there is entrapment
- Vehicle Stabilization and Safety
 - Stabilize vehicle by using step chocks or cribbing, or any combination of to keep vehicle from shifting during rescue operations.
 - A Dry Chemical Extinguisher should be placed for immediate use
- Patient Access and Protection
 - Once vehicle is secure make access to the PT and begin to ensure there safety utilizing protection board and tarps as needed
- Glass removal.
 - When it is necessary to remove glass from the vehicle to make the rescue, prior to breaking the glass call out GLASS before breaking the glass. Only remove enough glass to make the rescue.
 - Care must be used to cover victim(s) and protect the other rescuers against being cut by the flying glass.
- Metal Relocation.
 - Metal relocation to remove the victim(s) can be achieved by a variety of methods using jaws, cutters and rams depending on the nature of entrapment. Door removal, roof flapping roof removal and dash roll-up are options that may be chosen, bearing in mind your safety, other firefighters' safety along with EMS personnel and, the victim(s)' safety.
 - Note: Always try door before using jaws or cutters.
- Patient Removal
 - The patient should be removed as soon as possible utilizing the method decided by the Medic keeping in mind C-Spine stabilization.
- **FREEZE:** should be called out when anyone sees an unsafe condition present. As soon as the unsafe condition is corrected, the safety officer will give the order to resume the rescue
- **Hazard Control**
 - An 1 ¾ should be placed in service anytime there is a fuel leak or other potential hazard identified
 - Absorbent material should be put down to stop the spread of leaking fluids.
 - Disconnecting the battery(s), if possible, but not until given the go ahead by Extrication Officer.

- **Scene Control**

- In order to protect those working in the area of the rescue, we need to have control of the scene.
- We can do this by putting up scene tape to establish a zone in which boundaries have been set and using fire police to enforce the boundaries in which we are working.
- When Heavy Extrication is in progress the roadway will be shut down until reopened by the Officer in Command