

Franklin County Fire Chiefs Standard Operating Guideline		
Effective Date: January 1, 2015	SOG Category & Identification Number: Safety - 001	Revision:
SOG Title: Incident Safety Officer		
Approved by:	Re-evaluation Date: January 1, 2018	Number of Pages: 5

PURPOSE:

To provide that a Franklin County Fire Officer operating at an incident be designated the Incident Safety Officer (SOF) by the Incident Commander (IC). The SOF will be responsible to observe the operations, utilize the Incident Safety Worksheet (Form 215A), and report to the Incident Commander on a continual basis to review the Incident action plan (IAP).

SCOPE:

This procedure will apply to all department members and will be used at all emergencies to which Franklin County Fire Departments respond. Specifically the designation of a Safety Officer is required at any significant incident.

Definitions:

- IDLH: Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health
- SOF Worksheet: Incident Safety Officer Worksheet for bench marking purposes.
- N.F.P.A., National Fire Protection Agency, recommendation NFPA 1451, 1500
- Pre-Overhaul Survey: Identifying hazards that need to be mitigated for personnel safety.
- SCBA: Self Contained Breathing Apparatus

PROCEDURES:

The Incident Commander may designate any officer as Incident Safety Officer (ISO). If the Incident Commander does not designate an SOF, then those functions will be with the Incident Commander.

The Incident Safety Officer Worksheet will be utilized for bench marking purposes and will be attached to the incident report upon incident termination.

The Incident Safety Group will be initiated whenever an Incident Commander recognizes a need for this critical function.

During operations where SCBA are utilized, the Incident Safety Officer will monitor air quality with an approved metering device. Should the air quality show a concentration of 50 ppm or more of Carbon Monoxide, other fire produced gases, or an oxygen deficient atmosphere (<18%), the area will be considered IDLH and SCBA will be required to be worn in the operations area per N.F.P.A. recommendations.

The SOF will perform a Pre-Overhaul Survey after initial extinguishment of a fire, prior to members removing SCBA. Safety, air quality, and other concerns will be passed on to working firefighters. Use of SCBA during overhaul is necessary if indicated by the pre-overhaul survey.

The area will be declared, "Clear" for use without SCBA only after the SOF and IC have evaluated the incident's progression. Proper ventilation techniques must be established and effective. The use of electric fans is desirable during this period. Respiratory hazards must be mitigated prior to removal of SCBA.

The Incident Safety Officer has complete authority to discontinue any operation, which appears to be of an unreasonable risk to personnel. Incident Command shall be notified as soon as possible of this safety action.

Incident Safety is not exclusive of any type of incident. An SOF assigned at an incident such as an motor vehicle crash (MVC) Mass Casualty Incident (MCI), or Technical Rescue incident Could utilize personnel that have knowledge in that particular specialty as needed.