

SUBJECT: SAFETY OFFICER	SECTION: 306.02
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PURPOSE

The recognition of situations which present inordinate hazards to fire ground personnel and the proper response to safeguard personnel from those hazards is of critical importance to all Fire Department operations.

POLICY

Command has the responsibility to recognize situations requiring the implementation of a Safety Officer and to confirm the response of assigned personnel. Upon arrival at a working incident, assigned personnel will report to the Command Post and unless otherwise assigned, will automatically establish a Safety Officer and assume assigned responsibilities.

PROCEDURE

A. A Safety Officer should be established at those incidents posing a high potential danger to personnel such as:

1. Fire complexity; e.g., most multiple alarm fires.
2. Hazardous structural conditions, existing or potential.
3. Hazardous materials and chemicals etc.
4. Any other situation where a Safety Officer could be advantageous to the safety of the operation.

B. The establishment of a Safety Officer or the presence of a Safety Officer on the scene in no way diminishes the responsibility of all officers for the safety of their assigned personnel and of each and every member to utilize common (safety) sense, and to work within the intent of established safety procedures at all times.