

**PHOENIX REGIONAL
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

Risk Management and Safety

M.P. 201.01C

01/18

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Purpose

Operating at emergency incidents poses an inherent risk of injury – or worse, death. The purpose of this procedure is to describe the Regional Operating Procedure regarding risk assessment and safety management of emergency incidents. We are committed to providing the safest possible work environment for our members. It is important that all members operating at incidents operate in a safe manner. Each member is responsible for their own safety and to work within the incident action plan to maintain effective accountability and effective coordination of action. Towards that goal, all members are expected to operate under the following Risk Management Plan.

Procedure

All operating personnel shall work within a standard Risk Management Plan during all emergency operations on every emergency incident. This application will be continuously re-assessed at all levels of the incident until all units leave the scene.

1. We Will risk our lives a lot, in a calculated manner, to save savable lives.
2. We Will risk our lives a Little, in a calculated manner, to save savable property.
3. We Will Not risk our lives at all for lives or property that are already Lost.

“Actions in a calculated manner” require the following:

- Continual use of the Strategic Decision Making Model
- Incident Command established
- Proper personal protective equipment
- Accountability system established
- Safety procedures in place
- Continuous risk assessment by all members
- Uninterrupted Communications

Operational Information

The position in the risk management plan represents the “why” are we taking risk at this incident. It must be clear to all companies, working at all levels of the incident command system, that the incident strategy and plans are focused on either savable lives or savable

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property. The recognition through an effective size-up that savable lives may be present at an incident and that the conditions exist that the fire crews can provide a rescue is a situation that has the greatest allowable threshold for risk. The questions that are necessary to determine this level of risk are:

- Is it reasonable to believe that there are savable lives present at this incident?
- Are there any survivable environments or compartments at this incident?
- Do we have the resources and ability to affect a rescue and survive to complete it?

For fire incidents, a quick and overwhelming attack on the fire, from any reasonable position, may be the best thing for mitigating significant risk and allowing the opportunity for rescue and firefighter survivability.

If the incident size-up has determined neither, savable lives or savable property are present because of the conditions, no or very limited risk shall be taken within a defensive strategy.

This risk management plan is effective and necessary for all types of hazards and incidents. This includes:

- Large scale medical incidents
- Hazardous materials incidents
- Technical rescue incidents
- Violent incidents