

**FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION DELAWARE COUNTY, OHIO
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE**

SUBJECT	EFFECTIVE DATE	RESCINDS
EMERGENCY EVACUATION	March 19, 2008	N/A
REFERENCE NUMBER	PAGES	
DCFC-002	2	

SCOPE:

To establish guidelines identifying actions to be taken by emergency workers to effect an emergency evacuation of personnel functioning inside or in proximity of an affected building or structure.

DEFINITIONS:

Emergency Evacuation Signal: An established and consistent signal to warn and advise personnel to evacuate a building, structure or area during emergency operations.

GUIDELINE:

Section 1, Initiation

The emergency evacuation signal will be initiated by the Incident Commander or Safety Officer whenever conditions exist or are imminent that require an immediate evacuation of a fire building by **ALL** personnel.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Change from offensive to defensive mode of operation
- Collapse potential
- Explosion potential

Section 2, Process; Air Horn Blast

The air horn of all apparatus in proximity of the hazard zone shall be activated for a period of 15 (fifteen) seconds. This will be followed by 15 (fifteen) seconds of silence and another 15 (fifteen) second blast from the air horn.

Optional Supplement: In addition to the apparatus air horn blast, a blast from a portable air horn, (i.e. handheld marine horn) may be sounded inside the affected hazard area to further facilitate notification of personnel.

Upon hearing an emergency evacuation signal, all fire department personnel shall promptly exit to a safe location and notify the incident commander of their safe withdrawal.

Section 3, Accountability “PAR”

Upon completion of an emergency evacuation procedure, Incident Command will perform or cause to be performed, a “PAR” (Personnel Accountability Report) according to guidelines established in the Accountability Standard Operating Guideline, reference DCFC – xxx.

APPENDIX

The emergency evacuation signal, in most cases, should be directed by the incident commander. Company officers may initiate the emergency evacuation signal if there is a dire immediate need to do so. If the signal is initiated by someone other than the incident commander, the incident commander will be notified of the situation immediately.

Considerable discretion should be used when initiating emergency evacuation signals. They are not to be used to issue a routine evacuation order.