



## Rogers Fire Department Minimum Company Standards SOP 142, FORM 90

### CONDUCTING A SECONDARY SEARCH OF A STRUCTURE

**Reference:** NFPA 1001, 5.3.9 2008 Edition

**JPR Identification:**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this standard is to enhance the firefighter's ability to conduct searches obscured visibility environments. The skills learned through this exercise will teach the proper procedures and techniques for conducting secondary searches and the rescuing of any victims encountered. Firefighters should be informed of the difference between primary and secondary searches. As compared to primary searches, conditions are better during secondary searches. All members of the crew should be proficient in their search and rescue responsibilities as well as understand the duties of the other crew members.

**Performance Outcome:** Individuals will be able to navigate through various structures performing secondary searches in a post IDLH environment. These evolutions shall be completed while wearing full PPE including breathing air. The individual will also operate in obscured visibility. There are no established timeframes for these evolutions as the specific layout or structure may be adjusted to fit the needs of the company. *Note: this evolution may be adjusted by the company officer to fit the need of his / her specific crew members.*

**Materials Required:** Personal Protective Equipment  
Self Contained Breathing Apparatus  
Radio  
Forcible Entry Tools  
Victim  
Charged Hoseline (If Desired)  
*Note: It is the discretion of the company officer what props and configuration are utilized for this company skill.*

**Critical Teaching Points:**

1. The company officer should reinforce the search techniques utilized by Rogers Fire Department
2. Remind firefighters to remain calm at all times, manage their air supply, think about their options, and negotiate the obstacles.
3. The company officer should reinforce to the students this is a standardized method which should be utilized.
4. Students should wear full PPE and SCBA. Students should communicate as they complete this skill. As visibility will be limited, students should remain low to the ground while dragging the victim to safety.
5. The evolution may be adjusted to meet the needs of the crew or to address any specific deficiencies that have been identified at the discretion of the company officer.

## *Conducting a Secondary Search of a Structure*

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1. Ensure that all personal protective equipment is appropriately donned and secure before starting the evolutions
2. Ensure that all evolutions are conducted in post IDLH atmosphere which may require the individual to remain low throughout the evolutions.
3. Ensure that appropriate tools are carried throughout the scenario based on:
  - a. Hazards Present
  - b. Construction Type and Features
  - c. Potential Escape Routes
  - d. Fire and Smoke Conditions
4. Notifies command that the “secondary search team” is entering the building and what direction the search is going to made in
5. Conducts a thorough systematic secondary search (remember that a secondary search is must slower and thorough).
  - a. Thorough search of all rooms and areas
  - b. Calls out for victims
  - c. Work from fire area to exterior
6. Identify rooms that have been searched.
7. Maintains teams’ integrity with visual, voice, or direct contact as well as situational awareness.
8. Clears all rooms visually or by touch
9. Stops periodically to listen for victims and fire sounds
10. All tasks should be completed with a sense of thoroughness as to locate any victims.

