



# Rogers Fire Department

## Minimum Company Standards

### SOP 142, FORM 90

#### CONDUCTING A PRIMARY 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 primary search and rescue in limited visibility environments. The skills learned through this exercise will teach the proper procedures and techniques for conducting primary searches and the rescuing of any victims encountered. Firefighters should be informed of the difference between primary and secondary searches. Team integrity, radio communication, and SCBA air management are important components of this evolution. 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. This understanding will allow them to function better as a team and enable members to function in different capacities within the crew.

**Performance Outcome:** Individuals will be able to navigate through various structures performing primary search and rescue in an IDLH environment. These evolutions shall be completed while wearing full PPE including breathing air. The individual will also operate in limited to no 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. This evolution must be completed while all personnel are wearing the proper PPE. *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 Tool  
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 demonstrate the skills and techniques in an open environment, and allow firefighters to practice in an open environment before progressing to demonstration in a closed environment and allowing the firefighter to perform in a closed environment
2. the company officer should reinforce the search techniques utilized by Rogers Fire Department
3. Remind firefighters to remain calm at all times, manage their air supply, think about their options, and negotiate the obstacles.
4. The company officer should reinforce to the students this is a standardized method which should be utilized.

5. 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.
6. 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 Primary Search Of A Structure*

---

1. Ensure that all personal protective equipment is appropriately donned and secure before starting the evolutions
2. Ensure that all evolutions are conducted in worse case situations, limited to no visibility and simulated high heat which will 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 “search team” is entering the building and what direction the search is going to made in
5. Utilizes hand tools to assist in search
6. Conducts a quick and systematic search by staying on outside wall and searching room to room. Identify rooms that have been searched.
7. Maintains contact with a outside wall and utilizes good search techniques
8. Maintains teams’ integrity with visual, voice, or direct contact as well as situational awareness.
9. Uses quickest movement according to hazard: duck walks or crawls when floor cannot be seen; stands only when feet can be seen; candidates head is not in heated portion of the room; and uses tools to extend reach.
10. Clears all rooms visually or by touch
11. Search area includes stairs up to the landing on the next floor level
12. Stops periodically to listen for victims and fire sounds
13. Communicates landmarks to team members (i.e. doors, windows, inside corners, furniture)
14. Observes fire, smoke, and heat conditions and updates command
15. Locates and removes victims and notifies incident command of status
16. All tasks should be completed with a sense of urgency.

