



# Rogers Fire Department

## Minimum Company Standards

### SOP 142, FORM 90

## OVERCOMING ENTANGLEMENTS

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

**JPR Identification:**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this standard is to enhance the firefighter's ability to overcome potential entanglement hazards. The skills learned through this exercise will impress upon personnel the benefit of remaining calm, and working through the obstacles they face. The firefighter should progress through the entanglement prop as an individual, as well as a member of a crew while maintaining constant accountability of crew members.

All members of the crew should be proficient in their 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 passageways with entanglements that simulate an emergency 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 props or course 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 Tool  
Entanglement Props  
Wire Cutters (only used for personnel who cannot free themselves from entanglement)  
*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. Company officers should emphasize to personnel that they will become entangled, requiring them to slow down, reposition, and fix the problem. Personnel will be tempted to "push" their way through, which will only serve to entangle them more. No PPE is allowed to be removed unless the individual can not complete the skill.
3. The company officer should reinforce the techniques utilized by Rogers Fire Department. These techniques are standardized and should be utilized.

## Overcoming Entanglements

4. There should be a progression of skills for all personnel that begins with an open environment and ends with the successful completion of the desired props with no visibility, full PPE, SCBA, on air.
5. Remind firefighters to remain calm at all times, manage their air supply, think about their options, and slowly negotiate the obstacles.
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.

### **Overcoming Entanglements**

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. All evolutions are required to use multiple props or obstacles.
4. Enter the designated prop or obstacle and maintain contact with the wall, guide line, or crew member.  
*Note: Always be sure to feel ahead with hand or tool prior to entering any restricted passageway.*
5. Reduce profile and utilize proper techniques to pass through the designated restriction.
6. When they reach the end of the entanglement prop, there should be a breaching prop where the firefighter will create an opening. The material used should be sheet rock, plywood, or concrete.
7. Once outside the prop, they will need to compare their starting and ending pressures.
8. All tasks should be completed with a sense of urgency.
9. Company officers are encouraged to “push” their crews into an uncomfortable situation.

