

HARTFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Safety | SOP: 401 |
| Occupational Health & Safety | Page: 1-2 |
| Approved By: Scott D. Cooney , Fire Chief | Effective Date: 5-21-12 |

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Occupational Health and Safety Program (OHSP) is to provide a safe working environment for all employees. Specifically it is the intent of the program to:

- Prevent death, injuries, illnesses and exposures to hazardous atmospheres and contagious diseases
- Prevent damage/loss of equipment
- Reduce the incidence and severity of accidents and hazardous exposures

RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of all Hartford Fire Department personnel to become familiar with and abide by this policy.

PROCEDURE

Incident Safety Officer:

The Incident Safety Officer position is implemented to manage the safety of all personnel and to relieve the Incident Commander of direct involvement in this responsibility. The Incident Safety Officer also keeps the Incident Commander informed of present problems and potential hazards. The Incident Safety Officer should not only identify problems, but should suggest solutions to minimize the risks. The Incident Commander will use the information provided by the Incident Safety Officer during development of the incident action plan.

The Incident Safety Officer has the authority to bypass the chain of command when it is necessary to correct unsafe acts immediately, such as removing all personnel from areas of *imminent* danger. The Incident Commander must always be informed of these corrective actions.

For an Incident Safety Officer to be truly effective, the Incident Safety Officer, must have knowledge of fire behavior and building construction.

Incident Safety Officer should be assigned at all:

- First Alarms
- Technical Rescue Incidents
- Hazmat Incidents
- Mass Casualty Incidents

Safety Officer:

The Chief shall appoint an employee as the Safety Officer. This person shall be responsible for the management of the OSHP. The Chief shall assign or make available additional Assistant Safety Officers (ASO) as may be required to fulfill the requirements of the OHSP. In order to provide an appropriate level of safety during operations the Incident Commander shall, in the absence of the Safety Officer, designate an employee to be Incident Safety Officer. In the absence of an Incident Safety Officer, the Incident Commander will fill the role of Incident Safety Officer.

Safety Committee:

When necessary the Fire Chief shall appoint a safety committee to review incidents involving personal injury, destruction of property or to provide recommendations for new equipment. At a minimum the safety committee will meet semiannually. The safety committee will review all fire ground injuries and all first report of injuries.

The Safety Committee may be responsible for items such as:

1. Awareness of current safety and health related topics
2. Creating and submitting recommendations to meet the goals of the OHSP
3. Accident review and recommendation
4. Review of new equipment from a safety standpoint
5. Safety duties as assigned by the Chief
6. Conduct reviews of safety issues as requested by three (3) members in writing

The committee shall consist of the following:

1. Safety Officer
2. One Captain or Lieutenant
3. One career firefighter
4. One call firefighter

The committee shall be guided by VOSHA and should use NFPA 1500, IFSTA, SOP's and local experience in developing methods to achieve the goals of the OHSP.

The committee shall develop methods, which integrate safety procedures into current and future department SOP's. This is so safety is an integral part of any procedure rather than being a

separate entity. It is the intent that an operation can only be performed properly when appropriate regard is given to safety.

Revised 10/02/2006
 5-21-12