

# Alton Fire & Rescue Department

## Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG)

SOG 1.3.12 Scene Evacuation or Withdrawal (Reference SOP 1.3.12)

**PURPOSE:** To provide for a standardized process for withdrawing or evacuating from a situation poses danger to emergency personnel.

**SCOPE:** To all personnel operating at any emergency or training scene.

**SPECIFICS:**

- The order to evacuate a scene is given where there is an emergency situation which requires immediate egress from the IDLH Zone (Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health).
- The order to withdraw a scene is given when there is a situation that requires all personnel to leave the IDLH Zone.

**DATE:** Approved April 28, 2009

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## Standard Operating Guidelines (SOP)

SOP 1.3.12 Scene Evacuation or Withdrawal

**PURPOSE:** To provide for a standardized process for withdrawing or evacuating from a situation poses danger to emergency personnel.

**SCOPE:** To all personnel operating at any emergency or training scene.

**SPECIFICS:**

- I. The order to evacuate a scene is given where there is an emergency situation which requires immediate egress from the IDLH Zone (Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health).
  - If an evacuation is ordered, the following steps shall be taken:
    - The incident commander (IC) shall notify all fire ground companies of the need to evacuate (however, any member has the authority to issue the evacuation order when it is felt that a significant and notable danger to personnel is apparent and they are unable to immediately report to their company officer or incident commander).
    - In addition to the radio notification the air horns of the nearest apparatus to the building/area will be used to notify personnel and the following sequence of air horn blasts will be used (*three 3-second blasts; repeated 3 times*).
    - After the evacuation order has been made, the Communications Center shall transmit an audible alert signal following by the announcement over the fire ground frequency being utilized to "*Evacuate the building/area at {incident address}*". The announcement shall be repeated twice. The evacuation announcement shall also be repeated on Channel 1 following an ALL CALL tone.
    - All personnel exiting the building/area shall report to an area designated by the IC where an accountability check will be conducted.
- II. The order to withdraw a scene is given when there is a situation that requires all personnel to leave the IDLH Zone.
  - In the event a withdrawal is ordered, the following steps shall be taken:
    - IC will notify all fire ground personnel to withdraw from the building/area.
    - The Communications Center will repeat the withdrawal order over the fire ground channel.

- **All personnel exiting the building/area shall report to an area designated by the IC where an accountability check will be conducted.**

**DATE: Approved April 28, 2009**