

SAFETY

OBJECTIVE

◇ ***TO DEFINE THE RULES, PROCEDURES, AND MAJOR FACTORS REQUIRED FOR FIREFIGHTER SAFETY AND WELFARE.***

◇ **GENERAL SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

- ❖ Quickly assume strong command / division control
- ❖ Continually match strategy to conditions
- ❖ Pessimistically forecast changing conditions
- ❖ Establish safety officer early
- ❖ Structure operations around standard risk management:
 - Big risk: take great risk to save a life
 - Little risk: take minimal risk to save property that can be saved
 - No risk: take no risk to save lives and property that are lost
- ❖ Establish and control an incident scene perimeter
- ❖ Limit personnel inside the incident scene perimeter
- ❖ Do not attempt performance beyond your staffing capability
- ❖ Establish the accountability system
- ❖ Maintain complete personnel protection at all times
- ❖ Maintain strong on-going communications
- ❖ Establish and maintain rapid intervention / rescue capability (RIC)
- ❖ Provide rehabilitation early - rotate resources - manage fatigue
- ❖ Always critique and review safety performance and outcomes

Safety rules are not guidelines, they are not suggested practices; they are flat-out rules the IC had better model, support, and enforce as necessary. We cannot deliver service to our customers, if we become customers ourselves. Safety operating procedures must become our standard survival game plan that must be an automatic, natural way of life for us.