

TRURO FIRE RESCUE

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

S.O.G. #107 ENGINE COMPANY OPERATIONS AT M.V.A.s **EFFECTIVE 01-11-99 REVISED 01-15-06**

1.0 Engine Company Positioning

- 1.1 The Incident Commander or Senior Firefighter on first arriving engine shall position the apparatus up-wind and up-grade from the scene of a Motor Vehicle accident to prevent movement of flammable liquid or vapor toward Department personnel and equipment. This will minimize the possibility of ignition of said flammable liquid and/or vapor and prevent damage to equipment and injury to personnel.
- 1.2 If possible, taking in consideration Section 1.1, position engine to provide a barrier between the accident scene and to any oncoming traffic, that is any traffic traveling in the lane or side of the road where the accident occurred. Do not completely block traffic unless absolutely necessary for protection of the scene.
- 1.3 The Incident Commander shall communicate with the Senior EMT for a summary of the situation and any special instructions.

2.0 Motor Vehicle Accident with injuries without fuel leaks or fuel spills.

- 2.1 Check all involved vehicles carefully for any evidence of a fuel leak or spill. Assign a firefighter to watch for any indications of fire.
- 2.2 Block wheels of involved vehicle (s).
- 2.3 Disconnect battery cables of involved vehicle (s).
- 2.4 Position and man an uncharged hand line with pump operator at the ready.

3.0 Motor Vehicle Accident with injuries and a fuel leak or fuel spill.

- 3.1 Immediately man, position and charge hand line (s).
- 3.2 Make a thorough and initial wash-down, using foam if possible, of entire working zone to disperse fuel and vapor away from accident vehicle(s) and EMS personnel.
- 3.3 Block wheels of vehicle(s) involved.
- 3.4 After wash-down, position a line between the spill and working personnel and patients to afford them maximum protection.
- 3.5 Exercise care that warning flares are not too close to accident vehicle(s) and/or any spill, especially if down-wind, as they may become a prime source of ignition. Extinguish if necessary.
- 3.6 Determine if power lines are involved and if so notify NSTAR. Note any power lines down on conductors such as guardrails, fencing, etc.
- 3.7 Exercise extreme caution when cutting battery cables with fuel present. Provide water spray during disconnect (cutting) process.
- 3.8 Have traffic rerouted if it could present an ignition source or danger to personnel working the scene.
- 3.9 Ask police to keep unauthorized persons at a safe distance.
- 3.10 Provide the wrecker operator with protection if needed.

4.0 Motor Vehicle Accident with Entrapment.

- 4.1 Follow protocols listed above in Section 3.0.
- 4.2 Assist extrication team with equipment if properly trained.
- 4.3 Continually survey for hidden dangers to EMS and other personnel such as low power lines, sharp pieces of glass or metal and any other potential danger to personnel. Be aware that vehicle parts under stress have the potential of violent recoil when severed.

5.0 General

A motor vehicle accident will probably result in a police investigation of the causes of the accident. ***It is important to take care in not moving any wreckage, debris, trampling skid marks and the like unless absolutely necessary for the protection of the scene. Otherwise inquire of the police officer in charge before removing or moving anything.***