

Tully Hose Co. #1

Standard Operating Guidelines Emergency Escape and Self Rescue System Guideline # TF-321 – Rev.2

PREFACE

The Emergency Escape and Self Rescue Bailout System is intended as the primary reference and standard operating guide for guidance and assistance of self rescue operations.

PURPOSE

Establish the guidelines and procedures for the mandatory use of the Emergency Escape and Self Rescue System.

POLICY

- A. In the event an interior Firefighter becomes trapped at an elevation where it would become necessary for the firefighter to employ his\her emergency escape rope equipment.
- B. Each interior firefighter will be equipped with an Emergency Escape and Self Rescue System.
- C. It is mandatory that all interior firefighters operating in the structure where there is potential for serious injury or death from a fall from elevation will wear their Emergency Escape and Self Rescue system.
- D. All interior firefighters shall train and show proficiency and competency in the use of the Emergency Escape and Self Rescue system. Each interior firefighter shall demonstrate this proficiency to the satisfaction of the department officers on an annual basis.
- E. Based on the department risk assessment the maximum elevation has been determined to be 2.5 stories. The Tully Hose Co. has determined that its Emergency Escape and Self Rescue System will consist of the following components:
 - I. A minimum of 35 ft of escape rope
 - II. Two escape carabineers or an approved anchor hook
 - III. Harness
 - IV. Descending device

NOTE: The Tully Fire District will provide the Petzl EXO Personal Escape System to each interior firefighter. If you choose to have your own system then it will be at your own expense and must meet all NFPA 1983 2006 edition specifications. This also must be approved through the Chief of the department.

All components will meet NFPA 1983 Standard on Life Safety Rope and Equipment For Emergency Services 2006 edition.

- F. When a firefighter determines it necessary to evacuate a structure that would cause serious injury or death from a fall from elevation, the firefighter will declare a May Day informing IC of their situation. The firefighter will escape a life threatening situation utilizing any convenient route of escape. In the case of a non-conventional route such as a window, the firefighter will deploy the Emergency Escape and Self Rescue system issued and lower themselves in a controlled manner using the Emergency Escape and Self Rescue system as it was designed and as trained in its use. This system is only to be deployed as a system of escape as a last resort and when the firefighter has determined that all other methods of escape have been exhausted.
- G. The firefighter will lower themselves to:
1. The ground if enough rope is available in accordance with hazard assessment.
 2. Descend two floors below the fire floor and be rescued by a competent retrieval team such as RIT or FAST team.
 3. To a safe position and stand-by to be rescued by ladder, or aerial device.
- H. Incident Command/RIT Command will communicate the type of rescue that will be attempted to the firefighter needing rescue.
- I. IC will declare end to May Day situation when appropriate.
- J. Once this system is used it will be tagged out of service and sent back to Petzl Manufacture to have the rope replaced and make system ready for service. Any personal systems mentioned above will be destroyed and replaced by the district.

TESTING, MAINTENANCE AND TRAINING

- A. Personal systems shall be inspected monthly and documented on your gear inspection form.
- B. Life safety rope or escape rope used for training purposes will NOT be used for any other purpose other than emergency escape training. The training rope will be clearly labeled “for training only”.
- C. Life safety rope or escape rope used in training will be stored in the chief’s office until needed for emergency escape training.
- D. Life safety rope or escape rope used in training will be inspected after every training use by a competent person.
- E. Training will utilize a safety rope belay system with an appropriate high point anchor with trained operators as safety backup emergency escape rope training. Secondary belays will be used in accordance with established standards.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- A. Any interior class firefighter not able to satisfactorily show competence and proficiency in the Emergency Escape system will be moved from interior to exterior firefighter classification.
- B. Any member refusing to comply with this SOG will be reclassified from interior to exterior firefighter classification.