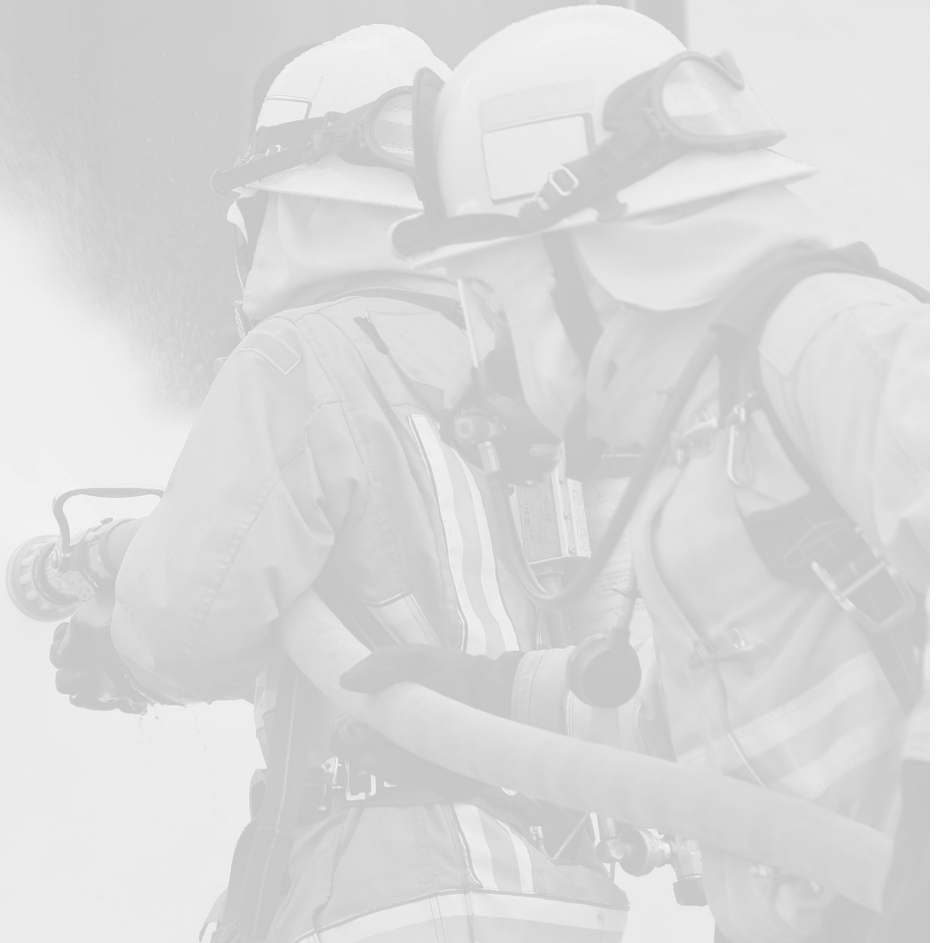


# Lexipol

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## Fire Procedures



## Table of Contents

|                                                                                    |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Preface . . . . .</b>                                                           | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>Preface . . . . .</b>                                                           | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>Chapter 1 - User Guide and Glossary . . . . .</b>                               | <b>4</b>  |
| 100 - User Guide . . . . .                                                         | 5         |
| 101 - Glossary . . . . .                                                           | 7         |
| <b>Chapter 2 - Readiness and Command . . . . .</b>                                 | <b>11</b> |
| 200 - Operational Readiness . . . . .                                              | 12        |
| 201 - Incident Command and Control . . . . .                                       | 15        |
| 202 - Unified Command . . . . .                                                    | 18        |
| <b>Chapter 3 - Health and Safety . . . . .</b>                                     | <b>21</b> |
| 300 - Apparatus Driving Safety . . . . .                                           | 22        |
| 301 - Fireground Accountability . . . . .                                          | 25        |
| 302 - SCBA Operational Use . . . . .                                               | 29        |
| 303 - Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) . . . . .                                      | 33        |
| 304 - Mayday . . . . .                                                             | 37        |
| 305 - On-Scene Rehabilitation . . . . .                                            | 40        |
| 306 - Traffic Incident Management System and Roadway Incidents Procedure . . . . . | 46        |
| <b>Chapter 4 - Emergency Operations . . . . .</b>                                  | <b>50</b> |
| 400 - Fireground Communications . . . . .                                          | 51        |
| 401 - Establishing Fireground Operations . . . . .                                 | 56        |
| 402 - Mutual Aid . . . . .                                                         | 60        |
| 403 - Commercial Alarm System Activations . . . . .                                | 63        |
| 404 - Smoke or Fire of Unknown Origin . . . . .                                    | 66        |
| 405 - Structure Fire Response . . . . .                                            | 69        |
| 406 - High-Rise Fires . . . . .                                                    | 76        |
| 407 - Traffic Accidents and Vehicle Fire Response . . . . .                        | 82        |
| 408 - Vehicle Extrication Operations . . . . .                                     | 86        |
| 409 - Brush and Wildland Fires . . . . .                                           | 91        |
| <b>Chapter 5 - Special Operations . . . . .</b>                                    | <b>95</b> |
| 500 - Active Shooter and Other Violent Incidents . . . . .                         | 96        |
| 501 - Hazardous Materials Decontamination . . . . .                                | 100       |
| 502 - Hazardous Materials Initial Incident Response . . . . .                      | 105       |
| 503 - High-Voltage Electrical Emergencies . . . . .                                | 110       |
| 504 - MEDIVAC Helicopter Landing Zones . . . . .                                   | 113       |
| 505 - Technical Rescue Response . . . . .                                          | 117       |
| <b>Attachments . . . . .</b>                                                       |           |

## Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)

### 303.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

**Best Practice**

This document provides on-scene procedures for Rapid Intervention Team units operating on incidents requiring a RIT.

Corresponding Policies:

- Emergency Response
- Fireground Accountability
- Incident Management
- Rapid Intervention/Two-in Two-out

### 303.2 FIRST FIVE MINUTES

**Best Practice**

The first arriving Fire Department unit should contact the Communications Center and provide the following information:

- Unit on-scene
  - Initial scene size-up
  - Unit assuming incident command (IC)
  - Request for an initial RIT assignment together with any additional RITs required
- When practicable, the Incident Commander (IC) should assign a RIT group supervisor.
- As soon as practicable, the RIT group supervisor should perform a 360 assessment to identify exit and entrance obstacles for removal by the RIT team and areas to establish a means of escape including:
- Burglar bars and window guards.
  - Visibly secured roll-up and steel doors.
  - Locations for placement of ladders on all sides of the structure.
  - Below-grade access points.

### 303.3 PROCEDURES

**Best Practice**

#### 303.3.1 RESOURCE DEPLOYMENT

**Best Practice**

- (a) Apparatus
1. Apparatus carrying RIT personnel should stage at a location that allows later-arriving units access to the scene, while allowing assigned personnel adequate access to tools and equipment for RIT operations.

## *Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)*

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### (b) Personnel

1. RIT personnel should be in full structural firefighting personal protective equipment (PPE) with a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Each RIT member should have a portable radio. At least one member of the team should have a thermal imaging camera (TIC).
2. Except for the operations listed below and whenever practicable, the RIT should not be assigned to any duties that divert attention or resources away from their primary mission of responder rescue.
3. The RIT should consist of these positions and assignments:
  - ▽ RIT Group Supervisor
  - ▽ RIT Team Leader
  - ▽ Navigation and air supply
  - ▽ Search and Rescue
  - ▽ Package and Removal

### 303.3.2 OPERATIONS

#### **Best Practice**

#### (a) Rapid Intervention Team

1. Upon arrival, the RIT should pull or assemble the RIT cache and report to the IC or RIT group supervisor for assignment. The RIT cache should include, but is not limited to:
  - ▽ TIC
  - ▽ Handlights
  - ▽ Extra SCBA or RIT pack for rescue
  - ▽ Extra full air bottles for RIT personnel
  - ▽ Rope and webbing
  - ▽ Saws
  - ▽ Hand tools for prying, forcing and access
  - ▽ Cribbing
2. When practicable, the RIT should take steps to remove barriers to structure access identified in the 360 assessment or discovered during fireground activity to enable quicker entry and exit. The RIT should communicate its intentions to the IC or RIT group supervisor before taking any action. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - ▽ Removing burglar bars and window guards
  - ▽ Unlocking/forcing and controlling locked doors
  - ▽ Deploying ground ladders to provide additional points of entry and exit

### *Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)*

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- Setting up or calling for additional scene lighting
3. The RIT should monitor fireground communications and the location and assignments of crews working on the fireground. The RIT should also observe fire and flowpaths.
  4. RIT activation:
    - (a) Upon notification of a lost, trapped or injured firefighter, the RIT should be activated. The RIT assignment should be limited to locating, assessing and removing the firefighter who has become lost, trapped and/or injured.
    - (b) The RIT team leader should confirm activation with the IC or RIT group supervisor and based upon information provided by the IC or RIT group supervisor should:
      - Proceed with the RIT cache to the last known or suspected working area of the crew or firefighter needing rescue.
      - Engage in rescue operations.
      - Continually monitor any radio communications from the victim.
      - Communicate rescue activities and progress to the IC or RIT group supervisor.

### **303.4 UNIVERSAL PRACTICES**

#### **Best Practice**

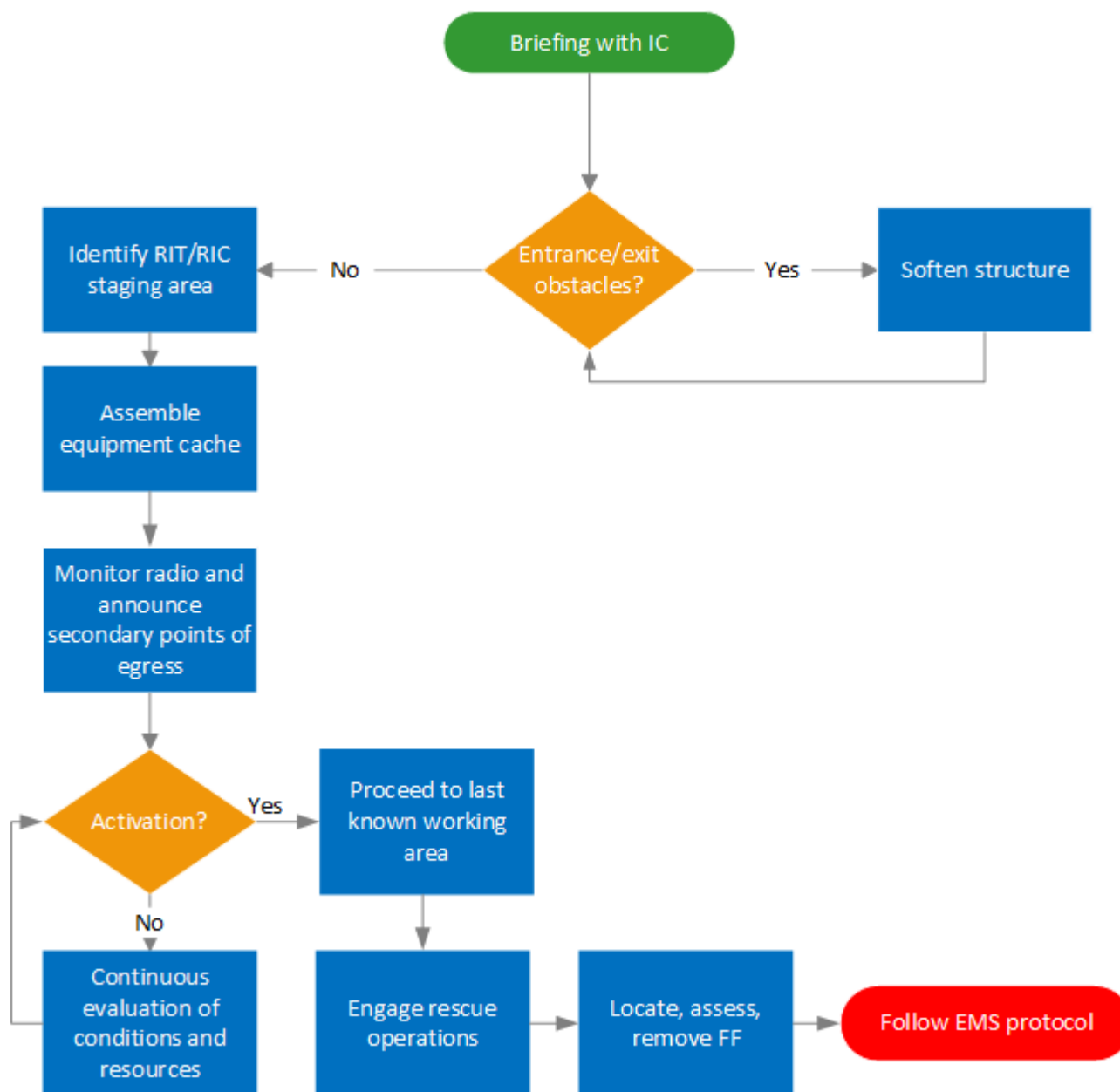
1. Tools and equipment assembled for the RIT should not be used by other fireground personnel.
2. If the RIT does not have a pre-assembled and designated equipment cache, the RIT should assemble tools and equipment from their own unit. Any additional tools or equipment required should be from apparatus not directly engaged in fireground operations to avoid stripping primary units of equipment needed for fireground operations.
3. When an on-scene RIT is activated for rescue, a second RIT should be assigned to the incident, if one is not on-scene.
4. When an on-scene RIT is activated, the IC should consider calling the Communications Center and requesting a next alarm assignment to provide additional resources and personnel.

*Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)*

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**303.5 PROCEDURE DECISION TREE**

Best Practice



Guide Sheets are included with all policies and procedures provided by Lexipol and are intended to provide administrators with additional information and background.

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This document provides on-scene procedures for agency units operating on incidents requiring a Rapid Intervention Team (RIT).

#### BACKGROUND NOTES

- This procedure is based on best practice and fire service standards.

#### CUSTOMIZATION GUIDELINES

Please review this procedure carefully and consider customizing for your agency's practice and terminology, including but not limited to the following:

- **RAPID INTERVENTION TEAM (RIT):** If the agency does not use the terms provided in the questionnaire, modify to reflect existing agency terminology such as Firefighter Assist Search Team (FAST), On-Deck or other terms.

#### APPLICABLE REFERENCES AND STANDARDS

NFPA 1407: Standard for Training Fire Service Rapid Intervention Crews

NFPA 1500: Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety, Health, and Wellness Program

NFPA 1561: Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management System and Command Safety

NFPA 1981: Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) for Emergency Services

NFPA 1710: Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments

NFPA 1720: Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer Fire Departments

# Daily Training Bulletins

Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) are designed to give your personnel bite-sized, real-world scenarios that train them on procedure. DTBs take less than six minutes to complete. Each DTB includes:

- 1) A scenario that your personnel might encounter
- 2) An issue that needs to be addressed
- 3) Reference to your policy
- 4) A brief question to show that they understand the policy in context
- 5) And the correct answer

Personnel can take their DTBs anytime, anywhere, with the Lexipol app. And you can track when your personnel take each and every DTB via Lexipol's cloud-based system. Protect your personnel by making every day a training day.

## Rapid Intervention Team - First Five Minutes

**Topic:** Health and Safety

**DTB Date:**

**SCENARIO:**

You are the [Captain] on Engine 3, responding with your crew to assist a neighboring agency at a structure fire. As you approach the scene, you contact the Incident Commander (IC) to announce your arrival and request an assignment. The IC assigns you and your crew to be the [Rapid\_Intervention\_team\_RIT] ([RIT]). You direct your [apparatus\_operator] to a safe location to park. You tell your crew to assemble the tools and equipment they will need as the [RIT] for the incident.

You and your crew go to the command post and turn in your accountability tags. The IC assigns you as the [RIT] group supervisor. The IC instructs you to obtain any additional equipment that you may need from Rescue 2. You ask your crew to gather the appropriate equipment and meet in the front of the building. You conduct a 360 assessment of the scene.

**ISSUE: What should you, as the [RIT] group supervisor, look for during your 360 assessment?**

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**REFER:**

### 303.2 FIRST FIVE MINUTES

The first arriving [agencyName] unit should contact [comCenter] and provide the following information:

- Unit on-scene
- Initial scene size-up
- Unit assuming incident command (IC)
- Request for an initial [RIT] assignment together with any additional [RIT]s required
  - When practicable, the Incident Commander (IC) should assign a [RIT] group supervisor.
  - As soon as practicable, the [RIT] group supervisor should perform a 360 assessment to identify exit and entrance obstacles for removal by the [RIT] team and areas to establish a means of escape including:
    - Burglar bars and window guards.
    - Visibly secured roll-up and steel doors.
    - Locations for placement of ladders on all sides of the structure.
    - Below-grade access points.

# Lexipol Fire Agency

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## **ANALYSIS:**

The [agencyName] strives to increase [firefighter] safety by implementing procedures for safeguarding and rescuing [firefighter]s who are operating in environments that are immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH). Establishing a [RIT] as soon as practicable can help ensure personnel and resources are available for [firefighter] rescue operations should the need arise. The sole function of the [RIT] is to prepare for, monitor for and provide effective emergency rescue for responders.

You have been assigned as the [RIT] group supervisor. You are performing a 360 assessment of the building to identify specific conditions and obstacles that could impact [firefighter] safety so that your team can address them.

## **CONCLUSION:**

During your 360 assessment, you should identify exit and entrance obstacles for removal and you should also identify areas to establish a means of escape, including:

- Burglar bars and window guards.
- Visibly secured roll-up and steel doors.
- Locations for placement of ladders on all sides of the structure.
- Below-grade access points.

## **QUESTION:**

Which of the following is an exit or entrance obstacle that should be identified by the [RIT] group supervisor during his/her 360 assessment?

## **ANSWERS:**

- (a) Burglar bars and window guards
- (b) Visibly secured roll-up and steel doors
- (c) Locations for placement of ladders on all sides of the structure
- (d) Below-grade access points
- (e) All of the above

## **CORRECT ANSWER:**

All of the above