



# Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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## PURPOSE

This procedure has been developed to provide Fire Department personnel with an operational procedure to extricate victims from vehicles and to minimize the risk to rescue personnel working at the scene of an emergency.

## SECTION I – Size-Up and Safety

Upon arriving at the scene of a vehicle accident with an entrapment, the senior member will establish IC and will determine the best placement for the responding apparatus to ensure the protection and safety of all personnel operating on the scene. The IC will size up the situation and should evaluate the following criteria and inform dispatch:

- a. The size up shall consist of scene safety
- b. The number of vehicles involved
- c. Number of persons injured or trapped
- d. Type of vehicles involved such as car, truck or Hybrid vehicle
- e. Actual fire present
- f. Leaking fuel causing a potential fire or explosion hazard
- g. Stability of vehicles involved
- h. Presence of vehicle safety systems such as air bags and whether they have deployed
- i. Involvement of electrical power lines or other electrocution hazards
- j. Involvement of any actual or suspected hazardous materials

The IC will appoint a safety officer. The IC should survey the scene for possible hazards. If utility hazards are present, utility company assistance should be requested and/or confirmed. All personnel working on the scene should wear all protective clothing appropriate to the task they are performing which normally includes full bunker gear, safety vest, gloves, helmet with proper eye protection (helmet shields are not proper eye protection).

## SECTION II – Emergency Medical Treatment

At the time of the Fire Department's arrival, medical assistance should be requested and/or confirmed. The rendering of emergency first aid should be limited to the situation present and upon the training, education,

experience and available personal protective equipment of responders present. This guideline does not address the specific medical treatment(s) of patients.

### **SECTION III – Scene Preparation and Securement**

Scene size up will determine the order of person(s) to be extricated. Medical personnel can begin assessment and possible treatment while fire personnel are preparing for extrication. Proper scene preparation, before operations begins, is critical to the overall success of the operation. Scene preparation should include placement of responding apparatus to ensure the protection and safety of all personnel, establishing a tool resource staging area and providing scene lighting when necessary. All ignition sources should be eliminated from the area when possible. The batteries of all vehicles involved will be disconnected, when possible, unless power is needed to activate windows, door locks or power seats. Extrication can begin after:

- Fire Protection Established
- Stabilization Evaluated
- Extrication Priority and Pace Determined
- Power/Electric System Identified
- Begin Extrication

If a Hybrid vehicle is involved, precautions shall be taken to avoid the high-voltage battery and its cables.

### **SECTION IV – Extrication Process**

The extrication of patients will begin as soon as possible. Access to this area should be limited only to those members involved in the extrication, medical process and fire suppression. The IC and/or Extrication Supervisor will determine the best and most efficient means of extrication to be performed, i.e. cutting doors, removing roof, rolling dash, etc.

- Designate Extrication Supervisor to oversee the extrication and to inform IC of progress
- Designate 2 Firefighters
- Always Remember the 5-10-20 Rule
- Avoid the Air Bag Strike Zones
- Try before Pry