

Live fire training evolutions

#A-053

Date: 07-27-2003

Purpose: To provide a process for conducting live fire training evolutions to ensure that they are conducted in safe facilities and that the exposure to health and safety hazards for the firefighters receiving the training is minimized. All live fire-training evolutions shall be conducted in accordance with NFPA #1403.

Procedure: Any structure that is to be used for a live fire training exercise shall be prepared for the training exercise. All hazardous conditions shall be removed or neutralized as to not present a safety problem during the use of the structure. A search of the structure shall be conducted to ensure that no unauthorized persons, animals, or objects are in the building immediately prior to ignition.

Vehicle(s) used as props for live fire training evolutions shall have all fluid reservoirs, tanks, shock absorbers, drive shafts, and other gas-filled closed containers removed, vented, or drained prior to any ignition.

The minimum water supply and delivery for live fire training evolutions shall meet the criteria identified in NFPA 1142, Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban, and Rural Firefighting.

Prior to conducting actual live fire training evolutions, a pre-burn briefing session shall be conducted for all participants in which all facets of each evolution to be conducted are discussed and assignments made for all crews participating in the training session are given. The location of simulated victims shall not be required to be disclosed, if the possibility of the victims is discussed during the briefing. No person(s) shall play the role of a victim inside of the building.

The officer in charge shall assess the selected fire room environment for factors that can affect the growth, development, and spread of the fire. Fuel materials shall be used only in the amounts necessary to create the desired fire size. The fuel load shall be limited to avoid conditions that could cause an uncontrolled flashover or back draft. Only one fire at a time shall be permitted within the structure.

One officer (instructor) shall be assigned to each functional crew; crew shall not exceed five firefighters. A safety officer, plus additional safety personnel as deemed necessary, shall be located in and or around the structure to react to any unplanned or threatening situations or conditions.

Each participant shall be equipped with full protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). The safety officer shall inspect all participants prior to entry into the structure to ensure that the protective clothing and SCBA are being worn properly.

One person shall be designated as the ignition officer. The ignition officer shall wear full protective clothing, including SCBA, when performing this control function. A charged hose line shall accompany the ignition officer when he is igniting the fire. The decision to ignite the training fire shall be made by the officer in charge in coordination with the safety officer. The fire shall be ignited by the ignition officer in the presence of the safety officer.

During the live fire evolutions, the UVFD incident command system shall be in operation. It is mandatory that the UVFD accountability system be used during the live fire evolutions. For any live fire evolution, the Live Fire Evolution Checklist shall be used. A post-training critique shall be conducted to evaluate firefighter performance and to reinforce the training that was covered.

The following records and reports shall be maintained on all live fire-training evolutions:

- (1) An accounting of the activities conducted.
- (2) A listing of all officers (instructors) present.
- (3) A listing of all participants.
- (4) Any injuries incurred and treatment received.
- (5) Live Fire Evolution Checklists.