

# HIGH RISK/LOW FREQUENCY

## HUDSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guidelines

GUIDELINE NO: 300.35

**SUBJECT: Auto Extrication**

**APPROVAL:** Scott St. Martin, Fire Chief

Effective Date: 5-16-16

Revised Date: n/a

### PURPOSE

This guideline provides actions when responding to Auto Extrication Emergencies.

### RESPONSIBILITY

1. All Chief and Company Officers have the responsibility to comply with and ensure that the personnel under their command are adequately trained, fully understand, and comply with this guideline.
2. All firefighters have the responsibility to learn and follow this guideline.

### GUIDELINE

#### A. Size Up

1. Incident Commander shall determine the best placement for the responding vehicles to ensure the protection and safety of all personnel operating on the scene
2. One officer or fire fighter will complete an outer circle survey of the vehicles involved
3. One officer or fire fighter will complete an inner circle survey of the vehicles involved
4. Firefighters will stage all extrication and stabilization equipment in the safest location possible close to the work area. A tarp will be placed on the ground to identify the staging area

#### B. Stabilization

1. All Vehicles shall be stabilized to provide the safest possible working conditions
2. Stabilization methods can include
  - a. Chalking wheels
  - b. Step chocks
  - c. Cribbing
  - d. Struts
3. If tires are to be deflated, all firefighters in work area will be notified prior to deflating

#### C. Batteries shall be disconnected to de-energize vehicle prior to personnel entering vehicle

#### D. Peel and Peak

1. If any door or structural member of the car is to be cut or removed, plastic and upholstery will be removed to identify and locate airbag gas cylinders.
2. Airbag gas cylinders shall not be cut or damaged by extrication equipment

#### E. Extrication operations

1. A hose line shall be charged during any operations that involve cutting, or removing parts of a vehicle
2. Officer in charge will decide on safest method to gain access and remove the victim
3. None essential firefighters shall remain a safe distance away from the working area as to not interfere with the operation

**F. Training**

1. All Officers and Firefighters directly participating in extrication operations shall be trained to the Auto Extrication Technician Level
2. All Officers and Firefighters directly participating in extrication operations shall be trained to the Emergency Medical Responder Level or higher

**G. Safety**

1. PPE required during extrication
  - a. Bunker pants and jacket
  - b. Boot
  - c. Helmet
  - d. Primary Eye Protection
  - e. Extrication or Structural Firefighting gloves
2. Reflective vests shall be worn at all times unless there is a clear risk of fire