

Galveston Fire Department

Standard Operating Procedure

1300.02 Two In/Two Out

Fire Chief _____

Implementation Date: October 2001

Revision Date: May 2012

Review Date: November 2013

Two In/Two Out

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure is to ensure that all personnel understand and conform to Two In/Two Out requirements as prescribed by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection. These requirements are in place to ensure firefighter safety. This guideline shall be followed whenever members are operating within an IDLH Environment or in an area that may become an IDLH Environment.

The Texas Commission on Fire Protection, as authorized by the Texas Government Code 417.021, created Section 435.17 in the "Standards Manual" which specifically addresses Procedures for Interior Firefighting. This article is available at the Commission web site for review.

Guideline

When it becomes necessary for personnel to enter and operate in an IDLH atmosphere, a team of at least four fire protection personnel must be assembled prior to initiating an interior fire attack, when the fire has progressed beyond the incipient stage.

At least two members are required to enter an IDLH atmosphere and remain in visual or voice (not radio) contact with each other. The remaining two members shall remain outside of the IDLH atmosphere to perform rescue of the crew inside. One of these two members must actively monitor the status of the interior crew without being assigned any other duties. The second member of this team may be assigned an additional role but must be able to abandon that role in the event of the interior crew needing to be rescued.

Full protective clothing including SCBA is required for all personnel working in an IDLH atmosphere. Personnel outside of the IDLH atmosphere shall have full protective clothing including SCBA immediately available to them.

In the event that this guideline is not followed due to an imminent life-threatening situation (as mentioned in the purpose section), the incident commander and involved members shall submit written statements to their Safety Officer prior to the end of their shift.

It will be the responsibility of the incident commander to assign a crew to RIT duties as soon as additional personnel arrive on scene.