

**GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Standard Operating Guideline**

|                                   |          |                       |                     |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>GUIDELINE: STRUCTURE FIRES</b> |          |                       | <b>SECTION: 212</b> |
| WRITTEN<br>02/12/2020             | REVIEWED | REVISED<br>08/25/2021 | Page 94             |

**ARRIVAL ON SCENE**

1. The Officer will provide a scene size-up, establish command, and develop a fire suppression plan
2. The Officer will complete a 360-degree viewing of the structure, when possible, utilizing the thermal camera.

**SCENE SAFETY**

1. There shall be at least 2 personnel on any interior attack hose-line
2. There shall be at least 2 personnel on any interior search and rescue
3. There should be a "RIT" in place on any interior operation or any situation where personnel are exposed or could be exposed to any IDLH atmosphere.
4. Personnel must be authorized, properly trained, and equipped before participating in any interior structural fire attack or search and rescue operations

**INCIDENT ACTIONS**

1. Rescue
  - a. Human life is the most important consideration at a fire or other emergency
  - b. Rescue of humans override all other strategic considerations at a fire
  - c. The primary function of an adequately staffed apparatus shall be rescue
  - d. A primary and secondary search shall be conducted at all structure fires
2. Exposure Protection
  - a. Exposure protection is the strategy of preventing a fire from spreading to the uninvolved building(s) or into uninvolved parts of the fire building
  - b. The Incident Commander shall be responsible for ensuring the initial protection of exposures and assigning teams appropriately
3. Confinement
  - a. The strategy of confinement means preventing the fire from extending to uninvolved sections of the building
  - b. Whenever possible, the most effective method of confining fire spread is a direct attack on the fire
  - c. The Incident Commander shall decide whether to make an offensive approach, aggressive interior attack, or a defensive approach, attacking the fire from outside. There may be situations when both approaches could be used, but a defensive attack should not be used when crews are operating on the interior of the structure.
  - d. All avenues of fire spread must be considered, examples are shafts, openings, utility raceways, and ducts

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- e. Where fire involve concealed spaces, it becomes especially important that the ventilation crew creates an opening while fire attack crews operate fire streams into these spaces
- 4. Extinguishment
  - a. In most fire situations a quick and aggressive attack on the seat of the fire will take care of rescue, exposures, and confinement at the same time
  - b. The size-up will provide information as to techniques, equipment, and manpower needs to overcome the fire
- 5. Overhaul
  - a. The purpose of overhaul is to make sure the fire is out
  - b. Overhaul operations must be properly coordinated with fire investigation efforts
  - c. Unsafe conditions should be identified early in the overhaul process and definite efforts made to avoid the possible problems associated with them
  - d. During overhaul, most firefighters are more relaxed, tired, and perhaps less alert and thus more apt to get injured
  - e. Personnel should not remove their SCBA until the area is completely cleared of toxic gases
  - f. When available, a fresh crew should perform overhaul
  - g. Particular attention should be given to hidden areas during overhaul
  - h. During overhaul care should be given to protect personnel from exposure to carbon monoxide and other products of combustion
- 6. Ventilation
  - a. Based upon the situation, ventilation may need to occur anytime during the operation
  - b. Ventilation shall be employed to
    - i. Channel heat, smoke, and flames from potential victims
    - ii. To prevent backdraft and/or flashover
    - iii. To remove heat and smoke from the building to prevent further damage
    - iv. To allow the interior of the structure to be more tenable and safer for firefighting operations
- 7. Salvage
  - a. Salvage may need to begin at various points during fire operations
  - b. Salvage are the operations required to safeguard personal property, furnishings, and the unaffected portions of a structure from the effects of heat, smoke, fire streams, and weather
  - c. Salvage should include
    - i. The use of salvage covers
    - ii. Removing water from the structure

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- iii. Removing furniture and personal belongings to a safe location
  - iv. Debris removal
  - v. Removal of valuables from debris
  - vi. Covering openings to keep weather out and secure the building
  - d. All members are expected to perform in a manner that continually reduces loss during fire operations
8. Utility Control
- a. Utilities should be shut down and brought under control to ensure that they will not contribute to the fire spread, overall damage, and/or create any type of safety hazard
  - b. At structure fire where electrical involvement or damage has occurred, request via radio the response of the proper electric company
  - c. Fire personnel may shutdown the electric power via circuit breakers but shall never pull an electric meter
  - d. Shut down gas lines at the meter and have the Gas Department notified and request them to the scene
    - i. Shut down water supply at the meter to prevent further damage to the structure and contents.