



Buxton Fire-Rescue

Standard Operating Guideline

Subject: Structural Fire (3)

Section: Evacuation Tone (3)

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Purpose:

To establish the criteria for sounding an evacuation tone at a structure fire; this guideline may also be used at other incident types as ordered by the Incident Commander.

Guideline:

The use of the evacuation tone should be initiated only when an extreme hazard appears imminent.

- A) Anyone has the authority to ask for the use of the Evacuation Tone.
- B) When a severe hazard is imminent, the hazard must be relayed to the Incident Commander.
- C) The initiator, on the assigned operations channel, should describe the apparent hazard to the Incident Commander. Usually, the evacuation will be of a specific geographical area within the work zone.
 - In cases where a single geographical area has been ordered to be evacuated, the evacuation tone announcement will consist of dispatch sounding an emergency alert tone over the fire ground operations channel. An announcement will include the area(s) to be evacuated.
- D) If total evacuation of a structure is ordered, all apparatus at the scene shall sound their air horns with two (2) long blasts, each of which should be 10 seconds in duration.
- E) Upon hearing the evacuation tone, company officers and their crews must immediately exit to a safe location.
- F) The rally point for all companies will be at the location where the manpower pool has been established.
- G) All personnel will be accounted for by PAR as quickly as possible following the evacuation.
- H) When all affected crews and members have been accounted for the evacuation process is complete.
 - Often times an entire evacuation of the hazard area is a sign that an offensive operation must immediately go to defensive for the safety of all personnel.
 - Company Officers should ready their crews for new assignments following the order to evacuate.