

2-In / 2-Out

Discussion

Standards and regulations exist to enhance firefighter safety. One important standard or regulation is language usually referred to as "2-in/2-out" requiring a stand-by rescue team equipped and prepared to intervene on behalf of initial attack crews in the event they get into trouble. This team must be assembled and on-scene prior to crews making entry unless certain factors such as known occupants who are trapped are present upon arrival. Each officer must make decisions about entry into a structure in regards to this standard. This is a rule that was enacted to protect us by providing a rescue team while we are operating. It is important to understand the "spirit" of this rule in all operations which reinforces the necessity for a equipped, trained, and prepared stand-by team at all incidents. Additional discussion should take place on the difference between this stand-by rescue team and a true Rapid Intervention Team.

Review and utilize department 2-in / 2-out policy or SOG to answer these questions.

- When can an officer enter a IDLH environment (fire building) without a stand-by rescue team on-scene?
- What conditions require a stand-by rescue team prior to entry?
- How does your department staff the stand-by rescue team?
- What are the duties of a stand-by rescue team?
- What equipment should this team have available and with them while on stand-by?
- What factors may be used to determine if a building may be occupied even before making an interior search?

NFPA 1500

- Two fire fighters must remain outside danger area to rescue the team of fire fighters in danger area
- Exception is made when immediate action can prevent loss of life or serious injury
 - How are they equipped
 - Where do they locate
 - What is there designation



Persons are reported by family members to be in 2nd floor bedrooms.

You are the only company on the scene and the next due is a few minutes out, you should.....

Instructor Tip

Use photos from your own fires, magazine covers, internet resources and develop scenarios based on this procedure.