



## **Roosevelt Fire District**

### **Standard Operating Guidelines**

**Section:**  
**Operations**

**Guideline 6:**  
**Ladder Operations**

**Purpose:** To establish guidelines for all ladder company operations.

**Scope:** This procedure is to be followed by all members of the department while establishing the need for or performing any ladder company operations at an incident. This guideline covers aerial ladder, ground ladder and support operations.

#### **Procedure:**

##### **Safety:**

##### **Operators Considerations:**

1. The ladder truck should be placed in an area that will provide for safe and clear operation of the aerial device.
2. The ladder truck will be immobilized. This will be done using the parking brake and wheel chocks.
3. Outrigger jacks will always be used to provide the primary stabilization by transmitting the ladder load thru the turn table torque box to the ground. Ground plates should be used when conditions warrant.
4. Whenever possible, the aerial ladder should be raised in line with the truck. This will provide the most stability

##### **Climbers Considerations:**

1. Full PPE is always required for personnel operating on the aerial.
2. All personnel will have proper training to operate on the aerial ladder.

##### **Ladder Truck Placement:**

1. The first arriving officer on the scene should determine during their size up, the need for the aerial ladder. If it is determined that the aerial ladder will be required, adequate space must be kept open for placement of the ladder truck. Consideration should be given to trees, overhead utility lines and ground stability in determining the ladder trucks placement for aerial operations.
2. If it is determined that the aerial ladder will not be required, consideration should be given to placing the ladder truck in a position that will not block other operations yet still be accessible for ground ladders and equipment.

##### **Aerial Ladder:**

1. The ladder operator will man the ladder controls whenever there are personnel on the ladder.
2. Only the ladder operator is to be on the turntable while the aerial is being moved into position, and during ladder operation.
3. No firefighters are to mount the ladder until it is in place and the operator has given authorization to climb.
4. Spacing between climbers will be such that only one climber is on a fly section at a time.
5. Ladder belts will be worn and secured to the ladder when any operation is being performed directly from the ladder. **NO LEG LOCKS!!**
6. Under no circumstances will the aerial ladder be moved while firefighters are operating on a roof.

##### **Ground Ladders:**

1. A minimum of (2) ground ladders will be used to ladder any structure. They will be placed at opposite ends of the involved structure.
2. Whenever the aerial ladder is operating on the roof, a second ladder will be placed on the opposite side of the roof as a means of egress.

3. When interior firefighting operations are taking place above the ground floor, (2) ladders will be placed at the windows of the operating floor at opposite ends of the structure.
4. A minimum of (2) firefighters will be used to erect all ground ladders.
5. Only (1) firefighter, per section, is permitted on any ground ladder at any time.
6. Whenever there is a firefighter on a ground ladder, a firefighter will remain at the base of the ladder to stabilize the base of the ladder.

**Ventilation:**

1. All windows to be used for ventilation will be approached from the side.
2. An attempt will be made to open windows prior to breaking them, even from the outside.
3. All double hung windows will be opened from the top.
4. All windows that require breaking will be completely cleared of all glass, screens, curtains, and blinds.
5. All roof ventilation operations will be performed with a minimum of (2) firefighters but no more firefighters than necessary to accomplish the operation.
6. All roof ventilation operations will be performed from the aerial ladder or roof ladders when possible.
7. Upon completion of all roof operations, all firefighters are to leave the roof immediately.
8. All roof openings should be placed at the highest point possible above a fire area.

**Salvage:**

1. An attempt will be made to protect all structures and their contents from damage due to firefighting activities.
2. Structure contents will be protected with salvage covers or removed from the structure whenever possible.
3. All valuables salvaged from a structure will be brought to the command post.
4. All exterior openings caused by fire or ventilation operations will be sealed with plastic sheets whenever practical.