



## **Roosevelt Fire District**

### **Standard Operating Guidelines**

**Section:**  
**Operations**

**Guideline #10:**  
**Rope Rescue**

**Purpose:** To establish procedures for safe operations during rope rescues.

**Scope:** This guideline is to be followed by all officers and members while operating at incidents involving rope rescues.

#### **Procedure:**

##### **Response:**

1. The initial response for any rope rescue will be the ladder truck, E.S.S., and the ambulance.
2. The first arriving unit shall provide a size up report if any change in response is needed

##### **Safety:**

1. A safety zone shall be established by the officer in charge and shall be cleared of all non-essential personnel.
2. All personnel entering the safety zone shall be briefed on all potential hazards and conditions.
3. The Roosevelt Fire Department incident command system shall be implemented at all rope rescue incidents.
4. All Members operating at the incident shall be familiar with standard rope technology.

##### **Procedures:**

1. No members shall attempt any rope rescue operations or procedures unless they are qualified to do so.
2. All members shall be familiar with the equipment necessary for safe rope rescue operations. These include, but are not limited to, rope, harnesses, signaling, knots, stokes, carabineers, etc.
3. All equipment shall be inspected before, during and after each use by the member using such equipment and one other qualified member.
4. When working on a vertical face, keep all equipment secured to something substantial.
5. All equipment shall conform to the latest NFPA standards.
6. Protective equipment to be worn shall consist of a helmet with a chin strap, work boots, gloves, and proper clothing for weather conditions.
7. The two types of rescue rope used by the Roosevelt Fire Department shall be rescue rope – static / kernmantle and safety line – dynamic / kernmantle.
8. Because of the potential for anchor system failure, a two-anchor system shall be used whenever possible. If a vehicle is used as an anchor, the wheels shall be chocked, emergency brake engaged, and the keys removed from the ignition.
9. Whenever a person is “on line”, a belay or safety line will also be in use. For every rescuer “on line”, a back up will also be on standby.

Board Approved: 11/14/19

Last Revision 08/19