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Standard Company Functions:

- Organize basic fireground functions and activities to companies based upon the capability and characteristics of each type of unit.
- Assign major fireground functions to the particular company who can best accomplish the operation.
- Integrate the efforts of Engine, Ladder, and Rescue companies to achieve effective rescue, fire control, and loss control activities.
- Increase the awareness and confidence of company members in the standard performance of other companies operating on the fireground.
- Reduce the amount and detail of orders required to get companies into action on the fireground.

Policy

The following items represent the standard functions that will normally be performed by Engine, Ladder, Heavy Rescue and Rescue companies. These basic functions will provide the framework for field operations for these companies. Incident Commanders shall assign Engine, Ladder, Heavy Rescue and Rescue companies with their appropriate function whenever possible.

Engine Company Functions:

- Incident Size up
- Assumption of Command
- Coordinate 360° incident assessment
- · Search, rescue, and treatment
- Forcible Entry
- Stretch hose lines
- Operate nozzles
- Pump hose lines
- Loss control

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Ladder Company/Tender Functions:

- Incident Size up
- Assumption of Command
- Coordinate 360° incident assessment
- Search, rescue, and treatment
- Coordinated horizontal and vertical ventilation
- Forcible entry
- Raise ground ladders
- Provide access/check fire extension
- Utility control
- Provide lighting
- Operate ladder pipes (aerials and platforms only)
- Perform overhaul
- Extrication
- Loss control

Rescue Company Functions:

- Transportation of sick and injured to hospitals
- Search, rescue, and treatment--Rescue companies should communicate commitment and location to Command and maintain a retrievable status for victim treatment and transportation
- General firefighting duties as assigned by Command

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Heavy Rescue Company Functions:

- Incident size-up
- Assumption of Command
- Coordinate 360° incident assessment
- Search, rescue, and treatment
- Stretch hose lines
- Operate nozzles
- Loss control
- Obtain 360°
- Coordinated horizontal and vertical ventilation
- Forcible entry
- Raise ground ladders
- Provide access/check fire extension
- Utility control
- Provide lighting
- Perform overhaul
- Extrication
- Loss control
- Structural collapse/shoring
- Heavy lifting

Operational Information

In Level 1 Staging situations, first arriving Engine, Ladder or Heavy Rescue, and Rescue companies will perform these functions as required and ordered by Command.

Company Officers will determine based upon conditions and the Risk Management Plan, the priority of the functions for their company unless otherwise ordered by Command. This does not limit a company to only its listed functions. Every company will be expected to perform all basic functions safely within the limits of their capability, and it will be the on-going responsibility of Command to integrate tasks and functions as required with the on-scene units.

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In the absence (or delay) of Ladder company response, Command should assign ladder functions to a Heavy Rescue or an Engine company. For example, Command may assign an Engine company to perform salvage or overhaul. The assignment of these basic operations represents a standard fireground plan for task and tactical operations designed to improve the effectiveness and safety of all units working together. This plan should in no way limit the initiative of any officer and should enhance the decision-making process of all officers by establishing a standard operational framework.