

Manhattan Fire Protection District

Standard Operating Procedure	Section Rescue Operations	Page 1 of 2
	Subject Response to Carbon Monoxide Alarms	Date 1/27/97 SOP# 890-1

PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to provide guidance for the actions to be taken when responding to a report of a carbon monoxide problem or alarm sounding.

SCOPE

This procedure shall apply to all personnel operating at the scene of any emergency incident.

ENFORCEMENT

The primary responsibility for adherence to this procedure rests with each individual. Company officers (Captains and Lieutenants) are responsible for enforcement of this procedure.

DEFINITION

A carbon monoxide problem or alarm sounding in a structure of the district will require ambulance or squad or engine company response at a minimum.

APPLICATION

The DISPATCH CENTER shall determine from the caller the severity of the incident; whether It is an alarm sounding or if the caller is reporting illness associated with the potential if carbon monoxide in the structure. Questions to be asked by the dispatcher should include if there are complaints of headache, fatigue, nausea, dizziness or confusion. This information shall be included in the dispatch when possible, or relayed to responding crews as soon as possible prior to their arrival.

The urgency of the response is controlled by the information received from the dispatcher and associated response SOPs. Response to incidents with residents feeling ill, shall be a full structural response (Engine, Ambulance, Squad), Response to incidents with no one feeling ill may be a single company non-emergency response. Personnel shall allocate the four gas monitor from 1216 or 1221 when responding with other apparatus.

The arriving companies shall ensure their own safety as a first priority, If there is any reason to suspect dangerous levels of carbon monoxide in the structure, ABSOLUTELY NO ENTRY IS TO BE MADE WITHOUT FULLY DONNED AND OPERATING SCBA. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES SHOULD BE CALLED TO PERFORM ANY SEARCH AND/OR RESCUE OPERATIONS SAFELY.

The four gas monitor shall be fresh air calibrated outside of the structures in an area that is away from known Carbon Monoxide sources; ie, vehicle exhaust, dryer vents, furnace stacks, Preliminary atmospheric checks shall be started at the outside of the entrance to the building, then a general area sample shall be performed with the monitor and pump, with the sample extension wand removed. This sampling method speeds up the monitor reaction time.

A "CARBON MONOXIDE PROBLEM CHECKLIST" should be completed by the company officer/designee to determine the potential problems with the structure. If there is a detection of carbon monoxide or reason to believe there is a problem with the structure.

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Standard Operating Procedure	Section Rescue Operations	Page 2 of 2
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A. "NOTICE OF FINDINGS" shall be completed by the incident commander or designee, A "Nighthawk" CO Detector may be left with the residents with a faulty detector for a short period of time (<24 hours). Inform the residents that we will pick up the detector the following day. These detectors are plugged into outlets in 1216,1214 or 1215, or 1221. Company officer/designee shall log the issue of a portable detector in the logbook at their respective fire station.

Signature of Chief Dale VanderBoegh

Date 1/27/97