

Sample Daily Training Bulletin Fireground Accountability

SCENARIO: You are working around the fire station when Captain Tanya Collins asks you to take a department pickup truck to the local home improvement store to get a few needed items for the station. As you are walking into the store, you hear the Communications Center dispatch your crew to a residential structure fire. You return to the pickup and respond to the fire. When you arrive, your crew have already advanced lines and are working to extinguish the fire inside the house. You don your personal protective equipment (PPE) and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and join your crew working inside.

ISSUE: Is there anything you should do before joining your crew inside?

REFERENCE:

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to increase [firefighter] safety by establishing accountability systems for keeping track of all personnel operating at the scene of an emergency incident.

RESPONSIBILITIES

A personnel accountability system shall be established and implemented using thorough training procedures. This system should constantly monitor the status of all emergency personnel, both of department members and personnel from assisting agencies, during emergency incidents from their arrival until their official release from the incident.

A personnel accountability system should be used primarily to track personnel, not resources. However, on small incidents one individual may be responsible for tracking both personnel and resources. A written personnel accountability system, such as the Incident Command System (ICS) Form ICS-201 for Incident Commanders (ICs) or some similar process, should be used and a status board should be maintained. Individual crew names shall be posted in a conspicuous location in the cab of department vehicles.

Supervisors are responsible for participation in the accountability system by tracking all personnel under their direction on emergency incidents. Personnel should be accounted for from the time of dispatch to the time of demobilization.

Supervisors should implement sufficient tracking methods for personnel at the individual, company, division, group and unit levels to account for personnel during all phases and at all locations of an incident, including travel between locations and assignments.

The IC should designate an accountability officer to monitor who is in charge of each area, what crews are assigned to each area, where each area is located and the area assignment.

Division or group supervisors should be assigned to keep track of all crews under their supervision. Captains should know the location and assignment of each firefighter in their crew.

All members are responsible for participating in the accountability system, including checking in at approved locations. This includes members who arrive on-scene individually or in privately owned vehicles.

ANALYSIS: Our department personnel accountability system is used to track personnel while working on emergency scenes. The system should constantly monitor the status of all emergency personnel during emergency incidents. Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that all personnel are accounted for while operating within an emergency scene. All members are responsible for participating in our personnel accountability system, including members who arrive on-scene individually.

CONCLUSION: All members are responsible for participating in the accountability system, including checking in at approved locations. This includes when we arrive on-scene individually and when we arrive as a member of a crew.

QUESTION: Only members who arrive as part of a crew on fire apparatus are responsible for participating in the on-scene accountability system.

- (a) True
- (b) False

CORRECT ANSWER:
False