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| ***REPLACE WITH YOUR MASTHEAD*** |
| **VFIS logo black JPG** | **SOG Title:** |
| **SOG Number:** |
| **Original Date:** | **Revision Date:** |
| **ABC Fire Department General Operating Guideline** |

**Hazardous Materials Response & Management**

***This is a sample of a standard operating guideline (SOG) on this topic. You should review the content, modify as appropriate for your organization, have it reviewed by your leadership team and if appropriate your legal counsel. Once adopted, make sure the SOG is communicated to members, implemented and performance monitored for effective implementation.***

**Purpose:**

The potential threat of a chemical release and related emergencies exist for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. These incidents are comprised of; but not limited to, fires, spills, accidents involving motor vehicles and other modes of transportation, chemical reactions, explosions, etc. Affiliated hazards may include toxicity, flammability, radiological hazards, corrosives, other health hazards or any combination thereof

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department is generally determined to be the primary agency for initial response to incidents involving hazardous materials in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, as it is commonly the initial organized responder with an assignment to contain, control and/or conclude the emergency and the most ranking official of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department is appointed officer in charge by most state statutes.

This is a fundamental guideline for response to hazardous material emergencies for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department. It is intended to be adaptable for response, but sufficiently explicit to allow the continuity of command and the flow of information.

The goal of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department in a Hazardous Material Incident is to safeguard the life and property of the citizens and the environment of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ while favorably altering the effects of a hazardous material emergency prior to its natural consequences.

**Procedure:**

To achieve the goals stated above, it is the responsibility of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department to complete the following at a Hazardous Material incident:

* Isolation of the incident area and denying entry to the public and unauthorized personnel.
* Expeditious identification of the involved material and/or products.
* Assessment of the hazards, the current risk and the potential damage of the incident.
* Providing appropriate protection for all emergency personnel
* Organization and control of all available information, technical assistance, resources and responding agencies.
* Control of the entire incident including control and confinement of the involved material/products and resulting runoff when safely possible.
* Decontamination of personnel, civilians, equipment and property as required and when safely possible.
* Request the needed assistance to resolve the emeregency.

***This is a sample guideline furnished to you by VFIS. Your organization should review this guideline and make the necessary modifications to meet your organization’s needs. The intent of this guideline is to assist you in reducing exposure to the risk of injury, harm or damage to personnel, property and the general public. For additional information on this topic, contact your VFIS Risk Control representative.***

**References:**

West Redding (CT) VFD – GOG 8-QHM-801 Developed/Revised/Reviewed by VFIS ETC