Pleasant Valley Fire District

Standard Operating Guidelines

SOG #6 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS (MVA)

PURPOSE: To provide all emergency responders with the utmost level of safety when operating in or around the scene of a motor vehicle accident.

GUIDELINES:

I. All emergency responders will be in full turnout gear initially. Down leveling of gear may be allowed by the Officer in Charge (OIC) once it has been determined that the scene is safe. This includes EMS personnel.

2. The first arriving apparatus or Chief should transmit a scene size-up report.

3. If necessary, all roads should be shut down and if possible, traffic diverted.

4. All compartments of the vehicles involved in the incident will be opened to identify potential hazards to emergency personnel

5. All personnel involved in the care and treatment of victims or scene clean up should take proper infectious control measures as specified in the Pleasant Valley Fire District's ***Infectious Control Policy.***

6. All vehicles should be totally stabilized by trained personnel prior to any activities.

7. Only trained personnel should use extrication tools.

8. All personnel should report to staging upon arrival at the scene.

9. Proper eye protection will be in place when operating at the scene of a motor vehicle accident.

10. Proper vehicle placement is critical and should be considered and exercised when positioning emergency and personal vehicles at the scene. Location of exhaust must be considered in vehicle placement.

11. All traffic control will be handled by the Fire Police whenever possible. Additional help assigned to assist should report to the Fire Police Operations Officer.

12. When extricating a victim from a vehicle, all vehicle occupants, including members will be covered for their protection.

13. All personnel should wear high visibility vests except for the members actively working on the vehicle.

14. When responding to a vehicle accident involving an electric and/or telephone pole, the driver should place the apparatus a minimum of one (1) pole length away from the involved pole on the opposite side of the street of the wires.

15. The rescue truck will not leave without at least two (2) qualified tool operators on board unless told to do so by the on-scene OIC.

16. When operating at all MVA's, a minimum of a 20-pound, ABC dry chemical extinguisher should always be available.

17. Both car battery cables (+ and -) should be cut on all incidents with occupants remaining in the vehicle.