# SOP 602 – CARBON MONOXIDE RESPONSE PROCEDURES

## *GENERAL*

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, tasteless, colorless gas that is deadly. It is a by-product of a fuel burning process. Many appliances such as furnaces, kitchen stoves, hot water heaters, automobiles, etc. can produce carbon monoxide. When a faulty or unusual condition exists, carbon monoxide may be vented into areas where people are present.

This procedure shall be followed when investigating a carbon monoxide detector activation or a carbon monoxide emergency.

Upon arrival on scene the IC will verify the nature of the activation (alarm activation, medical activation, etc.) and determine emergency level.

## *IF AN APPARENT CARBON MONOXIDE EMERGENCY EXISTS*

Determine life hazard

a) Verify status of building occupants
b) Insure adequate response (Fire and Rescue)
c) Insure all Interior personnel use SCBA's
d) Primary search is completed
e) Scene safety
f) Command Operation

## *IF NO APPARENT CARBON MONOXIDE EMERGENCY EXISTS*

The IC will complete section (A) of the carbon monoxide checklist. If a yes answer is given SCBA's shall be worn when entering the premises. If all answer's to section (A) are no, S. C. B. A 's shall be worn at the discretion of the IC.

The IC or his designee will complete section (B) of the carbon monoxide checklist and shall insure that all questions are completed.

Using the checklist, an attempt will be made to determine the cause of activation. If there is a detection of carbon monoxide.

a) Record PPM reading in the appropriate position on the checklist.
b) Have the dispatcher notify the authority responsible or connected to the problem.

If no cause for detector activation can be found and no CO is detected.

a) Advise occupant to replace detector.
b) Advise occupant to notify utility company for follow-up testing.

Upon completion of the inspection a carbon monoxide detector activation notice of finding form shall be completed and signed by the occupant and the IC or his designee.

**DIX HILLS FIRE DISTRICT**
**CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR ACTIVATION**
**NOTICE OF FINDING**

Carbon Monoxide is an odorless, tasteless, colorless gas that is DEADLY. It is a by-product of a fuel burning process. It can cause symptoms that can mimic flu, unconsciousness and even death. Many appliances around the home are capable of producing Carbon Monoxide when a faulty or unusual condition exists. **Since the source may be transient in nature, the source may not always be detectable**.

The Dix Hills Fire Department responded to investigate a possible Carbon Monoxide problem at
Time: _____Hours Date: _____

Location:
_____
___

CARBON MONOXIDE ( ) was ( ) was not found by our instruments. This does not mean that higher levels did not exist prior to our arrival nor that higher levels will not accumulate after out departure. Check your carbon monoxide detector per the manufacture's recommendations. Call the manufacturer for additional information (number may be on back of unit) Replace or reset detector as directed by the manufacturer's specifications.

More than 9 PPM: **Our instruments have detected potentially dangerous levels of carbon monoxide**. We recommend that you leave this building immediately. We feel that it is unsafe to re-occupy this building until repairs are made and your detector is replaced or reset detector as directed by the manufacturer's specifications.

35 PPM: Maximum allowable concentration for continuous exposure in any 8-hour period according to OSHA.

100 PPM or greater: **We have detected a potentially lethal level of carbon monoxide in your home**. Leave your building immediately. It is not safe until repairs are made or the source is found and corrected. Have your source of carbon monoxide examined and if necessary repaired by a qualified repair technician. Replace or reset your detector according to manufacturer's specifications. Carbon Monoxide affects individuals differently depending on the size, age and medical history of the occupants. Therefore, families with young children or members with medical conditions, or aged individuals should take extra precautions in the event that Carbon Monoxide is detected.

O.I.C. SIGNATURE_____

OCCUPANTS SIGNATURE_____

DATE: _____ TIME: _____