



RESEARCH FOUNDATION

RESEARCH FOR THE NFPA MISSION

PROJECT SUMMARY

Review of Emergency Responder Standard Operating Procedures/Guidelines (SOP/SOG)

29 August 2016

Background: The fire service operates as a para-military organization dependent on clear and predetermined instructions. This allows individuals to know what they are supposed to do as well as expect what others will do. Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines (SOPs/SOGs) documents provide information on department rules for completing a job, using the knowledge, and skills to perform specific operations. A model template for developing these documents will be important when considering techniques and methods used in firefighting based on accepted scientific principals and research in the field of fire dynamics.

Research Goal: The purpose of this project is to collect and analyze SOPs/SOGs from North American fire departments to determine similarities, differences, and trends that will help guide the development of a model SOP/SOG template.

Project Tasks:

1. Collect SOP/SOGs – Collect structure fire SOPs from the North American fire service. A description of the fire department, including size of department, department structure, geographical location, type of occupancies in jurisdiction, etc., is determined based on a questionnaire.
2. Review SOP/SOGs – Analyze for key features and characteristics. Analyze representative sample of for comparison.
3. Create Database – Develop a database of SOPs and department description that can be used for further analysis.

Implementation: This research program will be conducted under the auspices of the Research Foundation in accordance with Foundation Policies and will be guided by a Project Technical Panel who will provide input to the project, recommend contractor selection, review periodic reports of progress and research results, and review the final project report.

Schedule:

Interim Report: 30 October 2016

Final Report: 9 December 2016