

#### 4.03 VEHICLE EXTRICATION

Scope- This procedure has been developed to provide Fire Department personnel with an operational procedure to extricate patients from vehicles and to minimize the risk of fire and explosion to rescue personnel working at the scene of an emergency. The extent to which emergency medical care is provided will be limited to the individual(s) personal protection and training of Department members and upon request from approved agencies that provide emergency medical care.

Size Up- Upon arriving at the scene of a vehicle accident with a pin-in, the company officer shall conduct a scene size up. The officer should evaluate the following criteria:

- A. Is the scene safe
- B. The number of vehicles involved
- C. Stability of vehicles involved
- D. Number of persons injured or pinned
- E. Severity of injuries
- F. Actual fire present
- G. Leaking fuel causing a potential fire or explosion hazard
- H. Involvement of electrical power lines or other electrocution hazards
- F. Actual fire present

**If it is determined that the vehicle is a hybrid, a safety cone shall be placed on the roof of the vehicle.**

Emergency Medical Care- If medical assistance is not present at the time of the Fire Department's arrival, medical assistance shall be requested and/or confirmed. The rendering of emergency medical care shall be limited to the situation present and upon the training education, experience and available safety equipment of fire fighters.

Scene Securement- The officer in charge shall survey the scene for possible hazards. Contact shall be made with medical personnel present to determine the extent of extrication required. (rescue or recovery)

A minimum of one hand line (1-1/2" or greater) shall be stretched as a precautionary measure against the threat of fire. At least one fire fighter shall be assigned this task wearing full protective clothing. All ignition sources shall be eliminated from the area. The batteries of all vehicles involved shall be disconnected.

Extrication Process- The extrication of patients shall be done in cooperation with the medical personnel on the scene to ensure that extrication is performed with a minimum risk of injury to patients, public, fire, and EMS personnel. The methods utilized will vary with the situation and must be coordinated with medical personnel.

When the need for extrication exceeds the resources of our Department, additional resources shall be requested from the nearest municipality.

In some situations it will be necessary to establish a path to the patient for assessment of ABC's and stabilization of same. Further extrication may then need to be done to extricate the

patient from the wreckage. Fire/rescue needs to coordinate its efforts with medical personnel. Quality patient care is of the utmost importance.

A decision should be made as soon as possible whether Theda Star is needed to give them notice for a quick response.

Set up a 25' Red Zone that only personnel working directly on the vehicle(s) involved shall be in.

