

<b>AMARILLO FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES</b>	<b>MAYDAY PROCEDURES</b>
<b>304.06b</b>	<b>03/05</b>
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**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this procedure is to identify the actions that should be taken in the event a firefighter is endangered beyond normal firefighting operations.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

- A. The term *Mayday* will be used *only* when personnel are in immediate life-threatening situations. The AFD will use "Emergency Traffic" to report other emergencies.
- B. A firefighter reporting *Mayday* will have priority over all other radio traffic. All firefighters operating on scene will use radios for immediately critical information only. Command should move all personnel that are *not* directly involved in rescue operations to a different fireground radio channel to keep the victim's radio channel clear.
- C. In the event of a Mayday emergency, the following action should be taken by the firefighter(s) that is endangered:
  - 1. Rectify any immediately life-threatening situations.
  - 2. Notify Command using "Mayday, Mayday"
  - 3. Activate the P.A.S.S. Device
  - 4. Take actions to self-evacuate and/or merge with RIT
  - 5. Take actions to conserve air supply.
- D. The firefighter reporting *Mayday* will contact the Incident Commander if a portable radio is available. The acronym *E.S.C.A.P.E.* provides the critical information that should be reported:

**Engine Assignment and Name**

**Situation** – injuries, cause of entrapment (i.e., structure collapse, wire entanglement, lost, etc)

**Conditions**

**Air supply remaining**

**Position** - rescue crew access routes (i.e., following hose line, stairwell, etc.)

**Escape Plan**

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- E. During Mayday Operations, Sector Officers and firefighters will continue with assignments as given by Command. They will not redirect their activities without the knowledge and consent of the Incident Commander.
  
- F. During Mayday Operations, Command and on scene firefighters will follow the provisions outlined in SOP304.06a, "*Lost or Trapped Firefighters.*"
  
- G. Any incident involving a firefighter rescue operation or a near-miss incident shall be reported to the Operations Chief and the AFD Health and Safety Officer for investigation. The Incident Commander that was in charge of the incident shall conduct a critique of the rescue operation or near-miss situation.