

# TECHNICAL RESCUE GUIDELINES

## CHAPTER 25.1

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Submitted By: Ed Kennedy, District Chief    Approved By: Ed Bailey, Chief

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this program is to provide dedicated teams of individuals capable of performing rescue operations requiring specialized equipment and techniques. The areas of specialization include, but are not limited to, high angle rope rescue, confined space, trench rescue, building collapse, vehicle and machinery extrication.

### **Responsibility and Authority**

Alachua County Fire Rescue (ACFR) maintains a State of Florida recognized Type II Light Technical Rescue Team (LTRT). This team is considered a state-wide resource and is deployable as a single unit or in conjunction with Florida Task Force 8 for Urban Search And Rescue (USAR). As a Type II Light Technical Rescue Team the unit is capable of immediate response if needed and can, be deployed as part of a force USAR response within 3 hours.

### **Organization**

The Team Manager is responsible for administration of the Type II Light Technical Rescue Team.

The LTRT vehicles and equipment will be located at Station 16. Every effort will be made to ensure that at least 6 members of the Team are on duty at all times. Requests for the LTRT) to respond to an incident may be made through the State of Florida or through Mutual Aide.

### **Member Qualifications**

All members of the Type II LTRT will be certified to the Operations Level in the five (5) disciplines as outlined by the State of Florida.

Team members who meet the Technician Level are encouraged to get additional training to the Specialist Level.

The Technical Branch of Alachua County Fire Rescue will oversee all training and shall keep a separate training folder for each individual in the program.

All members of the LTRT are required to demonstrate proficiency appropriate of technical skills on a yearly basis as mandated by the State of Florida. The Technical Services Branch of ACFR will assist the Team Manager to accomplish this objective.

## **Response**

### **Response for a Catastrophic Event with no warning**

The Team Manager will be notified of any event that requires a response within 3 hours. Once notified, the Manager will contact the on-duty District Chiefs to assist in contacting individuals who are available for response. The response teams will be designated Red, White and Blue and will consist of 6 personnel. In the event that a team member cannot be deployed he/she is responsible for ensuring that an alternate has been selected. The name of the alternate shall be given to the team manager prior to any deployment actions.

The Team Manager will contact the Chief of Fire Rescue or designee to secure all necessary pre-deployment information including but not limited to: Tasking number from State, names and contact information for deployed members.

The Team Manager will ensure that contact is made with the assigned Task Force leader and that an appropriate assembly place for the team is established.

Currently for a deployment north of Gainesville the Task Force assembly point is Station 16; for a deployment south of Gainesville the assembly point is Marion County Station 20.

The Task Force Manager or designee will ensure that the ACFR component is self-sufficient for at least 5 days. Supplies should include water, MRE's, cots and ATV's.

During deployment the Team Manager will, when possible, contact the Section Chief of Fire Rescue or designee to provide updates and expected demobilization dates. The Team Manager will have in their possession a Departmental issued phone.

Upon returning from deployment, the Team Manager or designee shall submit within a reasonable period of time the following: payroll records, injury reports if necessary and an after-action report documenting all activities of the team during deployment. Team personnel will be paid in accordance with adopted deployment policies and procedures.

### **Response for an Anticipated Event**

Incidents such as hurricanes, political gatherings and sporting events are usually anticipated and require a less urgent response of USAR personnel.

If possible, the Team Manager will brief crews prior to the event providing information about the teams anticipated activities. Personnel on call for the event will be updated on the status of the pending event.

Necessary supplies (food, water, ATV's, transportation) will be inventoried and moved to Station 16.

Upon returning from deployment, the Team Manager or designee will complete all required paperwork as outlined previously.

## **Immediate Response**

When notified of an event requiring the immediate response of the Type II Light Technical Rescue Team. The on-duty District Chief shall contact the Team Manager and relay the need for urgent action. If possible, the Team Manager will accompany the team to the incident. It will be the responsibility of the on-duty District Chief to obtain all information prior to the deployment of the team. This information will include a task number, location of the event, type of event and anticipated length of deployment.

A response of the LTRT requires six (6) Operations Level trained personnel. In the event that ACFR cannot immediately accommodate this provision, the on-duty District Chief will contact the Gainesville Fire Rescue Department (District One) and request assistance. The decision to respond shall be based on the ability to provide the necessary personnel and equipment.

Apparatus utilized to transport the response team may include Squad 16, Quint 16, Rescue 16 and a Command vehicle. On extended operations the District Chief in charge of scheduling will immediately to backfill those personnel and apparatus committed as LTRT.

In the event that a complete response cannot be generated the requesting agency shall be informed of ACFR's resources. It is possible that ACFR's personnel might still respond if requested.

## **Equipment Inventory**

An inventory of the LTRT equipment cache will be maintained by personnel assigned to Station 16 "B" shift. The operational status and location of this equipment will be determined monthly, commencing on the first "B" shift of each month. All deficiencies will be reported to the Team Manager.

See appendix for equipment inventory.

## **Training**

All personnel assigned to the LTRT (all personnel certified to Operations Level) will be evaluated annually to ensure that skills are current. The document to be utilized for this review (Operations level only) will be the State “Member Readiness Evaluation“. The Training Officer assigned with the duties will ensure that all members meet or exceed all applicable skills as listed on the form.

At least two hours of technical rescue training will be conducted each week. A Company Officer or designee will supervise and document each session adhering to departmental guidelines. The Team Manager will review the Technical Rescue training documents monthly and report these activities to the Technical Services Branch by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Additional training activities may be initiated by the Team Manager.

## **Appendix 1**

### **Training Calendar for Technical Rescue Team**

January	Collapse
February	Vehicle/Machinery Extrication
March	Confined Space
April	Trench
May	Ropes
June	Deployment readiness
July	USNG
August	Equipment Skills
September	Assigned by Company Officer
October	Field Operation Guide ( FOG )
November	Assigned by Company Officer
December	Review and make up sessions if applicable

## **Appendix 2**

### **Equipment Inventory**

8-10 Lb Sledge Hammer	2
3-4 Lb. Sledge Hammer	2
Cold Chisel (1"X 7 7/8 ")	2
Pinch Point Pry Bar ( 60")	4
Claw Wrecking Bar (3')	2
Hacksaw ( heavy duty Stanley)	2
Carbide Hacksaw Blade pkg.	3
Crosscut Hacksaw (26")	2
Bolt Cutter (30") HK Porter	1
Scoop Shovel "D" Handle	1
Axe (Flat Head) Nupla	1
Axe (Pick Head) Nupia	1
Shovel, Long Handle SQ. Pt.	1
Shovel, Long Handle Rd. Pt.	1
Chain set 1 ea 1" .w/grab hook on each end Omaha Sling	1
1 ea. 3/8 5' w/grab hook & slip hook	1
1 ea. 3/8 10' w/grab hook & slip hook	1
Come Along (3 ton)Little 404 wna	1
Air Bag Set	1
Tape Measure ( 25') Stanley 33-600	2
Framing Hammer ( 24oz) Estwing	2
Tri or Speed Square Johnson RAS 1	2
Carpenter belts	2
Generator ( 5kw) Honda	1
Floodlight (500wt) Pro Series	6

Extension Cords (50')	6
Wye Electrical adapter	1
5 ft X 1 in. Tubular Web Blue	6
12 ft X 1 in. Tubular Web Yellow	6
15 ft X 1 in. Tubular Web Orange	6
20 ft. X 1 in. Tubular web Red	6
CMC Rescue Pick-off Strap	1
CMC ProTech Fire-Rescue Harness L/XL	2
150 ft X ½ in CMC Rescue Lifeline Orange	1
150 ft X ½ in CMC Rescue Lifeline Red	1
6 ft X 8mm Prusik cord Teal	6
Ultra-Pro Edge protector	2
CMC Large Steel Carabiner, Gold	12
CMC Large Steel Carabiner,Gold ( stretcher )	4
CMC Rescue ProSeries Single Pulley	3
CMC Rescue Aluminum 8 w/ears,black	2
CMC Rescue #2 Rope Bag, Orange	1
CMC Rescue #2 Rope bag, Red	1
CMC Proseries Rescue Harness	1
Traverse titan Rescue Stretcher (tapered)	1
Four Gas meter IST AIM 600	1
Electrical Detection Device	1
Lock Out/ Tag Out Kit	2
Chain Saw Stihl	1
Saw Circular 10 ¼ w/blades	1

Sawsall, Milwaukee	1
Technical Search Device, Snake Eye	1
Sawsall, Dewalt	1
Gibbs Ascenders	2
Ladder Rack	1
Carabiners, Red	2
Etrier	1
Load Release	2
Generator, Honda	1
Welding Kit	1
Replacement Parts for Generator/Welder	1

### Appendix 3

#### Directive on the Usage of Alachua County Department of Public Safety's All Terrain Vehicles (ATV)

1. ATV's are to be utilized by members of either the USAR Team or Light Technical Rescue Team.
2. Currently the ATV's are stationed at Station 16. Maintenance and operational issues will be assigned to "C" Shift. All repairs will be conducted by Alachua County Fleet Management.
3. In the event of a deployment, the ACFR'S Team Leader will secure all transportation requirements for the ATV's.
4. The following Safety requirements shall be followed at all times:
  - a. Helmets will be worn whenever the vehicle is moving.
  - b. Eye Protection to be worn at all times.
  - c. Long pants and boots are required whenever operating an ATV. During deployments a long sleeve shirt/jacket will be worn.
  - d. Ride within your abilities.
  - e. One rider per machine.
  - f. Check weather forecast, if lightening is present seek a safe shelter.
  - g. Obey all traffic and information signs.

- h. If operating in nighttime conditions, a flashlight must be carried in case of an emergency.
- i. During emergency operations, a two-way radio must be carried by the operator.