

Miami Township Fire and EMS Operating Procedures



TITLE:	CARBON MONOXIDE RESPONSE OPERATING PROCEDURE	#1001	
EFFECTIVE DATE:	03/18/2015	DATE AMENDED:	09/18/2015
REVIEW DATE:	03/18/2016	APPROVED BY:	Chief Steve Kelly

This Operating Procedure shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until superseded.

PURPOSE

Establish an Operating Procedure (OP) for Carbon Monoxide (CO) related incidents.

SCOPE

This Procedure is designed to provide a framework for safe operation when dealing with a CO Alarm or CO related incident.

These are not rules, but Procedures to be used under the best of conditions with the optimum resources available. It is important to note that judgment and discretion must be used on all functions, activities and operations of the department.

DEFINITIONS

False Positive

A test result which incorrectly indicates that a particular condition or attribute is present.

PROCEDURES

A. Command

1. Establish Incident Command (IC) per the *Incident Command Operating Procedure #301*.
2. If the responding units are advised by dispatch, or at time of arrival it is found that the complainants are experiencing CO related symptoms, an EMS transport unit shall be requested, and the response upgraded to emergent.

B. Investigation And Findings

1. The initial investigation shall be conducted with the use of a Multi-Gas style detector; the detector shall be turned on and zeroed prior to entering the structure.
2. Any door and window of the structure shall be closed while the investigation takes place.
3. Upon entering the structure, if the detector at any time reads 50 parts per million (PPM) of CO, the premises should be evacuated and the rest of the investigation shall be conducted with the use of PPE and SCBA.
4. Special consideration should be taken to offer immediate medical attention to persons experiencing symptoms, or to make any rescues necessary.
5. Investigation should start with locating the alarming device to ascertain what type of alarm the device is producing (low battery, malfunctions, or elevated CO).
6. All fuel-burning appliances shall be independently operated for approximately five minutes during investigation.
7. Investigation should monitor for CO levels on every floor and room, with special attention given to GAS or CO producing appliances.



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8. The investigation and CO readings shall be noted on the *Carbon Monoxide Investigation Checklist*.
9. If it is determined that an appliance is malfunctioning and thereby producing CO, it shall be shut down and red tagged.
10. If no CO source is determined and/or no CO measured, substances and conditions that may cause a 'false negative' should be investigated per the *Carbon Monoxide Investigation Checklist*.

C. Notification Of Outside Agencies

1. Duke Energy must be notified for any of the following reasons:
 - a. Anytime a CO level of 10 PPM or greater has been discovered whether or not the source is a gas appliance.
 - There is no need to contact Duke Energy if there is no natural or LP gas supply to the premises under investigation.
 - b. The responding crew shuts off any natural gas appliance.
 - c. The Incident Commander feels response by the gas company is indicated.

D. Follow-Up

1. The Incident Commander shall ensure that the occupant(s) understand what action has taken place and why. All questions shall be answered to the best of the Incident Commander's ability.
 - a. If Duke Energy has been requested, inform the occupant(s) why and what the next steps in the process will be.
 - b. If combustion appliances have malfunctioned advise the occupant(s) to consult a qualified technician for the repair of the appliance.

E. Special Circumstances

1. CO Detection During An EMS Response
 - a. Each ambulance has a MSA Single Gas detector attached to the airway bag.
 - b. If a CO level exceeding 25 PPM is encountered, the detector will alert. The peak level for the detector is 500 PPM.
 - A PPM reading will not be shown on the detector.
 - c. If the detector activates, the premises should be evacuated and an engine and District 26 supervisor dispatched to the scene.
2. CO Alarm With symptoms
 - a. For any occupant where CO poisoning is suspected, the RAD57 must be used to assess for the presence and the level of SpCO in the victim.
 - b. If SpCO levels are greater than 10 PPM, encourage the occupant(s) that they should be treated and transported to a hospital for evaluation.