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|  | Hampton-Valley Forge Vol. Fire Dept. Standard Operating Guidelines | |
| | Subject: Response to Carbon Monoxide Alarms | SOG # 2-15 |
| | Approved: Fire Chief Chris Isaacs | Initiated 01/01/2019 Revised 01/01/2019 |

WHEN RESPONDING TO CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE WILL BE FOLLOWED:

1. OSHA has established a maximum safe working level for carbon monoxide at 35 PPM over an 8-hour period, in the general workplace. The EPA has established that residential levels are not to exceed 15 PPM over a 30-day period.

The Hampton-Valley Forge V.F.D. is responsible only for investigating a reported carbon monoxide problem or a detector sounding. **We are not there to repair the problem.** We are to advise the occupant(s) of our findings, to assist them in exiting the structure if necessary and to render emergency care if applicable.

NOTE: Symptoms are similar to the flu, which may include headache, nausea, fatigue and dizzy spells.

2. Each member riding the apparatus will wear full protective clothing including self-contained breathing apparatus except the driver who will stay with the apparatus.
3. Personnel will zero the air monitor in fresh air and comply with all other start up procedures recommended by the manufacturer specifications.
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5. If there is no presence of carbon monoxide, recommend occupants to check their CO detector per manufacturer recommendations. For levels of 15 PPM or less, SCBA's can be removed at the discretion of the incident commander and ventilation is not required.
6. If there is a presence of carbon monoxide in the establishment, the occupants will be advised of the readings and depending upon the level of carbon monoxide, will be ordered to vacate the premises. Personnel will try and locate the source, shut it off and ventilate. It will be the responsibility of the owner/occupants to call the proper service technician to fix the problem.
7. Once the air monitor has given a safe reading in all fields the occupants will then be

allowed to reenter the establishment and an attempt will be made to reset the detector. Inform the occupants that if it activates again to call 9-1-1.

8. Personnel are responsible for making sure that their SCBA are put back in service and that the air monitor is properly restored for the next incident.

NOTE: *Response to this type of alarm will be routine unless the occupants are complaining of feeling ill and the ambulance has been dispatched.*