

	Hampton-Valley Forge Vol. Fire Dept. Standard Operating Guidelines	
	Subject: Post-Incident Critique	SOG # 2-24
	Approved: Fire Chief Chris Isaacs	Initiated 01/01/2019 Revised 01/01/2019

A. PURPOSE

The purpose is to provide a guideline governing post-incident critiques of emergency incident operations. The post-incident critique system is a means of providing specific information to all personnel to allow them to benefit from the experience gained from a particular incident in an effort to improve operations at similar, future incidents.

B. REQUIREMENTS

The critique shall be completed for all working fire, as well as for any other Fire/EMS incidents where additional alarms are requested.

C. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Company Officers are responsible for writing critiques of their units' performances in memorandum form and forwarding them to the Fire Chief within five (5) days after the incident.
2. The Fire Chief shall compile and review the critiques and set a date and time to meet with all personnel to discuss any pertinent details about the incident.
3. The Fire Chief shall distribute the critique to the Department, once completed.

D. PROCEDURES

1. The critique is to be produced without the use of individual names; references are to be made by unit designation. It will normally be necessary to meet with all Officers or units that operated at the incident or to review the company incident reports to acquire the needed information.
2. Upon distribution, the critique is to be placed in a Post-Incident Critique Manual.

E. CRITIQUE CONTENTS

1. Incident Management System (IMS)

- a. State the command post and staging locations
- b. Indicate what parts of the IMS were used (such as operations, safety, EMS control, rescue, public information, etc.) and describe the assignment and actions of each.
- c. List any sectors that were established, including the sector commanders, units and assigned functions.

2. Problems Encountered

List specific operational problems encountered throughout the incident; for example, blocked Siamese connection, barred windows, false ceilings, inoperative hydrant, accelerants used, multiple fires set, triage problems, etc.

3. Lessons Learned and Reinforced

- a. List the specific things that were done correctly and worked well.
- b. List the ways the operation could be improved or possible solutions to the problems. Items should not be listed in a negative manner but should be presented positively for the purpose of providing a means of improving operations in the future.

4. Summary

Give a brief overall summary of the incident.