

	<h1>COMMERCE FIRE DEPARTMENT</h1> <h2>Standard Operating Guidelines</h2>
	Subject: Chimney Fires
	Reference Number: 2.03
	Effective Date: 1/9/2014 Last Date Revised: 1/8/2015
	Approved By: Chief Kevin Dean

Purpose: To standardize operations for chimney fires and to cover all aspects of this type of response and designate responsibilities for all concerned.

Scope: This guideline applies to all Commerce Fire Department personnel.

Responsibilities: The objective of this department regarding chimney fires is to confine and extinguish the chimney fire limiting the amount of damage to the dwelling while practicing all safety precautions.

Procedures:

- a. Initial size-up, including checking for extension, shall be done by the first arriving unit.
- b. Account for all occupants.
- c. The first arriving engine shall be placed in an offensive position leaving room for aerial units if needed.
- d. Additional arriving units shall observe level 1 staging until further instructions by the incident commander.
- e. Firefighters shall observe safe practices and procedures at all times.
- f. For chimney fires that extend outside the chimney, the incident commander shall pursue attack.
- g. For fires that are contained to the chimney, the following steps shall be taken:
 - A) Oxygen / air supply shut off to the fire.
 - B) Salvage covers put in place.
 - C) Consider horizontal positive pressure ventilation.
 - D) Extinguish the fire in fire box and remove contents.
 - E) Ladder the roof and set up for extinguishment.
 - F) Extinguish fire in chimney.
 - G) Use dry chemical extinguisher (using water on chimney may cause liner or mortar joints to crack).
 - H) Chimney Bombs may be used if access can be made to chimney top.

Safety:

- A. Full protective gear for all roof team members including SCBA. SCBA may or may not be needed inside. Decision will be at the discretion of the IC or Commanding Officer.
- B. Be careful of ice and slippery conditions on roof.
- C. Eye protection when looking down chimney.
- D. Avoid laddering chimney - may cause collapse.
- E. Watch out for wires when laddering building.
- F. Always use roof ladder when working on roof.
- G. Make sure fire was contained in chimney - Double check for hot spots before leaving scene.

The Commerce Fire Department shall not engage in cleaning of chimneys. The cleaning shall be left to a professional service thus relieving the department from any liability.