

	<h1>COMMERCE FIRE DEPARTMENT</h1> <h2>Standard Operating Guidelines</h2>
	Subject: Aerial Operations
	Reference Number: 2.06
	Effective Date: 1/9/2014 Last Date Revised: 8/6/2015
Approved By: Chief Kevin Dean	

Purpose: To give direction in operations of aerial apparatus. These directions at no time will supersede the manufacturers recommended practices for operations.

Scope: This applies to all Commerce Fire Department personnel which may be operating the department's aerial device.

Responsibilities: The safety of fellow employees, the general public, as well as firefighting/rescue equipment shall be the shared responsibility of both the equipment's operator/driver as well as that operator/ driver's immediate officer. The direction and decisions of the ranking personnel shall constitute ultimate responsibility.

Procedures:

1. Aerial equipment shall be deployed and used in accordance with the equipment manufacturers' guidelines.
2. Aerial equipment shall be maintained and tested in accordance to the equipment manufacturers' specifications as overseen by the department's Fleet Maintenance Supervisor.
3. Aerial equipment shall be inspected annually by a qualified UL inspector. Inspection shall meet *NFPA 1911: Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Automotive Fire Apparatus*.
3. A 'vehicle-backing spotter' is required at all times that the aerial vehicle is in reverse.
4. Stabilizing outriggers shall be utilized each and every time that the vehicle's aerial device is raised from its bed location. The process of 'overriding' the operation of the vehicle's outriggers or 'short jacking' the unit is greatly discouraged. However, in those isolated incidents, where no other clear choice exists, the following procedures must be adhered to for prior to an 'outrigger override'.
 - a. No vehicle operator/driver may attempt to execute an 'override' of the outrigger functions without prior training and practice as provided from this department's training division.
5. The nozzle on the aerial is to be stored in the rescue (lower) position and not at the tip (upper) position. The rescue (lower) position allows for quick ladder placement during rescue or roof operations, while providing an elevated stream at the 60' mark on the ladder. If a higher elevated stream is needed, the nozzle may be moved to the tip (upper) position.

6. The safe operation of departmental aerial equipment shall be a major responsibility of the vehicle's operator/ driver. Questions or concerns regarding such operations must be addressed, through the established chain of command, as soon as they become apparent.

Safety:

- Safety will always be considered before any Aerial operations. Only authorized operators will be allowed to drive and operate this equipment.
- An approved ladder belt, fire helmet and gloves will be worn any time while working on an aerial ladder. During firefighting operations, approved firefighting turnout gear will also be worn in addition to the above listed.
- No movement of the ladder will be allowed while the ladder is occupied. This will include rotation and or extension. Exceptions will be allowed for emergency actions.
- Aerial waterway drains will remain in the open position for normal operation. The only time it should be closed is when the waterway is being used.
- *Important: The waterway drain valve should always be checked to insure that it is open before the ladder and waterway are retracted.
- The aerial ladder shall not be operated within 25 feet of electrical transmission lines. The only exception to this would be by direction of the Incident Commander or an On Scene Commander and only in life or death situations. In that event, time permitting; the power company shall be contacted to discontinue service to the line during fire department operations.
- The ladder should not be operated with winds above 45 mph.
- The ladder should not be used if it has ¼" ice on it.
- The ladder should never be placed in the Fire.

Normal Operation

- **Positioning Truck**
 1. The Truck needs to be positioned on a corner of a structure if at all possible. This allows access to two sides of the structure.
 2. First arriving unit or personnel at the scene needs to ensure all other apparatus on scene leaves adequate room for positioning the ladder truck.
 3. Wheel chocks shall be used at the front and rear of both front tires.
 4. After truck is in position switch PTO and Ladder Power switches to the on position.
- **Outrigger Leveling**
 1. Select "Outrigger" mode on the selector switch.
 2. Activate the "Extend Outriggers" handle until the outriggers are extended. (Be sure the area around the outriggers is clear of personnel or obstructions)
 3. Place the outrigger auxiliary footpads into position. No Exceptions. Not using these can cause cracking in the pavement and can cause truck to become unlevelled.

4. With the outrigger clear of obstruction activate the lower outrigger handle, which will extend the jack beam to full stroke and level the truck.
5. Once the truck is level, move switch to aerial.
6. Install outrigger safety pin in each jack and proceed with aerial operations.

- **Operating Ladder**

1. Access ladder turntable by pulling pin on bottom folding step at rear of truck.
2. Unhook turntable safety chain.
3. Replace turntable safety chain.
4. Lift cover on ladder control panel.
5. Verify no overhead power lines or obstructions.
6. If fast idle has not been selected during outrigger operation switch to fast idle using the toggle switch.
7. Place foot in footpad and press switch down.
8. Raise ladder from cradle position.
9. Extend ladder for rescue, ventilation or water flow position. Warning Do Not place ladder in the fire.
10. When operations of ladder are complete retract fly sections of ladder to their stow position.
11. Verify arrows on ladder turntable and truck line up.
12. Switch idle toggle switch this will return PTO to low idle.
13. Lower ladder to cradle position. Verify ladder is resting on cradle.

- **Outriggers to Travel Position**

1. Remove outrigger safety pins from each jack.
2. Switch transfer switch from "aerial" to "outriggers"
3. Retract outriggers to Travel position. Visually verify all jacks are returned to Travel position before moving truck.
4. Return auxiliary footpads to their storage trays and fold rear step and install pin.
5. Turn off Ladder Power and PTO in the cab of the truck.
6. Truck is now ready to move.