BROOKLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Brookland, Arkansas

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TOWER ONE STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

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With the purchase of our first Tower Ladder, training as well as Standard Operating Guidelines will continue to evolve with the help of our members and partnerships with agencies that currently have them. As for now, please use these guidelines to keep our members safe.

Apparatus Placement and Setup

- **Positioning:** Place the apparatus outside the collapse zone (at least the height of the building away) and allow access to a minimum of two sides of the structure if possible.
- **Electrical Hazards:** Keep all parts of the aerial device and outriggers at least 12 feet away from overhead power lines.
- **Stabilization:** Deploy stabilizing jacks and outriggers on firm, solid ground. Use cribbing or planking to level the apparatus or span uneven surfaces and street covers.
- **Turntable Lookout:** Assign at least one firefighter to the turntable to act as a safety lookout during operations as well as take over controls if needed at any given time.

Platform and Aerial Operations

- **Safety Harnesses:** Ensure all personnel operating on the aerial or inside the bucket wear a properly attached safety belt or harness as well as helmet.
- **Movement Restrictions:** Never extend or retract the aerial boom while firefighters or civilians are climbing the ladder sections; personnel must remain secured inside the bucket.

- **Bucket Handling:** Feather the electrical controls for smooth movement and engage the emergency stop (E-stop) button if a victim is being retrieved to prevent accidental controller contact.
- **Roof and Parapet Clearance:** Avoid striking parapets or roof edges with the bucket. Raise the main aerial slightly before lowering the bucket off a roof to prevent snagging.

Master Stream and Water Operations

- **Interior Coordination:** Always obtain direct confirmation that all interior firefighting crews and occupants have been evacuated before starting master stream operations.
- **Collapse Prevention:** Monitor water runoff from the building. A lack of visible runoff may indicate that the basement is filling up or stock is absorbing water, creating a severe floor-collapse hazard.
- **Stream Direction:** Never direct high-capacity master streams directly at free-standing parapets, as the heavy water force can cause structural collapse.