

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service

FIRE CHIEF'S GENERAL ORDER NUMBER: 07-03

February 26, 2007

TO: All MCFRS Personnel

FROM: Fire Chief Thomas W. Carr, Jr.



SUBJECT: NFPA 1403- *Live Firefighting Evolutions in Acquired Structures*

Live fire training drills at acquired structures are a valuable exercise in preparing MCFRS personnel for actual incident operations. However, live fire and practical exercise training in acquired structures is extremely dangerous, and NFPA 1403 requirements must be followed. The MCFRS Safety Office will manage and oversee the acquired structure program for all MCFRS live practical and burn training exercises.

All structures donated to the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service that are intended to be used for training purposes must be referred to the MCFRS Safety Office. Personnel must not engage in any training activities at an acquired structure until the MCFRS Safety Section has properly inspected and approved it for training. MCFRS Safety Officers will conduct a thorough hazard inspection, evaluate the structure for stability, and check it for the presence of asbestos. The inspection process will also approve specific acquired structures, and ensure that the property permitting process is valid.

The on-site MCFRS Safety Officer assigned to the acquired structure training drill will assist in conducting the drill with MCFRS station, Training, and LFRD personnel. The assigned MCFRS Safety Officer has the authority to make decisions regarding the safety and health of all personnel participating in the NFPA 1403 training drill.

NFPA 1403 *Standard for Live Firefighting Evolutions in Acquired Structures* is the basis upon which the MCFRS Safety Office has designed the *Acquired Structure* packet. A copy of this packet may be downloaded from the Safety Chief home page at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Content/FireRescue/safetychief/

For additional information, please call A/C Denise Pouget-Rankin at 240 777-2250.

Issued:	Revised:	Rescinded:
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