



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
DRIVER/OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAM**

Practical Application Guide Sheet

Aerial Ladder – Elevated Stokes Basket Rescue

Candidate Name: _____

Candidate Performance Competency: The Candidate will evaluate and assemble a rope system in conjunction with an aerial ladder to facilitate lowering a victim from an elevated location in a stokes basket. Assistants may assist during system assembly, however the Candidate must demonstrate to the Evaluator’s satisfaction proficiency with the application and use of system components.

Task	Value	Score
1. Identify the victim location and removal route. Candidate will position and stabilize the apparatus for aerial use.	5	
2. Candidate will describe tip loads and safe operating conditions for the individual aerial device performing the evolution	7	
3. Locate and identify all equipment needed to perform the evolution. Candidate will attach the manufacturer supplied roller/pulley system to the aerial tip. (CFP)	3	
4. Candidate will manage construction of the main line and the belay line. (CFP) a. Position anchors for lines at the base of the aerial per manufacturer recommendations b. Ropes positioned on the rungs of the ladder to reduce torsional loads on the aerial c. Ropes secured in the roller/pulley system at the aerial tip d. Prepare the working end for connection to the stokes bridle with a doubled-long-tail bowline	10	
5. Candidate will manage preparation of the stokes basket for hoisting. a. Attach a tag line rope. (CFP) b. Attach and adjust the bridle with gates out and locked. c. Load any lashing or immobilization equipment necessary for patient packaging d. Attach the main and belay lines	10	
6. Candidate will describe the safety check process while conducting a check of the system prior to hoisting. a. Explain the “three sets of eyes” concept. (CFP)	5	

Task	Value	Score
7. Candidate will operate the aerial ladder to deliver the stokes basket to the victim location. Assistants will manage the main, belay, and tag line as necessary. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Main line will be managed through a Munter hitch or other friction method at the anchor; belay line remains free from friction devices 	10	
8. With the stokes landed and aerial adjusted to a suitable position, Candidate will complete assembly and adjust the main and belay lines. Candidate will then lock off the belay and main lines. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Belay line - install a Rescue 540° or tandem Prussiks with an optional radium release hitch b. Main line - install a rappel rack and weaving at least six bars c. Remove any slack in the lines. 	10	
9. Prior to moving the aerial ladder, the candidate will ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A safety check is completed of the system b. Main line and belay line are adjusted to remove slack c. Candidate will ensure and explain the need for a minimum of four bars in the rappel rack during lowering. (CFP) 	10	
10. Upon confirmation from the stokes assistants, the Candidate will operate the aerial ladder the minimum distances to clear any obstacles and position the suspended stokes basket above the desired landing location. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All lowering must be accomplished through adjustment of the rope system; the aerial ladder must not be lowered or retracted with an occupied stokes basket suspended from the tip. (CFP) 	10	
11. Candidate will secure the aerial ladder from accidental movement through activation of the E-stop and/or control cover.	5	
12. Candidate will lower the stokes basket to the desired location by managing the main line and rappel rack. An assistant will manage the belay system in coordination with this movement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All movement of the stokes basket must be smooth and controlled b. Standard rope rescue commands will be used 	10	
13. Candidate and assistants will relieve any load on the rope system, disassemble and make all equipment ready for service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Equipment checked for damage b. Equipment returned to storage locations 	5	
Total Points	100	

Critical Fail Points

Failure to successfully perform any of the following components will result in an automatic failure of this evolution regardless of total score.

- a) Failure to position the aerial apparatus or aerial ladder effectively**
- b) Inability to implement proper roller/pulley system at aerial tip**
- c) Incorrect knot application or construction**
- d) Incorrect hardware application or assembly**
- e) Improper anchor point**
- f) Incorrect or ineffective tag line – does not control the basket**
- g) Incorrect or ineffective main line**
- h) Incorrect or ineffective belay system**
- i) Failure to coordinate or implement main and belay lines**
- j) Failure to lower victim to the ground using rappel rack; using prohibited functions of the aerial**
- k) Failure to complete safety check prior to loading the system**
- l) Loss of control of the stokes basket or impact with an obstacle**
- m) Shock load applied to any part of the system**
- n) Rope system configuration that causes torsional stress on the aerial**

Evaluator: Initial beside the final outcome of the exam below.

____ **PASS** ____ **FAIL – Overall Points** ____ **FAIL – Critical Failure Point**

Evaluator Name

Date

Evaluator Signature