



**GLASTONBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES**



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CATEGORY: ADMINISTRATION  
SUB-CATEGORY: STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES  
SUBJECT: PURPOSE AND APPLICATION OF SOGs

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Section I – Introduction

A. Objectives

To ensure that members understand the purpose of Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) and how they are to be applied in the day-to-day operations of the GFD.

B. Applicability

This SOG applies to all members of the GFD, its operations and functions.

C. References

Fire Command, Alan V. Brunacini, NFPA, 1985.

Section II – Definition

SOGs are guidelines that establish a standard course of action to increase the effectiveness of the organization. These guidelines are based on expected situations that require a standard response in order to achieve an expected outcome.

SOGs are not policy statements.

Section III – Application of SOGs

The SOGs should be applied in the station, during training and on the fire ground as they act as preplans which allow members to anticipate what they will need to do as well as what others are about to do. This in turn promotes fire ground safety and efficiency.

Fire ground safety and efficiency are further improved by the regular application of SOGs because:

- A. It is generally much easier to remember what one should do in a given situation, than to figure it out on the spot.
- B. The constant application, evaluation and revision of the SOGs will help to ensure that all members benefit from lessons learned (good or bad) during the GFDs day-to-day operations.

Because all situations encountered in real life may not fit those foreseen (i.e., standard situations) during the development of the SOGs it is understood that members may have to deviate from the standard actions prescribed in an SOG in order to effectively protect lives, control the incident, and protect property and the environment. Therefore;

- A. The application of the SOGs by all members is discretionary.
- B. The guidelines presented in the SOGs may be modified as conditions dictate.

Section IV – Approval

Fire Chief Michael P. King

Date of Approval: 1/11/16