



# Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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| <b>S.O.P Number: 600</b>                        | <b>Effective Date: October 1, 2010</b> |
| <b>Section: 611</b>                             |  |
| <b>Subject: Salvage and Overhaul</b>            |  |
| <b>By Order of the Fire Chief: Steven Paine</b> |  |

## Section 611 - Salvage and Overhaul

### Purpose

Command may designate a sector officer who will be responsible for the coordination of Salvage and Overhaul operations. The radio designation for this sector shall be "Salvage".

### Scope

**Salvage** consists of those methods and procedures, which further reduce fire, water and smoke damage during and after fires. **Overhaul** consists of searching for and extinguishing hidden or remaining fires; placing the building, its contents and the fire area in a safe condition; determining cause; and recognizing and preserving evidence of arson.

### Guidelines

1. the most valuable asset can be the owner/manager of the property.
  - a. A pre-fire plan should include the need for salvage.
2. Some pertinent factors should include the need for salvage.
  - a. The area involved
  - b. Nature of content (pre-fire plan)
  - c. Contents requiring special handling (i.e. hazardous materials, perishables, etc.)
  - d. Values of contents
  - e. Automatic sprinklers
  - f. Fire protection devices
  - g. Personnel available
  - h. Salvage equipment available
  - i. Ventilation devices
  - j. Vertical openings and drains
3. Salvage operations should consider protecting the contents against water damage by containing and removing water as quickly as possible. Rapid removal of smoke, heat and gases can lessen the damage from excessive water application.



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4. The following should be considered for residential fires:
  - a. Do not overlook the contents of closets.
  - b. Check the tops of bureaus, dressers and tables and place small valuables in drawers for safekeeping.
  - c. Use the largest and heaviest pieces of furniture as a base for grouping.
  - d. Protect fabric coverings and wood finishes with rugs, blankets, pillows, etc.
  - e. Do not build the pile too close to a wall where spreading covers would be difficult.
  - f. Roll up any rugs if possible.
  - g. Do not overlook paintings or wall tapestries.

### **Overhaul**

- a. The primary objective of overhaul is to extinguish hidden fires with a minimum of damage and to prevent a rekindle. Appropriate PPE including SCBA shall worn, as determined by the company officer
- b. Overhaul should normally start at the top and work down in the structure.
- c. Hidden fires can be detected by touch, or sight or TIC.
- d. Hose lines should be in place to control flare-ups.
- e. The correction of unsafe conditions such as damaged utilities, structural defects, unstable objects, etc. should be considered.
- f. Check all routes of fire spread.
- g. Search under debris and around merchandise.
- h. Protect and preserve evidence for Inspector.
- i. Keep evidence where it is found.
- j. Guard evidence; rope off areas.