Thermal Imaging Camera Use Standard Operating Procedure

(Model)

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Any part of the following model Standard Operating Procedure may be used by any department as a guide to prevent the injury or fatality of firefighters during the course of working structure fires.

Use of Thermal Imaging Cameras

For safety and effectiveness, it will be the responsibility of company officers to utilize assigned thermal imaging cameras during the course of all structure fires. In addition to providing the capability of quickly locating trapped victims during primary search scenarios, TICs assist in locating hot spots during the early and later stages of structure fires.

When used within limitations, thermal imaging cameras will also alert the officer of imminent flashover and the presence of fire located in walls. Furthermore, TICs will assist in detecting fire located in ceiling and floor-ceiling spaces serving as an indicator of the collapse potential of roofs or floors.

Additionally, thermal imaging cameras will be valuable in assisting firefighting crews during the course of cautious interior assessments of enclosed structures. But most importantly, the active use of TICs may significantly prevent the disorientation of interior firefighters by enabling any officer using the TIC to guide any firefighter back to a handline who may have become separated from an attack line during zero visibility conditions.