

	TRAVIS COUNTY ESD #5 MANCHACA FIRE RESCUE Department Policy	F102
	Authorized by: <div style="text-align: right;">Fire Chief Chris Barron</div>	Effective: 1-3-2019 Rescinds: Reference: TCFP/AFD F102 Application: Operations
Live Fire Training		

I. Purpose

To establish a policy to ensure MFR personnel conduct live fire training exercises safely and in compliance with Texas Commission on Fire Protection rules.

II. Background

Too many firefighters have died in the line of duty due to unsafe practices during live fire training operations. While live fire training provides some of the best and most realistic training environments, these exercises must be conducted with proper planning, resources, and contingency plans in place to make them safe for participants.

III. Policy

A. **Adherence to standards.** MFR shall use the most current edition of NFP 1403: Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions when conducting live fire training.

IV. Policy

A. **Defined.** Live fire training is when any unconfined open flame or device that can propagate fire to a building or other combustible material is used in a training environment. This includes, but is not exclusive to, structure fire training in fire service burn buildings or acquired structures, flashover training, flammable gas or flammable liquids fire training, vehicle fire training. Live fire training does not include small fires used for fire extinguisher training, public education demonstration fires, or intentionally set fires in which there are no students.

B. **Prerequisites.** Before being permitted to participate in live fire evolutions, the participants must have received training and meet the performance requirements for Fire Fighting I in NFPA 1001: Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications in the following subjects:

1. Safety
2. Fire Behavior
3. Portable Extinguishers
4. Personal Protective Equipment

5. Ladders
6. Fire Hose, Appliances, and Streams
7. Overhaul
8. Water Supply
9. Ventilation
10. Forcible Entry

- C. **Water supply.** The on-site lead instructor will ensure that the water supply rate and duration for each individual live fire training evolution is adequate to control and extinguish the training fire. The on-site lead instructor shall also ensure that supply the backup lines are in place to protect personnel and provide water needed to protect exposed property.
- D. **Condition of structure.** The on-site lead instructor will ensure that the buildings or props being utilized for live fire training are in a condition that would not pose an undue safety risk.
- E. **Live fire plan.** The on-site lead instructor will establish pre-burn, burn and post-burn procedures and communicate these procedures to all personnel.
1. **Evacuation signal.** As part of the pre-burn procedures, the on-site lead instructor will establish and communicate an evacuation signal and procedure to all personnel.
- F. **Safety Officer.** A safety officer shall be appointed for all live fire training evolutions. The safety officer shall have the authority, regardless of rank, to intervene and control any aspect of the operations when, in his or her judgment, a potential or actual danger, accident, or unsafe condition exists. The safety officer shall not be assigned other duties that interfere with safety responsibilities. The safety officer shall not be a student.
- G. **Victim simulation.** Rescue manikins may be utilized as victims in live fire scenarios; however, no person shall play the role of a victim inside the building.
- H. **Student ratio.** The participating student-to-instructor ratio shall not be greater than five to one.
- I. **PPE check.** Prior to the ignition of any fire, instructors shall ensure that all personal protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus are NFPA compliant and being worn in the proper manner.
- J. **Briefing and walk through.** Prior to conducting any live fire training, a pre-burn briefing session shall be conducted. All participants shall be required to conduct a walk-through of the structure in order to have a knowledge of and familiarity with the layout of the building and to be able to facilitate any necessary evacuation of the building.
- K. **PASS use.** A Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) device shall be provided for and utilized by all students and instructors participating in live fire training.
- L. **IMS and Accountability.** A Personnel Accountability System and Incident Management System shall be utilized.

M. **Medical resources.** Trained emergency medical personnel and emergency medical equipment including AED shall be available on site. An area for ambulance or EMS vehicle response shall be pre-designated in the event that EMS needs to respond to the site to transport an injured participant.