

MEDFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT HIGH RISE PLAN

VENTILATION

Responsibilities

- Clear stairwells of smoke
- Clear affected floors of smoke
- Inspect stairwells from top to bottom

Information you need

- Who is your Supervisor – IC or Ops
- Where are the stairwells
- What area of the building has smoke
- Is the HVAC affecting operations – good or bad.

Radio Frequency

- Operate on the primary tactical frequency

Obtain

- Pre-Incident Plan

Consider

- Building stairwell pressurization systems
 - May be effective in most stairwells
 - The attack stairwell will need more support from a PPV
 - Communicate with Lobby to see if stairwell systems are operating
- How you will handle occupants in the stairwell areas of refuge.
 - If they are safe, leave them there.
 - If they are at risk, move them
- Smoke in Attack Stairwell
 - If you open a top vent in the stairwell you may draw smoke from fire floor into the stairwell, be sure no occupants are above the fire floor in that stairwell.
- Stairwells with open air at each landing
 - Will not allow pressurization of multiple floors, PPV fan will have to be placed for each entry point

ACTIONS

- **Pressurize Stairwells**
 - Use a PPV at the base of the attack stairwell
 - Determine if a PPV fan is necessary in other stairwells
- **Inspect Stairwells: top to bottom**
 - Is smoke in the stairwell?
 - Are people in the areas of refuge?
 - Does anyone need rescuing?
- **Control Stairwell doors**
 - Post personnel to ensure you maintain positive pressure
 - Label doors to keep them in the position you want
- **Remove smoke from stairwells**
 - **Attack stairwell** – Determine how to remove smoke in upper sections of stairwell
 - **Other stairwells** – Create a vent opening at top of stairwell, close vent once smoke has been exhausted.
- **Remove smoke from floors**
 - Use pressurized attack stairwell when possible
 - Place a second fan near the fire floor in the stairwell
 - Find or create an exhaust opening on the fire floor