

Texas Fire Chiefs Association
DOCUMENT SUBMISSION FORM

Candidate Department: **Irving Fire Department**

Best Practice Standard: 8.09 Marine Rescue and Fire Fighting Response

Proofs of Compliance Submitted:

1. Emergency Operating Guideline 6.1 - Fire Boat 8

Fire Boat 8 has been used for special events on Lake Carolyn but has not been dispatched for an emergency incident. There is no emergency response data for this apparatus.

Submitted By: Scott Johnson, Program Manager

Date:

Evaluator's Review

Evaluator:

Date Accepted:

1**6.1 - FIRE BOAT 8****A. Objectives**

To provide guidelines to Fire Boat 8 personnel during operations of fire suppression, rescue, recovery and stand-by mode.

B. Safety**1. Personal Safety**

a. Personal Floatation Devices (PFD's) will be worn by all personnel when:

- 1) Riding in or on Fire Boat 8.
- 2) Engaged in any operation on or near the water.
- 3) In any situation where the member is at risk for falling into the water.

b. Irving Fire Department (IFD) personnel must take appropriate measures to ensure their own safety as well as those around them.

2. Operational Safety

a. Fire Boat 8 operator/driver shall wear the emergency kill switch tether anytime the drive motor is in operational mode.

b. All personnel in the vessel shall act as spotters to warn the operator of hazards or safety concerns.

c. The officer-in-charge (OIC) shall be responsible for the overall safe operation of the boat.

d. The boat deck shall remain free of tripping hazards at all times.

e. Rescue doors shall remain in the stowed position and will be deployed to the lowered position only during the recovery or rescue process.

C. Manning

1. Fire Boat 8 shall be placed in operation upon request of the OIC of a scene of event with a minimum 3-person staff. The boat crew officer will assign one (1) person as the designated driver/operator of the boat. Other personnel shall perform rescue/fire suppression/recovery functions as needed.

2. Personnel assigned to operate Fire Boat 8 must have completed the initial training provided by Station 8 officers.
- D. Operations – based on conditions and size-up, the OIC will determine operational mode to be a “rescue” or “recover”.
1. Rescue
 - a. A MICU and manpower crew will be requested on all rescue operations if not initially dispatched.
 - b. All EMS and rescue equipment shall be loaded prior to initial deployment from the dock.
 - c. An on-shore spotter will be assigned in all water rescues.
 - 1) The spotter’s sole responsibility is to watch and monitor the location and status of victim(s) in the water.
 - 2) The spotter shall maintain visual contact with the victim(s) until the victim(s) is/are rescued or the spotter is relieved.
 - 3) Spotter shall remain in radio contact with Fire Boat 8 personnel.
 - d. Rescue options from watercraft should be considered and executed from low risk to high risk:
 - 1) Reach: The first method of water rescue is to reach the victim(s) with an object such as a pole, backboard, etc. Victims can then pull themselves or be pulled to safety.
 - 2) Throw: If reach is not possible, rescuer can throw a flotation device (PFD, throw ring, or a rope bag) to victim. This device will have a rope attached for pulling victim to safety.
 - 3) Go: The last resort is for IFD personnel to enter the water and swim to the victim. This circumstance requires rescuer to be tethered before entering the water.
 - e. If spotter loses sight of a victim(s) or rescuer, the boat motor shall be turned off until visual contact has been reestablished.
 2. Recovery

Upon decision for “recovery” mode, request will be made through the Alarm Office for a dive team.

3. Fire Suppression

- a. Effort should be made to load hose, tools, PPE, (to include SCBA with extra bottles), and equipment prior to initial deployment from dock.
- b. When engaging in firefighting operations, approach from upwind when possible.
- c. If extended fire stream operation is anticipated, the boat shall be tied off and secured when possible to prevent drifting.
- d. Boat operator and other personnel shall maintain an awareness of potential collapse zones and respond accordingly.
- e. During fire stream operations, operator must remain at the console for the duration of the operation.

4. Event Stand-By

- a. Crew shall monitor proper IFD radio channels for the duration of the event.
- b. Crew shall remain alert to all water related activities and hazards during the event.
- c. Crew shall remain at the event until relieved or termination of event.

E. Location and Storage

1. Fire Boat 8 will be housed adjacent to 780 Lake Carolyn in the boathouse. Fire Boat 8 trailer will be housed behind Station 11. Trailer requires a 2-5/8" ball for towing. (Ball and receiver are kept at Station 11 with the trailer.)
2. Access - The entry gate at 780 Lake Carolyn shall be opened by combination lock, (8671), or Knox key. Personal access can be made by simply walking around the gate.
3. Knox Box on the Boat House gate will contain keys to enter the Boat House and the key to Fire Boat 8 Glove Compartment.
4. Fire Boat 8 Glove Compartment will contain keys and Log Book for Fire Boat 8.