

7004.02

Walk-Around Vehicle Standard Operating Procedure



This procedure is for internal use only and does not enlarge an employee's civil liability in any way. The procedure should not be construed as creating a higher duty of care, in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party civil claims against employees. A violation of this procedure, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this department for non-judicial administrative action in accordance with the laws governing employee discipline.

Related Policies: 212.02, NFPA 1002

Applicable HI Statutes:

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy and procedure is to ensure safety of all personnel and the public by conducting a proper walk-around vehicle inspection prior to moving any Fire Department Vehicle (FDV).

II. APPLICABILITY

All members. Company officers and supervisory personnel shall ensure compliance

III. PROCEDURES

1. Walk-Around Vehicle Inspection:

- a. Driver shall complete a walk-around inspection of the vehicle and its surroundings. Begin at the driver's door, toward the front, right-side, rear, and left-side and up into the driver's cab, before moving the vehicle.
- b. The inspection shall cause the driver to be observant of obstructions that may be in the path of the vehicle (apparatus floor door is fully extended open) and for the secureness of equipment that may be mounted to the front of the vehicle.
- c. Driver shall inspect, secure equipment, and compartment doors on the right side and be sure that the vehicle is clear of all obstructions and/or the objects on the right side.
- d. Driver shall inspect, secure equipment, and rear compartment doors and be aware of obstructions that may be in the way should the vehicle be reversed.
- e. Driver shall inspect, secure equipment, and compartment doors on the left-side of the vehicle and to ensure that the vehicle is clear of any objects that may be near and/or connected to the vehicle.

2. In-Cab Procedures:

- a. From the driver's seat, the driver shall make a visual sweep of surroundings through the use of rear-view mirrors. Visual sweep shall start from the left (to clear the left side and rear), right mirror (to clear the right and rear) and scanning the front (left, right and forward) views of the vehicle.
- b. Driver shall report to officer or passenger "All Secured." Officer and/or passengers shall communicate to the driver if "All Secured" is not announced or reported by the driver.
- c. The time allotted for this inspection process, should be as long as it takes to walk purposely around the vehicle in a manner to be viewed as 'second nature' to driving the vehicle on emergency or non-emergency status.

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- d. Non-compliance resulting in damages to vehicle and/or other properties may be cause for shared disciplinary actions against driver and department member seated alongside the driver.