

REHAB SOG

It is the policy of the Kemah Volunteer Fire Department that no member will be permitted to continue emergency operations beyond safe levels of physical or mental endurance. The intent of the Rehabilitation Sector is to lessen the risk of injury that may result from extended field operations under adverse conditions. This procedure is in no way intended to diminish initial fire attack aggressiveness.

The Rehabilitation Sector, radio designation REHAB, will be utilized to evaluate and assist personnel who could be suffering from the effects of sustained physical or mental exertion during emergency operations. Rehab Sector will provide a specific area where personnel will assemble to receive:

1. A physical assessment
2. Revitalization - rest, hydration and refreshments
3. Medical evaluation and treatment of injuries
4. Continual monitoring of physical condition
5. Transportation for those requiring treatment at medical facilities
6. Initial stress support assessment
7. Reassignment

It will be the responsibility of Command to make an early determination of situations requiring the implementation of a Rehab Sector.

At times, due to the incident size or geographic barriers, it may be necessary to establish more than one Rehab Sector. When this is done, each sector will assume a geographic designation consistent with the location at the incident site, i.e., Rehab South, Rehab North.

At incidents involving large life loss, or extended rescue operations (i.e., plane or train wreck), the CID team should be contacted and be assigned to Rehab Sector.

The Rehab Sector and truck should be located adjacent to the Command Post whenever possible. A utility truck and the mobile canteen will also be assigned to this sector.

The Rehab Sector area boundaries will be defined with blue tape and will have **only one** entry point.

MEDICAL TREATMENT AND TRANSPORT

This section is staffed by trained medical personnel and CLEMC or other responding EMS agency. Personnel reporting here will receive evaluation and treatment for heat stress and injuries. The EMS company assigned will advise the Rehab Sector Officer of the necessity of medical transportation and extended medical attention requirements of personnel due to physical condition.

The EMS crew in this section will pay close attention to the members:

Pulse

B/P

Body Temperature

After allowing 15 minutes for a cooling down period the pulse, blood pressure, and temperature will be rechecked. Any person with a pulse rate greater than 100 will be relieved from duty for the remainder of the shift. Anybody who has a temperature greater than 101 or a blood pressure less than 100 systolic will need IV fluids and transportation to an appropriate medical facility. The attending EMS unit will follow path protocol with their base hospital.

The Rehab Sector Officer will update Command throughout the operation with pertinent information including the identities of companies in Rehab, and the status of injured personnel.

Company Officers **must** keep crews intact and report to the proper sections in Rehab. The Rehab Sector Officer will direct the crew to the proper sections; however, it is the Company Officer's responsibility to make sure crew members receive refreshments, rest and a medical clearance.