Bath Township Fire Department			Standard Operating Guideline	
Section Operations	**Referral No.** O-13	**Subject:** Mode of Operations – I.C.	**Date Issued** 2/06	**Date Revised** 3/08

Purpose:

- To provide guidelines for modes of operations and define Incident Command activities at fireground operations.

Scope:

- This standard operating guideline shall apply to all personnel.

Responsibilities:

- Officer
  - Ensure that personnel respond properly.
  - Provide direction based on the Incident Management System.
  - Ensure the safety of all personnel.
- Personnel
  - All personnel have the responsibility of following the direction of Incident Command
  - All personnel have the responsibility to wear the proper safety equipment and to operate in a safe manor.

Guideline:

- **Safety is always our first priority**
- **PERFORM A RISK vs. BENEFIT ASSESMENT PRIOR TO OPERATIONS**
- First arriving Company will perform a scene size-up and transmit a brief initial report transmission (BIRT).
- First arriving Company shall establish Command and announce their mode based on the size-up findings.
- Command shall fall into the following three (3) categories:
  - **Investigation Mode** - "Nothing Showing" - Incident Command is established and remains mobile while investigating the incident to determine if additional resources are needed.
  - **Command Mode** – Incident Command is established by the first arriving unit and establishes a command post where incident activities are directed.
  - **Fast-Attack Mode** - Incident Command is transferred to a later arriving unit because the first arriving unit is needed for a civilian rescue or to extinguish an incipient-stage fire which poses an imminent threat to life and/or property.
- **Investigation Mode: (Nothing Showing)**
  - Personnel from the first arriving unit may leave their unit to perform an investigation of the incident.
  - The Incident Commander is mobile and remains in radio contact.
  - Additional responding units and personnel shall continue response Non-Emergent.

- **Command Mode: (Confirmed Incident)**
  - The first arriving unit establishes Incident Command and all incident activities are coordinated from a designated command post (location).
  - (Refer to Incident Command SOG)
- **Fast-Attack Mode:**
  - Incident Command is transferred to a later arriving unit because the first arriving unit is needed for a civilian rescue or to extinguish an incipient-stage fire that poses an imminent threat to life and/or property.
  - When "Fast-Attack" Mode is announced, the next arriving unit shall establish Incident Command.
  - The following guide may be used:
    - **Fire Attack:**
      - Passenger:
        - Dons full PPE & SCBA
        - Advance initial attack line to the entry door.
        - Take a set of irons to entry door and wait for operator.
      - Driver:
        - Place pump in gear.
        - Dons SCBA
        - Charge attack line.
        - Join with firefighter at entry door.
        - The two firefighters will then commence initial fire attack.
      - Next arriving firefighter:
        - Reports to unmanned Engine.
        - Notifies dispatch and assumes Incident Command.
        - Makes radio contact with interior crew for PAR

* The option of one firefighter advancing an ABC or Water-Can extinguisher to extinguish a very small, incipient-stage fire is acceptable.

- **Civilian Rescue:**
  - Passenger:
    - Dons full PPE & SCBA
    - Acquire Irons and Thermal Imaging Camera (T.I.C)
    - Proceed to entry door and wait for driver
  - Driver:
    - Dons full PPE & SCBA
    - Acquires flashlight
    - The two firefighters will then commence Primary Search activities