

JUNE 23, 2005

SPECIAL NOTICE

SUBJECT: REVISED LAFD HEAVY APPARATUS BACKING POLICY

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, ALL MEMBERS SHALL ENSURE DEPARTMENT-WIDE IMPLEMENTATION AND ADHERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING LAFD HEAVY APPARATUS SAFE BACKING POLICIES:

- NO MEMBER SHALL RIDE ON THE TAILBOARD OR ANY RUNNING BOARD OF AN APPARATUS WHEN THE APPARATUS IS IN MOTION.
- DURING BACKING OPERATIONS, A MINIMUM OF ONE MEMBER SHALL BE SAFELY POSITIONED (AT LEAST 10 FEET) TO THE RIGHT REAR OF THE APPARATUS, NOT DIRECTLY BEHIND OR WITHIN THE PATH OF THE BACKING VEHICLE, WHILE MAINTAINING EYE CONTACT WITH THE DRIVER.
- EMERGENCY LIGHTING SYSTEMS SHALL BE EMPLOYED DURING ALL BACKING MANEUVERS.
- THE DRIVER (AND TILLER PERSON) SHALL CHECK ALL MIRRORS FOR CLEARANCE AND OBSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO INITIATING BACKING OPERATIONS.
- THE DRIVER (AND TILLER PERSON) SHALL ESTABLISH EYE CONTACT WITH THE: MEMBER TO THE REAR OF THE APPARATUS PRIOR TO INITIATING BACKING OPERATIONS.
- THE DRIVER (AND TILLER PERSON) SHALL MONITOR APPARATUS MIRRORS, OBSERVE SIDES, CHECK VERTICAL CLEARANCE, MAINTAIN EYE CONTACT WITH THE MEMBER TO THE REAR OF THE APPARATUS, AND ENSURE CAUTIOUS, SAFE APPARATUS BACKING PROCEDURES.
- THE MEMBER POSITIONED AT THE REAR OF THE APPARATUS SHALL ALSO MONITOR VERTICAL CLEARANCE, AND ENSURE A SAFE, CLEAR PATH FOR THE APPARATUS. IN THE EVENT THAT THE PATH IS BLOCKED OR THERE IS AN UNSAFE CONDITION, A CLOSED FIST HAND SIGNAL SHALL BE GIVEN TO CAUSE THE DRIVER TO IMMEDIATELY STOP THE APPARATUS.
- IF VISUAL CONTACT WITH THE SAFETY MEMBER IS LOST, THE DRIVER SHALL STOP THE APPARATUS.
- THE MEMBER POSITIONED AT THE REAR OF THE APPARATUS SHALL ALSO USE THE TETHERED BACK-UP BUZZER PROVIDED ON 2003 AND LATER ENGINES.

- THE MEMBER POSITIONED AT THE REAR OF THE APPARATUS SHALL WEAR THE HELMET AND REMAIN AWARE OF TRAFFIC CONDITIONS FOR PERSONAL SAFETY.
- IF UNSAFE CONDITIONS ARE ANTICIPATED OR DEVELOP, THE DRIVER SHALL IMMEDIATELY STOP THE APPARATUS UNTIL ASSURANCES ARE MADE THAT IT IS SAFE TO PROCEED.
- OFFICERS OR MEMBERS IN CHARGE SHALL DIRECTLY SUPERVISE SAFE APPARATUS BACKING OPERATIONS.

STATION COMMANDERS SHALL JOURNALIZE THAT THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN REVIEWED WITH ALL MEMBERS.

THE SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE DIVISION WILL BEGIN TO RETROFIT OLDER APPARATUS WITH TETHERED BUZZERS WITHIN ONE WEEK.

MANUAL OF OPERATIONS AND DRIVER TRAINING MANUAL REVISIONS SHALL BE TRANSMITTED IN THE FUTURE.

ADMINISTRATION