

NFPA® 1584

Standard on the Rehabilitation Process for Members During Emergency Operations and Training Exercises

2015 Edition



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An International Codes and Standards Organization

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NFPA® 1584

Standard on the

Rehabilitation Process for Members During Emergency Operations and Training Exercises

2015 Edition

This edition of NFPA 1584, *Standard on the Rehabilitation Process for Members During Emergency Operations and Training Exercises*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Fire Service Occupational Safety and Health. It was issued by the Standards Council on November 11, 2014, with an effective date of December 1, 2014, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 1584 was approved as an American National Standard on December 1, 2014.

Origin and Development of NFPA 1584

The first edition of NFPA 1584, *Recommended Practice on the Rehabilitation of Members Operating at Incident Scene Operations and Training Exercises*, was issued in January 2003 to support the requirements in NFPA 1500, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program*, for a rehabilitation program for fire department members operating at emergency incidents. An organized approach for fire department members' rehabilitation at incident scene operations is an integral component of both an occupational safety and health program and incident scene management.

For the 2008 edition, the committee felt that rehabilitation is important enough to the health and safety of fire fighters that it should be addressed in a standard rather than in a recommended practice. Accordingly, that edition was completely revised from the previous edition and retitled *Standard on the Rehabilitation Process for Members During Emergency Operations and Training Exercises*.

The committee reviewed and updated the text so the standard reflected current science and knowledge on rehabilitation of fire service members. Requirements for medical monitoring during rehabilitation were added, with a lengthy discussion in the annex that recognized that vital signs alone cannot be used to determine if a fire fighter entering or in rehabilitation should receive further medical treatment.

Terminology was updated to be compatible with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Annex material was added to show a sample standard operating procedure for a rehabilitation process and provide information on the classification, signs, symptoms, and treatment of heat stress and cold stress. Emphasis was placed on fire fighters, maintaining proper nutrition, hydration, and a healthy lifestyle prior to emergency operations or training exercises.

For the 2015 edition, the committee has updated the document to emphasize the importance and need for rehabilitation not just during emergency incidents and training exercises, but for post-rehabilitation hydration as well. This includes differentiating sports drinks from energy drinks and how such drinks can affect or impede the rehabilitation process. Environmental effects on the rehabilitation process have also been addressed.

The committee has also included requirements so that members of the incident command system have a greater responsibility in the effectiveness of the rehabilitation process. A focus was placed on individual members to know their limitations and to report them during rehabilitation.

Carbon monoxide monitoring has also been included among the vital signs taken during rehabilitation.