

Lincoln County Fire and Rescue Association

Standard Operating Guideline (SOG)

Effective Date: May 1, 2012

Adopted Date: May 1, 2012

Number: 110

Title: Emergency notification of on call building official

Purpose:

This standard operating guideline (SOG) is meant to define when the County Building Official should be contacted or called to the scene.

Reference:

NC General Statute 153A-366 Counties and G.S. 160A-425 Cities addresses the necessity for condemnation of hazardous structures, but does not specify the need for a building official to be present during emergency operations. This SOG to identify those situations that require after hours Building Official assistance and to identify those situations the Building Official can respond to the following day.

Procedure:

The “on call” Building Official should be contacted and used as a resource at anytime to assist in determining the category of damage and whether or not they should be called to the scene. The Communication Center has the direct number of the on call Building Official. If the Incident Commander has a question about the safety of the building structure, he or she should call the Communications Center and ask them to contact the Building Official “on call.” The Communication Center operator will tell the “on call” Building Official to call the Incident Commander and they will discuss the situation and determine if the Building Official needs to respond to the scene.

As a rule of thumb the Incident Commander or Fire Chief should ask themselves, “ What can the Building Official accomplish if he is called to the scene?” In most situations, there is very little they can do. In general, for incidental or minor emergency response teams should barricade the damaged areas, and let the occupant or owner know unsafe conditions exist. If there is major damage, the Building Official will respond to the scene and post an unsafe structure or a condemned sign if necessary.

If the Incident Commander determines that the electrical meter must be pulled, they will contact the Communications Center who will coordinate with the power company. If an electrical meter is pulled, the Communication Center Operator will fax a copy of the CAD sheet to the Planning and Inspections Office so that they will be aware of the situation.