

Memorandum



Date: May 10, 2013
To: Members of the Public Safety Committee
Subject: Swift Water Rescue

The Public Safety Committee will be briefed on Swift Water Rescue on Monday, May 13, 2013.



A.C. Gonzalez
First Assistant City Manager

Attachment

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
Rosa Rios, City Secretary
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Daniel Solis, Administrative Judge
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Ryan S. Evans, Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Frank Libro, Public Information Office
Stephanie Cooper, Assistant to the City Manager



SWIFT WATER RESCUE

Homeland Security Bureau
Dallas Fire Rescue Special Operations
May 13, 2013



PURPOSE:

Familiarize the Committee with the Fire/Rescue Department's abilities to respond to situations when citizens are trapped by moving water (swiftwater) in:

- Lakes
- Rivers
- Streams
- Flood Prone Areas

GOALS:

- To reduce injury to citizens trapped by moving water
- To prevent death of citizens
- To provide back-up crews to other water responders

History of Swiftwater Rescue

- ▣ May 5, 1995 super storms
- ▣ Technical Rescue Team 15 until 2007
- ▣ Swiftwater 34 July 7, 2007
- ▣ One Swiftwater Team
- ▣ Seven flat water boat stations

Effects of Moving Water

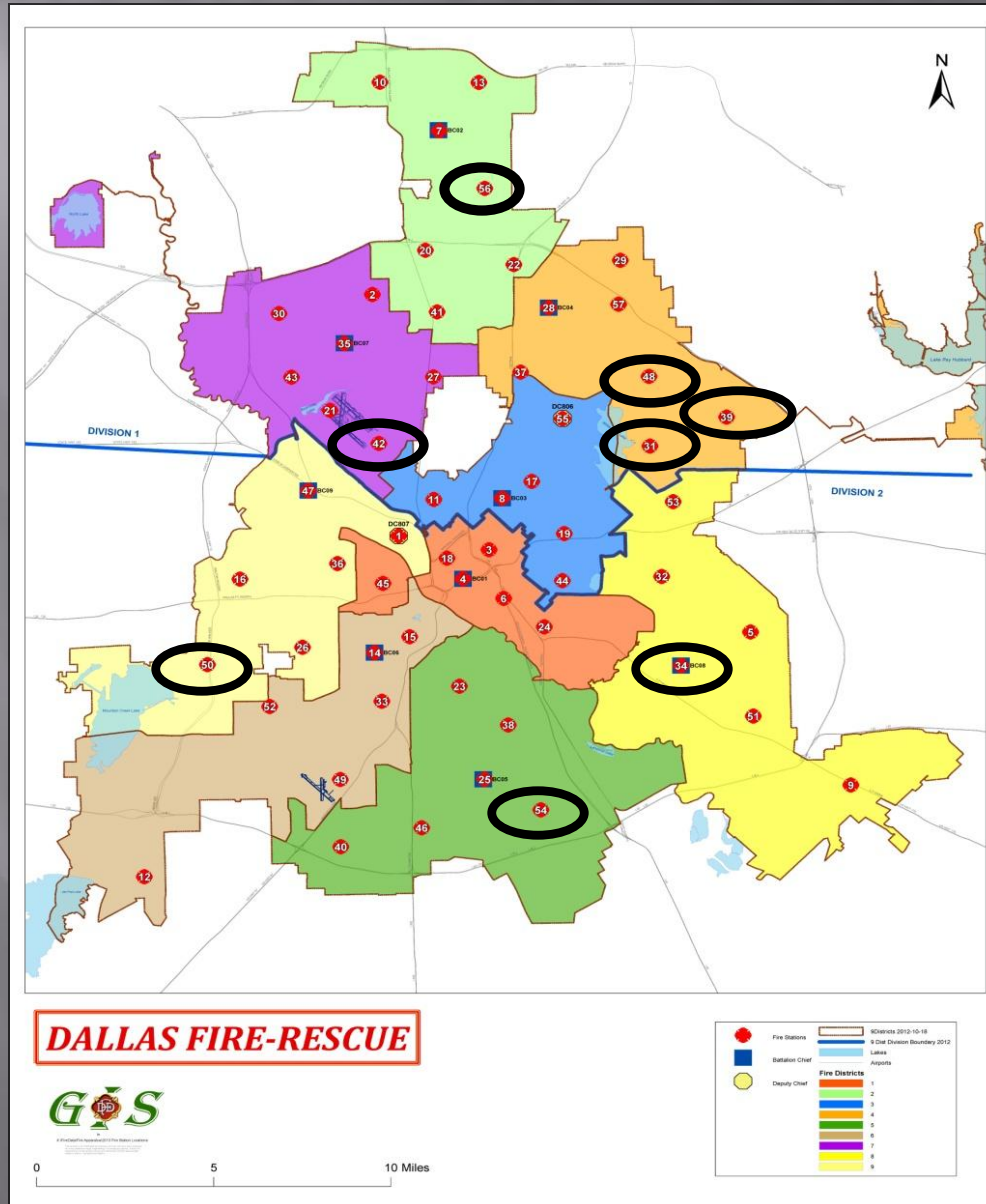
- ▣ Swiftwater - moving water at a rate greater than 1 knot (1.15 mph)
- ▣ Force of water at varying speeds

Current Velocity	Average Force of the Water in (lbs)	
MPH	On Legs	On Body
3	16.80	33.60
6	67.20	134.00
9	151.00	302.00
12	269.00	538.00

Organization

- ▣ Deputy Chief of Special Operations (812)
- ▣ Section Chief of Special Operations (815)
- ▣ Water Rescue Coordinator (824)
- ▣ Officers at Station 34
- ▣ Swiftwater technicians
- ▣ Staffing minimum of 6 Swiftwater Technicians per shift

Current Boat Locations



Responsibilities

- ▣ Respond to all Swiftwater incidents
- ▣ Respond to all boat calls as the rescue team (NFPA 1670)
- ▣ Respond to special aquatic events
- ▣ Conduct at least 40 hours of continued education per year
- ▣ Conduct 4 hours of continued education for all boat crews

Training Requirements

- ▣ National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)1006 & 1670
 - I. Swiftwater rescue (50hr)
 - II. Technical rope rescue (80hr)
- ▣ All members certified as technicians in all areas of water rescue
- ▣ Continued Education - 40 hrs per year

Apparatus

SWIFTWATER 34



TRAILER WITH
INFLATABLE BOAT



Personal Equipment

- ▣ Wet suit / Dry suit
- ▣ Personal Flotation Device
- ▣ Helmet
- ▣ Throw bag
- ▣ Whistle
- ▣ Knife
- ▣ Footwear
- ▣ Flashlight



Rescue Priorities of the Water Rescue Team

- ▣ REACH
- ▣ THROW
- ▣ ROW
- ▣ GO



Priorities



Swiftwater Responses

- ▣ In 2012 - Swiftwater 34 responded to 49 reported water rescues
- ▣ In 2012 - the Swiftwater Rescue Team saved 13 victims
- ▣ January 2013 to present - Swiftwater 34 has responded to 7 reported water rescues

Questions?

