

ELEVATOR RESCUE

KEY CONSIDERATIONS: TRT PLAN ALSO AVAILABLE

- MFR has a firefighter key ring on all engines. FD3 keeps the appropriate key in the EMR.
- Elevator rescues that involve rope systems are Technical Rescues.
- Only a service tech or building maintenance representative can restore service.
- Some portions of the shaft are most likely Confined Spaces.
- Request Mercy Flights

PROTOCOL:

1. Determine if the situation is emergent or non-emergent

- Emergent:
 - Fire in the building
 - Life threatening medical emergency
 - Occupants beginning to panic and cannot be calmed
 - Environmental:
 - Hot/cold environment
 - Earthquake
 - Flooding
 - Extended power outages due to severe weather
 - Delayed response by elevator service technician because of any of the above.

If the “Emergent” definition is not met and an elevator service technician is responding within a reasonable time frame, it will be considered non-emergent.

2. A non-emergent elevator assist can be handled at one, or a combination of the following levels:

Awareness level:

Simple primary removal procedures done without turning off the elevator power.

1. Call elevator service technician if not already done.
2. Make contact with occupants of the stalled elevator by intercom, cell phone, or voice and advise them of the plan, keep them updated; this may reduce anxiety and panic.
3. If occupants are ringing bell, instruct them to stop.
4. Identify the location and condition of the elevator car.
5. Determine the number of occupants and triage their condition; an assist or emergency?
6. If occupants have activated the emergency stop button they must be instructed to deactivate it.
7. Ask them to push the “Door Open” button.
8. Call the elevator using the elevator call button in the lobby.
9. Instruct occupants to insure the car door is fully closed. Have an occupant push the door towards the closed position.
10. Have firefighters physically push close all hoistway doors.
11. Access EMR (elevator mechanical room) and locate the firefighter key.
12. Attempt to use firefighter's service recall from the lobby. (Phase 1 - recall)

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Operations Level Tactics:

1. Get an ETA from the elevator repair technician.
2. Communicate the plan to the car occupants.
3. Access EMR (elevator mechanical room) and elevator control panel. Establish contact between EMR and elevator. Use of phones is preferable, if radio must be used stay four feet from electronic components.
4. Shut off electrical power to elevator, wait 30 seconds and restore power (this is the only time power will be restored).
5. If the elevator has not started on its own, repeat primary steps.
6. If the elevator did not respond, shut off the elevator power utilizing the lock-out/tag-out procedures for the specific car and place a firefighter at EMR for the duration of incident.
7. Using elevator key or tool, open hoistway door to determine location of the elevator.
8. For floors without key access, use the "poling" technique from the floor above.
9. If the car is level with landing, open car doors to access occupants.
10. If the car is more than 3 feet above landing, barricade the bottom opening.
11. If the car is more than 3 feet above the landing, send fire/rescue member into car prior to allowing occupants to leave the car to assist.
12. Use appropriate safety/belay technique with occupants prior to removing them from the car.
13. Hydraulic elevator: Bleed fluid to lower car to closest floor (maintain communication during this and all operations involving potential movement of the elevator car).

Technician Level:

In an extreme emergency and the above techniques are not successful and the elevator service technician is **not** able to respond or response is delayed the following technician level tactics may be deployed. **Technician level tactics involve members working in the shaft.**

1. Communicate the plan to the car occupants.
2. Confirm the power is shut-off.
3. Shut down and lock-out adjacent elevator if applicable. This must be done in congruence with lock-out/tag-out procedures in the case of a shared, open shaft.
4. Open hoistway door above stuck car using key or poling technique as needed.
5. Don appropriate PPE.
6. Access the car's top emergency access panel using attic ladder as needed.
7. Shut off the power switch on top of the car.
8. Turn on auxiliary light.
9. Locate and open the car's top emergency access panel.
10. Place an attic ladder into the car and send rescuer into car.
11. Place car occupant into a harness with safety rope belayed from elevator lobby.
12. Assist occupant through emergency access panel, into shaft, and up to lobby.
13. Secure elevator access and return everything to original condition.
14. Leave the power off in EMR until it's restored by the elevator technician and post "out of order" signs in the elevator lobbies.