

# LIFE HAZARD ZONES

## KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- Life hazard zones are NOT to be entered by anyone including Emergency Responders.
- Life Hazard Tape is preferred; yellow scene tape can be used as a last resort.
- 3 stripes securely affixed around the area or blocking the path etc.

## PROTOCOL:

1. Whenever a life hazard is identified and an immediate threat to the health and safety of incident personnel is present, the person who recognizes the potential life hazard shall immediately contact the Incident Commander (IC) to advise them of the situation.
2. Once notified, the Incident Commander shall ensure that incident personnel are made aware of the life hazard and request the appropriate resource or agency to respond to the incident to evaluate and mitigate the life hazard (i.e., Utility Company, Structural Engineer, etc.)
3. **The critical element in identifying a hazard zone is that the tape shall be configured in three horizontal strands approximately 18 to 24 inches apart and securely fixed to stationary supports to establish the LIFE HAZARD ZONE.**
4. Three horizontal strands of barrier tape shall only be used for life hazard identification. When incident personnel see this configuration of barrier tape, incident personnel shall not enter the **Life Hazard Zone**.
5. When personnel are available, consider posting a Life Safety lookout at critical hazards that present an extreme risk to personnel working on scene. Lookouts can ensure that the Life Safety Zone is observed and personnel remain outside the hazard zone.
6. Personnel shall not breach, alter, or remove any LIFE HAZARD ZONE identification measures until the hazard has been abated and the Incident Commander has granted approval.
7. The LIFE HAZARD ZONE identification tape should NOT be used for non-life hazard situations such as fire origin identification, crowd control, and marking abandoned vehicles.

**Remember the slogan: THREE STRIPES, YOU'RE OUT!**

