At an emergency incident where activities are judged by the Incident Safety Officer to be unsafe or to involve an imminent hazard, the Incident Safety Officer shall have the authority to alter, suspend, or terminate those activities. The Incident Safety Officer shall immediately inform the Incident Commander of any actions taken to correct imminent hazards at the emergency scene.

Incident Safety Officer Checklist

- Don identification vest and be readily identifiable on the incident scene
- Ensure other key personnel on scene are also readily identifiable
- Ensure that the Accountability System is utilized
- Review Incident Action Plan and Back-up Plan

Plan: ____________________________

Plan: ____________________________

- Before there is a change from an Offensive to Defensive ensure that all companies have withdrawn from the building and that a roll-call is performed and all personnel are accounted for.
- Monitor the scene and report the status of conditions, hazards and risks to the Incident Commander
- Ensure that a Risk vs. Benefit analysis has been conducted
- Provide the Incident Commander with a Risk Assessment
- Ensure all personnel are utilizing proper protective equipment
- Water supply / hose lines have been properly marked and protected to prevent damage from vehicles running over them
- Command Post and all apparatus are located in a safe location and outside of collapse zones
- Ensure that hot zones, safety zones, collapse zones, or other designated hazard areas are communicated to all members present on scene
- Evaluate motor vehicle traffic hazards and apparatus placement
- Identify type of building construction and structural hazards

**TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION**

- Type I – Fire Resistive
- Type II – Non-Combustible
- Type III – Ordinary
- Type IV – Heavy Timber
- Type V – Wood Frame
- Lightweight
- Balloon
- Protected
- Unprotected

- Recognize warning signs of impending building collapse
  - Sounds of structural movement – cracking, groaning, snapping, etc.
  - Smoke or water leaking from walls
  - Flexible movement of any floor or roof where firefighters walk
  - Interior or exterior bearing walls or columns – leaning, twisting, flexing

- Recognize signs of a possible backdraft, flashover, rollover, blow-up or other fire event that could pose a threat to operating teams
  - Smoke stained windows
  - Puffing of smoke at seams and cracks or windows and doors
  - Smoke pushing out under pressure
  - No visible flame or very dull red flame in the depth of the smoke
  - Tightly sealed building, heavy black smoke
  - Large, open area structure or void
  - Extreme heat

- Evaluate smoke conditions
- Verify that electrical lines have not been burned or compromised in a manner that will endanger firefighters or bystanders
- Ensure that a Rapid Intervention Team (Crew) is available and ready for deployment whenever firefighters enter hazardous locations
- Monitor the accessibility of entry and egress of structures and the effect it has on the safety of members conducting interior operations
- Ensure that ladders are placed as needed to provide alternate means of egress
- Monitor radio transmissions and stay alert to transmission barriers that could result in misssed, unclear, or incomplete communication
- Ensure that utilities have been properly secured
- Ensure that firefighting crews do not utilize opposing hose lines
- Communicate to the Incident Commander the need for an Assistant(s) or Technical Safety Officer(s) due to the need, size, complexity, or duration of the incident