



RUSSELLVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
POLICY MANUAL

Policy Number:
Section:
Original Date:
Revised Date:

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure fire apparatus are safely operated and to prevent accidents when it is necessary to back apparatus into quarters and similar conditions.

All personnel are responsible for safely operating vehicles at all times, especially when backing.

POLICY

The majority of accidents involving fire apparatus occur when backing. In an effort to reduce backing accidents, the following procedures shall be strictly adhered to:

1. Avoid backing whenever possible. Apparatus should only be backed whenever driving forward is not possible.
2. If backing cannot be avoided, apparatus may be backed with the assistance of a spotter. The driver and spotter must agree on the route to be taken. The driver and spotter must be in constant communication throughout the event.
3. As a last resort, the driver may back the apparatus without assistance of a spotter after making a 360 degree survey of the apparatus and surroundings. The driver then should proceed with extreme caution. If the driver determines that the apparatus cannot be backed safely, the driver should stop and call for assistance.

Approved

Fire Chief

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