TAKE 5 FOR SAFETY

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES

# 5-MINUTE SAFETY DRILL

## Risk Management: It's Your Call Winter Weather!

**Date:**_____

**Shift:**_____

**Dept:**_____

**Station:**_____

**Training Code:**_____

NOTES:

**FOCUS: Winter weather creates additional challenges to the provision of emergency services. Emergency responders are faced with cold temperatures as well as conditions created by the weather. Heavy rains, snow and icy conditions make the job more dangerous. We must anticipate the unlikely and be prepared if we are to successfully carry out our rescue missions!**

### CHALLENGE

Emergency response is the nature of our business. However, winter weather can create difficulties in our ability to respond to emergency situations. This is especially true if it is unusual for our geographical area!

This year we are seeing unusually heavy rains that create icy roads as well as blizzard like conditions due to low temperatures. Downed electrical wires due to heavy snow and ice create power issues as well as safety issues. In this situation, a traffic pile up has occurred due to heavy snow. Access to the scene is very difficult due to heavy snow. You have arrived on the scene. It's your call!

### DISCUSSION

- How prepared is the department to deal with a devastating traffic pile up?
- What personnel safety issues come to mind?
- What communication and logistical concerns do you have about getting personnel and equipment to the scene?
- How will you coordinate with medical facilities?
- Discuss how you would proceed ?
- Do you have a contingency plan for access and deployment when roads become inaccessible?
- As the safety officer, what instructions do you have for your crew?

**The greatest asset of the fire service is our people; protect them!!**

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Ask for public entity safety coordinator

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