



Fire Protection Training

Procedures Handbook 4300

FORCIBLE ENTRY

TOPIC: Forcing Entry Doors

TIME FRAME: 30 Minutes

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION:

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: A written quiz

Behavior: The student will list and describe proper methods for forcing single entry swinging doors and will identify the technical aspects of the evolution.

Standard: With a minimum 70% accuracy

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Appropriate visual aids
- Audio visual equipment

REFERENCES:

- IFSTA, Essentials of Fire Fighting, 2nd Edition, Chapter 6
- IFSTA, Forcible Entry, 7th Edition, Chapter 4

PREPARATION: Upon arrival at a fire building, firefighters may see flames and smoke billowing from windows or roofs. Basic fire attack strategy calls for the firefighter to advance and locate the seat of the fire rather than automatically apply water at the window or roof and "push" the fire toward unburned areas. Entry into burning buildings is a first step to properly combat the fire. Ideally, this entry could be as easy as turning a doorknob, but this is not often the case. In those cases where entry is blocked, the firefighter must resort to the use of tools and imaginative forcible entry techniques.



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FORCING ENTRY DOORS

PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<p>I. FORCING DOORS OPENING TOWARDS FIRE FIGHTERS</p> <p>A. Removing Hinge Pin</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Start with bottom pin2. Use screwdriver or other pry tool3. Use striking tool as necessary (hammer)4. Work towards top pin5. Pry door outward on hinged side to free latch <p>B. Pry Door and Frame Apart</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Force blade or pry tool between door and frame near latch2. Apply leverage away from the door to separate door from frame3. Place fulcrum near blade of tool for greater leverage4. Use second pry tool on other side of latch as necessary5. Pull or pry door open slowly until latch has cleared the striker plate <p>II. FORCING DOORS OPENING AWAY FROM FIRE FIGHTER</p> <p>A. Remove Door Stop</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bump cutting edge of tool against the door stop to break paint and varnish2. Pry door stop away and remove it <p>B. Pry Door and Frame Apart</p>	



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<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Force blade of pry tool between door and frame near latch2. Apply leverage outward to separate door from frame3. Maintaining pressure, use second pry tool on other side of latch as necessary4. Push door open slowly when latch has cleared the striker plate	
<p>III. FORCING TEMPERED GLASS DOORS AND WINDOWS</p> <p>A. Should be Broken Only as a Last Resort</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Firefighters should use every other means of forcible entry before deciding to gain entrance through an opening that is blocked by tempered plate glass2. The breakage characteristics of tempered plate glass are quite different from those of ordinary plate glass.<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Tempered glass is heat treated which results in high tension stresses and high compression stresses in the center and the exterior surfaces respectivelyb. The heat treatment increases the door strength and flexibilityc. The resistance to impact pressure and temperature are increasedd. The tempered plate glass door panels are more expensive <p>B. Caution should be exercised when breaking tempered plate glass</p>	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. The glass will not fall out like ordinary plate glass and may in fact explode with the fragments dispersing in a horizontal direction2. The firefighters should wear all appropriate protective clothing while working around tempered glass <p>IV. FORCING POLYCARBONATE DOORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Lexan<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. A polycarbonate2. 250 times stronger than safety glass3. 50% lighter than glass4. The most common thickness is 1/8 - 1/2 inchB. Lexan Doors, like tempered glass doors, should be forced only as a last resort<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Circular saw with a carbide tipped blade is most effective2. Cooling water stream should be applied to the cut<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Heat from the blade will fuse the cut line resulting in lost time <p>V. FORCING DOUBLE SWINGING DOORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Double Swinging Doors Should be Forced with a Pry Tool<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. If molding is fastened to one of the doors in the center, it should be removed to expose the crack between the two doors	



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<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Insert a pry tool between the two doors near locking assembly and pry the doors until the bolt passes the keeper3. If the door has a glass pane, breaking the glass and reaching in to unlock the door may be the fastest means of entry4. Most double swinging doors have a slide lock near the top and/or bottom of the door on one or both doors5. The method to use to force a swinging door should be determined by how the door is hung and how the door is locked	



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SUMMARY:

Gaining access to a building can be of great importance during fireground operations. Your ability to quickly force doors with minimum damage is a valuable asset to your company.

EVALUATION:

A written quiz.

ASSIGNMENT:

To be determined by instructor(s).