

	<b>UNION CENTER FIRE COMPANY INC.</b> <b>Best Operating Guidelines</b>	
	<b>Subject: Vehicle Backing</b>	<b>BOG Series Safety</b>
		<b>Initiated 04/05/11</b>
<b>Approved: Fire Chief Chris Hoyt</b>	<b>Revised 03/02/13</b>	

Apparatus can cause serious injuries or property damage, if accidents occur. These guidelines will provide procedures (pg.2) and information pertinent to safe backing operations for Fire Company apparatus.

### **Driver Responsibilities**

- Bring the apparatus to a complete stop.
- Turn on emergency lights, when affecting traffic.
- Allow a spotter to exit the vehicle safely. Use our members as a spotter whenever possible.
- Roll driver's window down completely so you can hear and see better.
- Make visual contact with the spotter before backing up
- Driver and spotter must continue eye contact in the left rear view mirror at all times.
- Driver will stop apparatus, if spotter can't be seen or doesn't understand signals.
- The driver activates the apparatus' horn (3) three times prior to backing.

### **Spotter Responsibilities**

- Will wear reflective vest or clothing at all times
- Survey the backing area, overhead, and sides of apparatus for any hazards
- Communicate any observed hazards to the driver
- Spotter should be (8) eight to (10) ten feet behind the apparatus, on the driver's side.
- Spotter will not position themselves between the vehicle and another object
- Establish and maintain visual contact with the driver at all times.
- Guide the driver back using hand signals.
- Signal the Driver to stop (verbally and hand signals) if any hazards are observed

If there is no spotter available to assist, access the need for backing up. If assistance is not available, exit apparatus, walk around and survey the backing area. Once complete, back up apparatus slow, and check apparatus mirrors often.

### **Signals**

Straight Backwards:

Place one hand above head, with palm toward your face, waving back, other hand at your side.

Turn:

One arm extended out to the side opposite the direction of turn. The extended arm will make the spotter wider to the driver. The spotter will guide the driver thru the turn by using entire body.

Stop:

Both arms crossed across chest.