



# Solano County Fire Chiefs Association GUIDELINES

<b>Guideline Name:</b>	<b>Scene Rehabilitation</b>
<b>Number:</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Revision / Reviewed Date:</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 12, 2018</b>

## I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a uniform expectation of all agencies and incident commanders as to what is required of each IC for incidents of a prolonged duration. It is not the intent of this policy to override any agency's in-place rehab or heat illness prevention policies.

## II. Policy

It is the policy of the Solano County Fire Chiefs that all Incident Commanders comply with the procedures identified in this policy for the safety and well-being of all responders to the incident, irrespective of agency, in order to meet CalOSHA expectations for hydration, shade and overall worker safety as well as operational efficiency.

## III. Background

CalOSHA has very strict standards for compliance in order to ensure workers safety when operating at an incident. Each agency is expected to provide the minimum amount of training to their personnel to comply with CalOSHA standards. This policy is not an all-encompassing standard for rehab or heat illness prevention. It must be understood that CalOSHA considers each agency employee as a "shared employee" which means that not only employee's home agency, but the agency that the incident is occurring in could both be subject to fines if CalOSHA requirements are not met.

## IV. Procedure

### A. Agency Responsibilities

1. Each agency must provide proper training as required by CalOSHA to all of their members regarding heat illness prevention.
2. Each agency must provide, at minimum, two (2) hours' worth of water per member at any incident – preferably on the responding apparatus

### B. Incident Commander Responsibilities

1. Command shall monitor the weather at the incident and base strategic and tactical assignments with the weather's effect on individual responders health and well being
2. Command shall, when necessary, create a rehab plan that addresses the following:



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- a. provide cool and potable water to any responder requesting fluid replacement, particularly if the incident is expected to last longer than two (2) hours
- b. provisions for cooling via shade or other means to personnel on the incident if required for rehab purposes
- c. provisions to supply food if the incident becomes, or is expected to be, protracted and spans normal mealtimes where it is reasonable to think that the personnel on the incident may have missed a meal and will not be released in a timeframe where they will get be able to get food