



## **General Order Number 27**

October 1, 2012

To Officers and Members

Johnson Creek Fire & EMS Department

### **Effective October 1, 2012**

By reading the smoke conditions firefighters can predict the future events thereby avoiding deadly consequences. Firefighters that find themselves in a smoke filled environment are at high risk because it is the same as standing inside a propane gas cloud. This is because smoke is fuel and smoke conditions that are high volume, high velocity, extremely dense, and thick and black are merely moments away from ignition. These turbulent smoke conditions are called "black fire" and they commonly turn into flashover conditions.

The tactics for black fire conditions are to ventilate and cool from exterior positions. Firefighters should not enter structures with these conditions and victims inside will have greatly reduced chances of life sustainability because of the smoke toxicity and high heat. Essentially, their survivor profile will be vastly diminished.

This order will take effect and be in force on and after 0700 hours on the date indicated.

David F. Peterson

Fire Chief