

	<b>FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE &amp; RESCUE DEPARTMENT INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN</b>		
	<b>NUMBER:</b> 2006-XXX	<b>DATE:</b> October 23, 2006	<b>DISTRIBUTION: I</b>
	<b>PREPARED BY:</b> Battalion Chief Daniel V. Gray , Safety and Personnel Services Division		
	<b>SUBJECT:</b> Safety Tape/Physical Barrier		

The purpose of this informational bulletin is to clarify and reinforce the importance of a physical barrier at the emergency incident scene. Currently, the Fire and Rescue Department (FRD) carries two colors of barrier tape. The intent of the two different colors will identify the hazard risk and provide a physical barrier to protect the FRD personnel and civilians during or after our presence at an emergency incident scene. The proper use of Safety Tape/Physical Barrier is vital to the entire operation and the safety of our members as well as our citizens.

The RED tape demonstrates the highest threat/hazard area for everyone at the emergency incident scene. When red barrier tape is used **NO ONE SHALL CROSS** or enter into an area (including all FRD personnel). For examples but not limited to; Collapse zones; weakened floors, hazardous materials hot zones, live electrical lines, open trenches or any area that would cause harm or death. The removal of any red barrier tape shall only be under the authority of the incident commander or safety officer.

The YELLOW tape provides the same physical barrier but is commonly used for lower risk/hazard situations. For examples but limited to; to deny access of Non Fire Department personnel from entering a designated area during an emergency incident operation. For larger incidents, it's been known to have two separate zones of yellow tape, one zone closest to the incident will be reserved for command, public information staff and media and the other for all bystanders.

For additional questions about the uses of safety tape/physical barrier, contact your shift Safety Officer.

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