Purpose and Scope: The purpose of the **North Kingstown Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines Manual** is to provide written guidelines for the efficient operation of the department.

The manual is subject to written revisions as the needs of the department change. Members of the North Kingstown Fire Department shall be required to familiarize themselves with these guidelines and any revisions that may occur.

The content of this manual shall not be construed to interfere with, or delay the prompt response to any emergency. ***Where there is doubt as to the intent of any guideline and time does not permit an opportunity for clarification, good judgement shall be exercised in performing the required duties and responsibilities by all members of this department.***

Deviation from established guidelines is acceptable under the following circumstances:

1. In the opinion of the member(s) involved, such a violation will provide greater safety to the member(s) of the North Kingstown Fire Department or the public.

OR

2. In the opinion of the member(s) involved, such a violation is necessary to provide the most efficient and/or responsive service consistent with the highest standard of professionalism and expertise expected of all members of the North Kingstown Fire Department.

AND

3. The members involved clearly communicate this deviation to others involved.

These guidelines may be modified, deleted edited, or revised at the discretion of the Fire Chief and his/her designee.