

# The Woodlands Fire Department Operational Guidelines

## SR-08 – ODOR INVESTIGATIONS

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### 1.0 PURPOSE

To provide for a safe, standardized response to odor investigations.

### 2.0 RESPONSE

The initial assignment for an odor investigation is one (1) company. Apparatus and personnel should not position directly in front of the dispatched location.

### 3.0 INVESTIGATION

3.1 Two (2) personnel in full protective gear shall investigate the odor. A combustible gas detector shall be used to determine if a flammable gas is present. If the presence of a flammable gas is detected, the team shall return to the apparatus to plan for scene mitigation and refer to SR-09, Flammable Gas Emergencies.

3.2 The DOT ERG should be referenced as a basic guide for these incidents. A minimum number of personnel should be allowed to enter the area to size-up the situation.

A. Attempt to locate and identify the source of the odor and any shutoff devices available.

3.3 If other than a flammable gas is suspected or detected, the investigation team shall immediately don their SCBA and initiate a Hazardous Materials incident response.