

# Orientation and Fire Service History

## Chapter 1



# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**Summarize  
the history  
of the fire  
service.**

**Describe  
the mission  
of the fire  
service.**

**Distinguish  
among  
functions of  
fire  
companies.**

**Explain the  
organizational  
characteristics,  
cultural challenges,  
and cultural  
strengths that  
influence the fire  
service.**

**Describe the  
organization  
of fire  
departments.**



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# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**Summarize primary knowledge and skills the firefighter must have to function effectively.**

**Describe fire department organizational principles.**

**Distinguish among the primary roles of fire service personnel.**

**Locate information in departmental documents and standard or code materials.**



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# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**Distinguish between fire department SOPs and rules and regulations.**



**Explain the ways the fire service may interact with other organizations.**



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# FIRE SERVICE HISTORY IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF UNDERSTANDING CURRENT PRACTICES.

## Colonial North America

- Jamestown
- Boston
- New Amsterdam (New York)
- Philadelphia

## Industrial revolution influence

- Steam pumps
- Iron structural members
- Steel replaced iron
- Skyscrapers
- NFPA®



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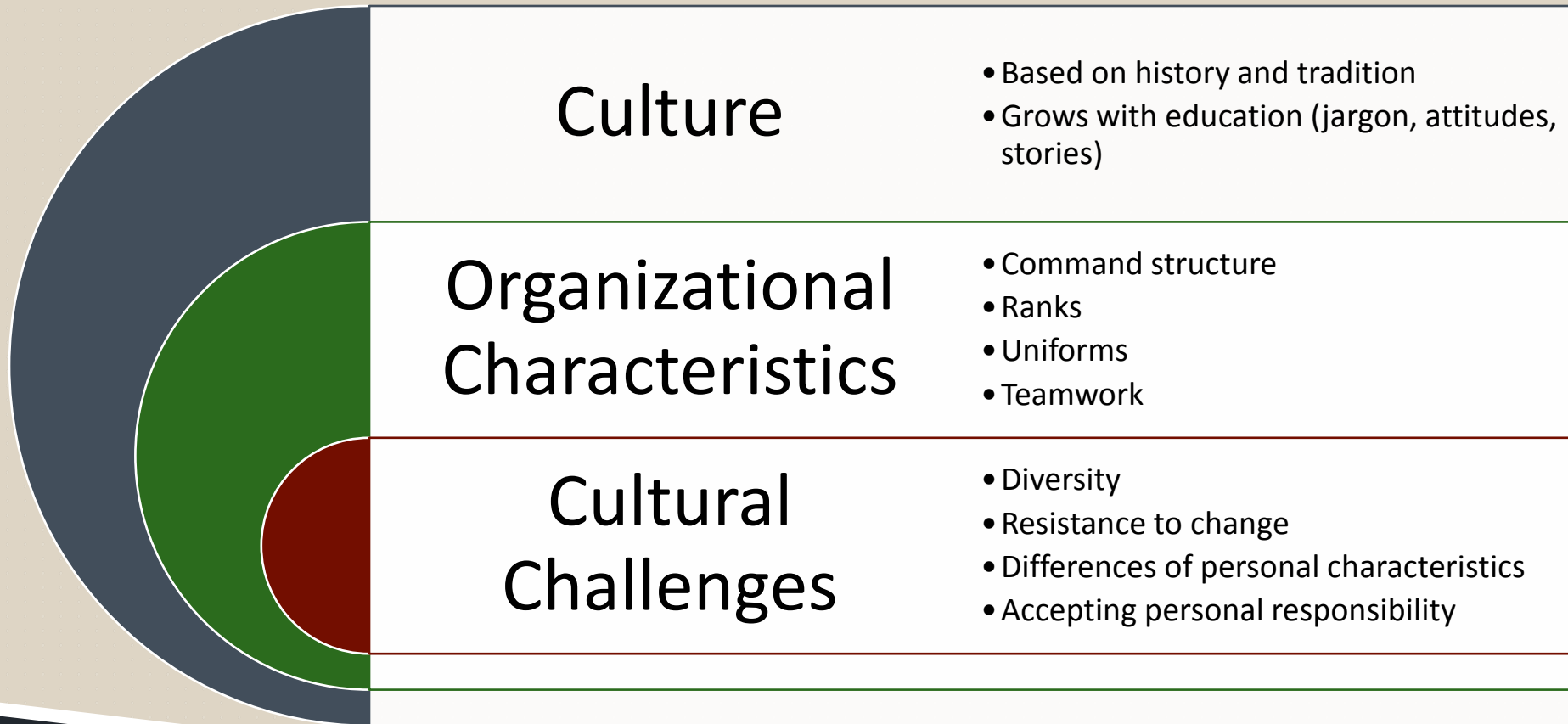


# THERE ARE GENERAL TRENDS OF CHANGE IN THE MODERN FIRE SERVICE.



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# FIRE SERVICE CULTURE IS INFLUENCED BY ITS ORGANIZATION AND CULTURAL CHALLENGES.



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# FIRE SERVICE CULTURE DEVELOPS SPECIFIC CULTURAL STRENGTHS.

- Integrity
- Moral character
- Work ethic
- Pride
- Courage
- Loyalty
- Respect



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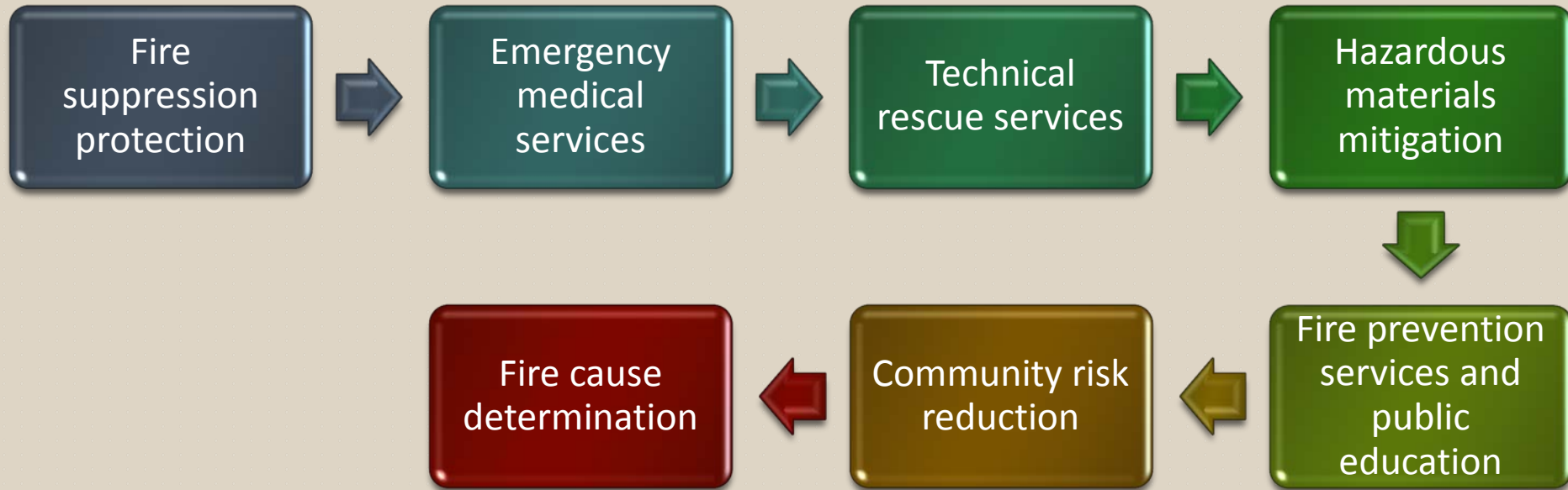


# THE FIRE SERVICE MISSION ESTABLISHES DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION.



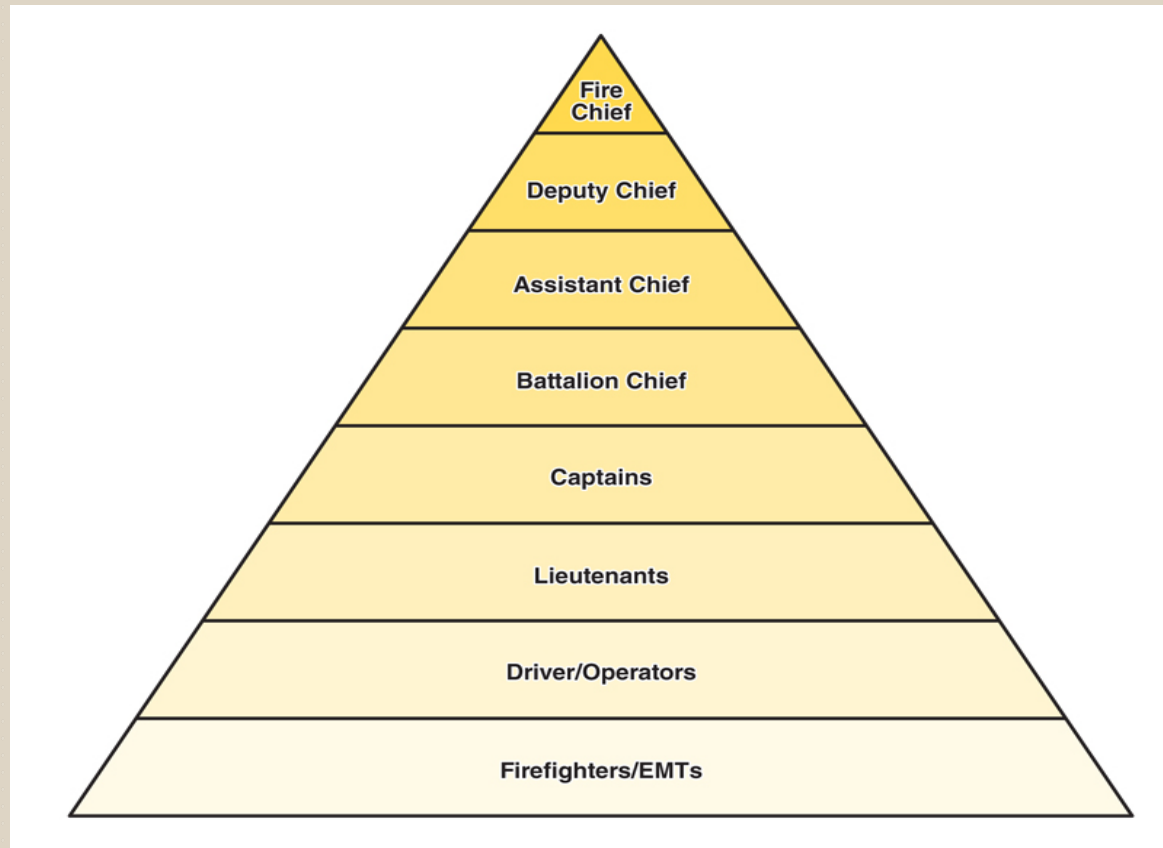
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# THE FIRE SERVICE MISSION TAKES AN ALL-HAZARD CONCEPT APPROACH TO THE SERVICES THEY PROVIDE.



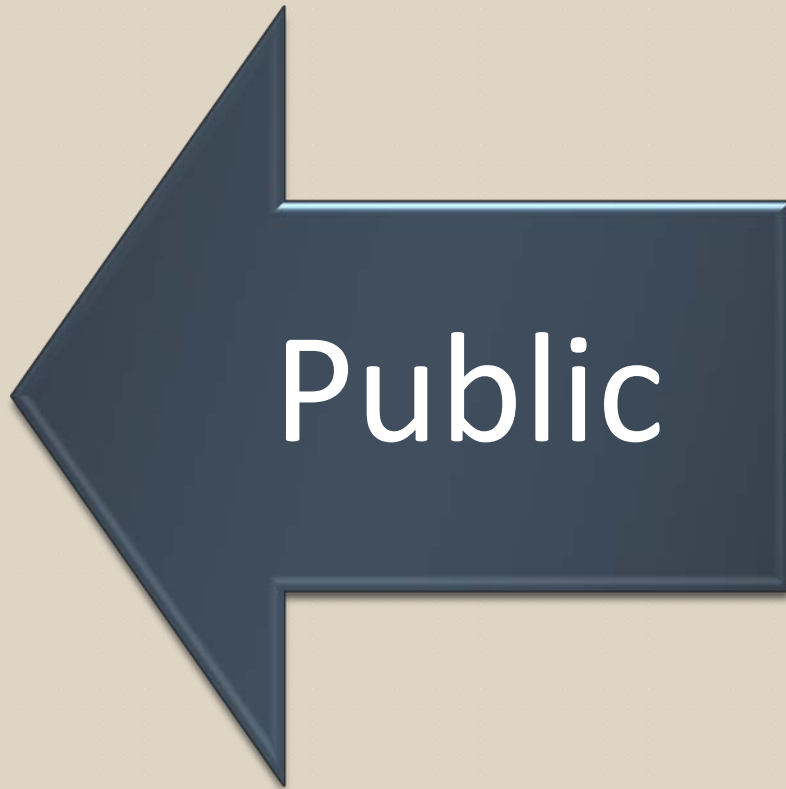
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# DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION IS BASED ON A SYSTEM OF RANK TIED TO SPECIFIC DUTIES.



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FIRE DEPARTMENT TYPES ARE DETERMINED BY  
HOW THE ORGANIZATION IS FUNDED.



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# TYPES OF STAFFING VARY BASED ON FUNDING AND DUTIES ASSIGNED AT THE STATION.



# DEPARTMENTAL DUTIES ARE SEPARATED BASED ON WHO PERSONNEL SUPPORT.

## Line personnel



Directly to  
external  
customers

## Staff personnel



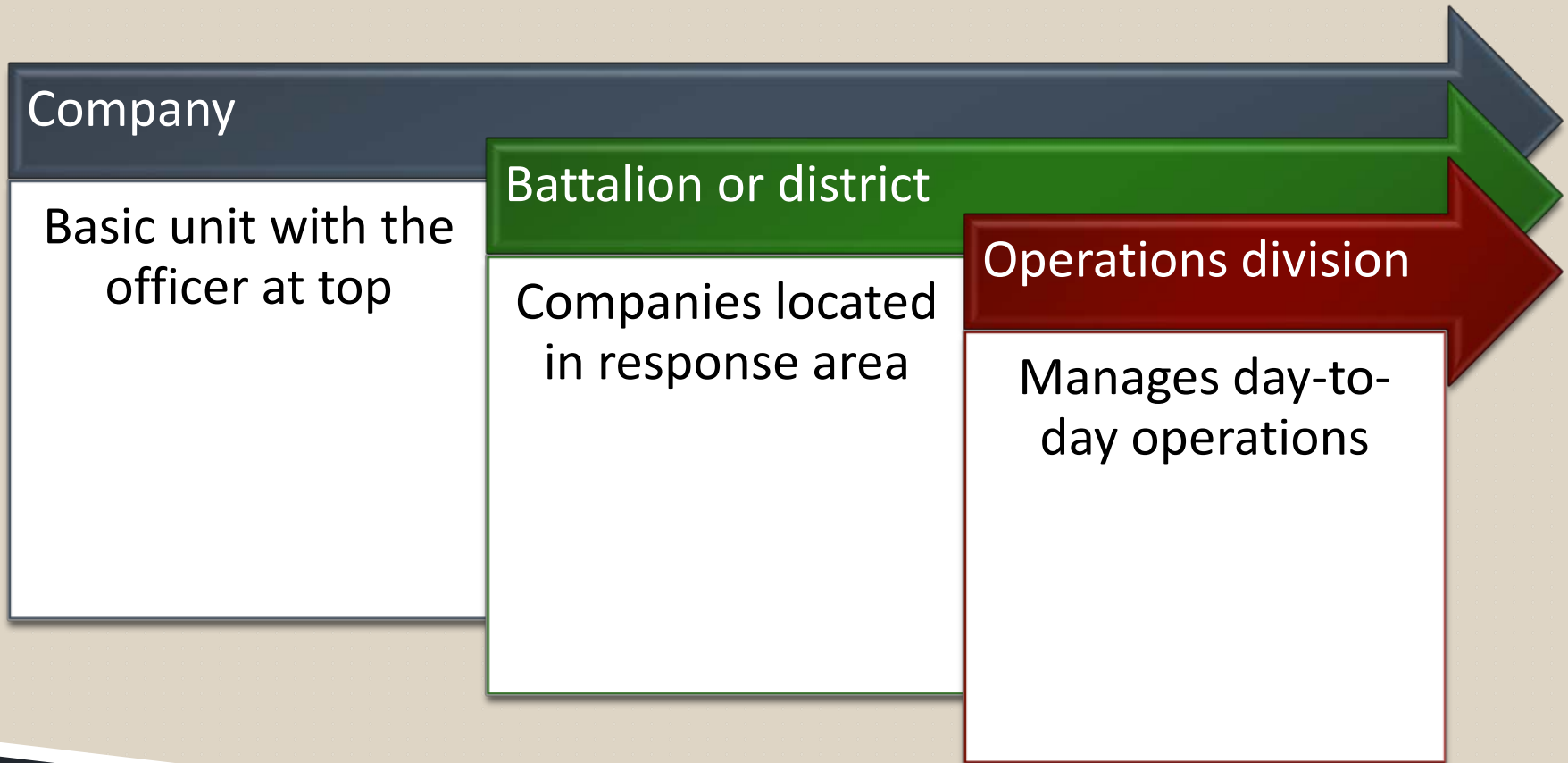
Support  
line  
personnel

*Courtesy, Rob Esposito*



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# THE BASIC ORGANIZATION OF A FIRE COMPANY IS BASED ON ASSIGNED DUTIES.





# FIRE COMPANY DUTIES VARY DEPENDING ON THEIR MAIN PURPOSE.



Engine company



Truck (ladder) Company

Courtesy of Ron Moore,  
McKinney (TX) FD

Rescue squad/ company

Brush company



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# FIRE COMPANY DUTIES VARY DEPENDING ON THEIR MAIN PURPOSE.



Hazardous Materials company



Aircraft rescue and fire fighting company

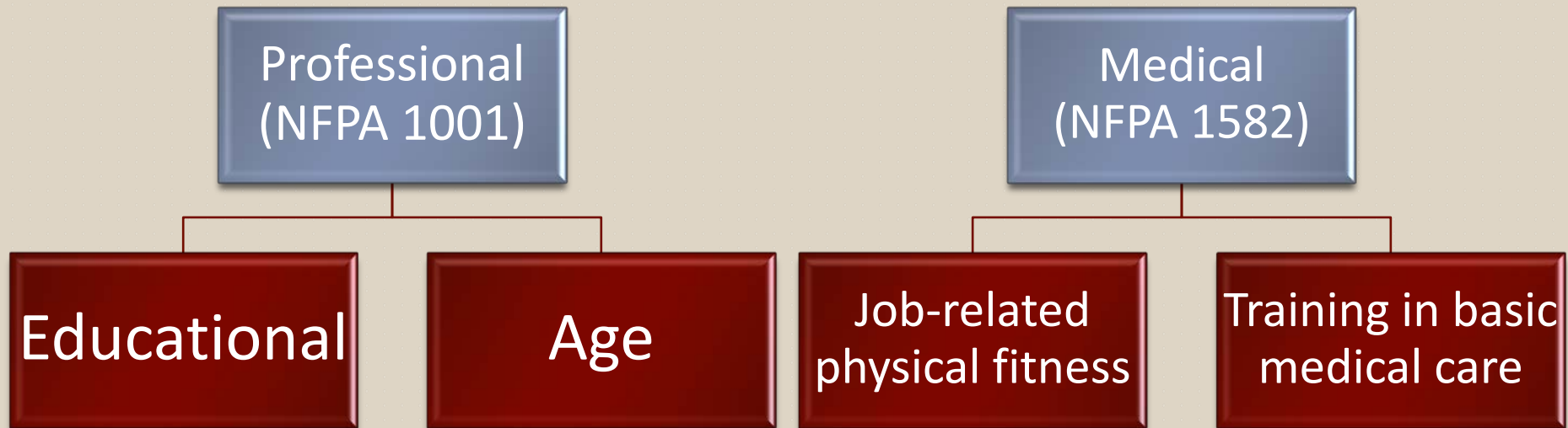
Emergency medical/  
ambulance company

Special rescue company



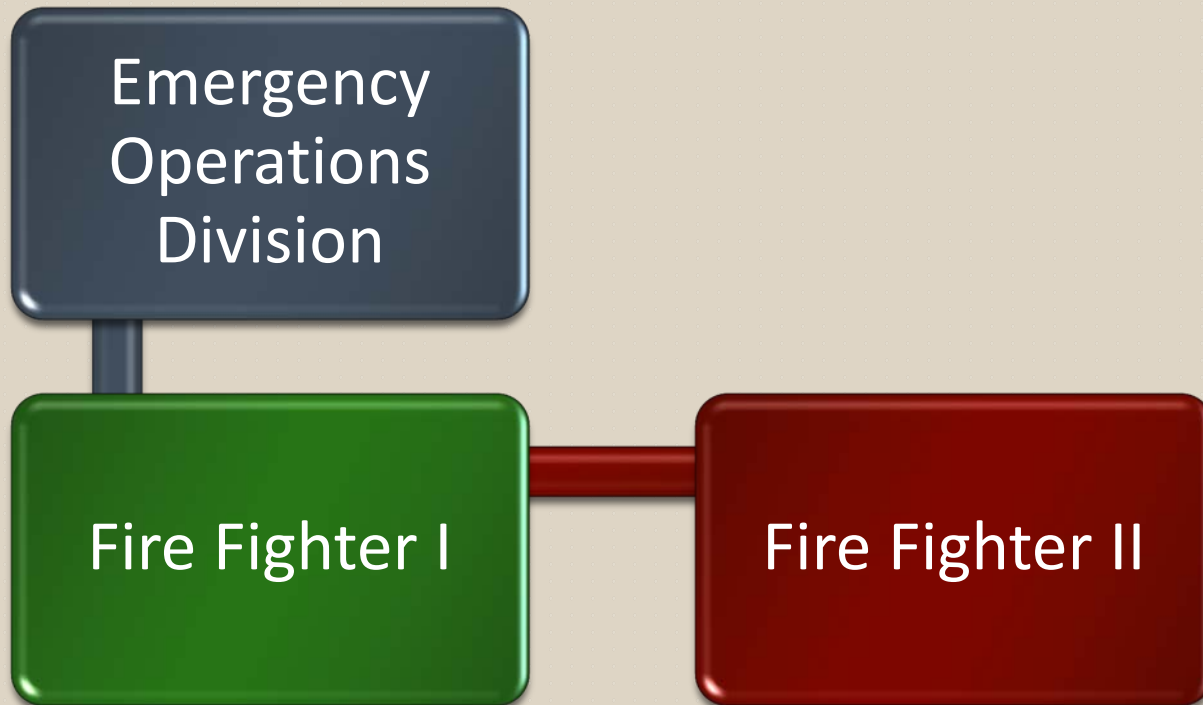
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# FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL MUST MEET SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS.



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# LINE FUNCTIONS FORM THE FOUNDATION OF THE UNIFORMED PART OF FIRE SERVICE.



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# LINE FUNCTIONS FORM THE FOUNDATION OF THE UNIFORMED PART OF FIRE SERVICE.

## Emergency Operations Division

- Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator
- Airport Firefighter
- Hazardous Materials

Technician



Courtesy of Doug Allen and Ames (IA) FD



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# LINE FUNCTIONS FORM THE FOUNDATION OF THE UNIFORMED PART OF FIRE SERVICE.

## Emergency Operations Division

- Rescue Technician
- Wildland Firefighter
- Fire Department Incident
- Safety Officer
- Fire Police Personnel



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LINE FUNCTIONS FORM THE FOUNDATION OF  
THE UNIFORMED PART OF FIRE SERVICE.

## Emergency Operations Division

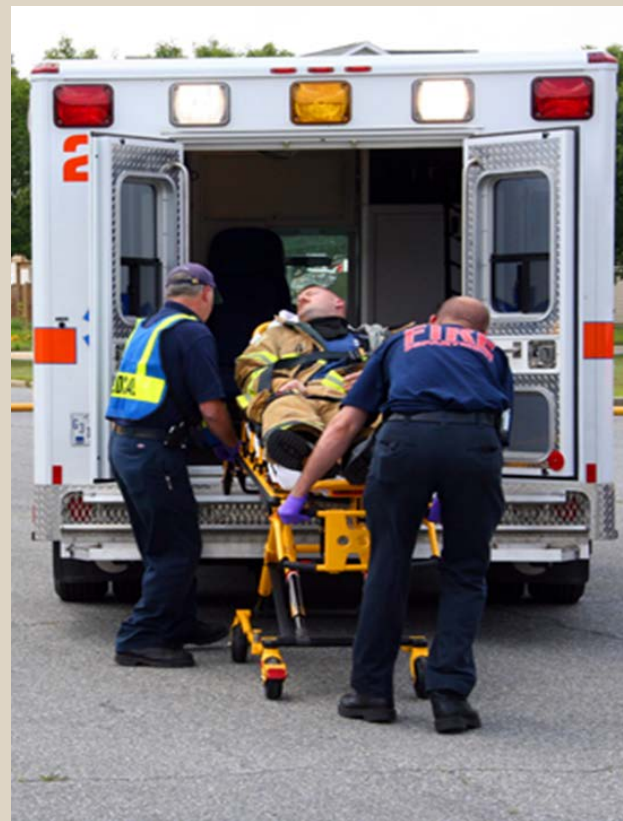


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# LINE FUNCTIONS FORM THE FOUNDATION OF THE UNIFORMED PART OF FIRE SERVICE.

## Emergency Operations Division

- Emergency Medical Responders
- Emergency Medical Technicians
- Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians
- Paramedics



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LINE FUNCTIONS FORM THE FOUNDATION OF  
THE UNIFORMED PART OF FIRE SERVICE.

## Fire prevention division

Fire  
prevention  
officer/  
inspector

Plans  
examiner

Fire and  
arson  
investigator

Public fire  
and life  
safety  
educator

Fire  
protection  
engineer/  
specialist

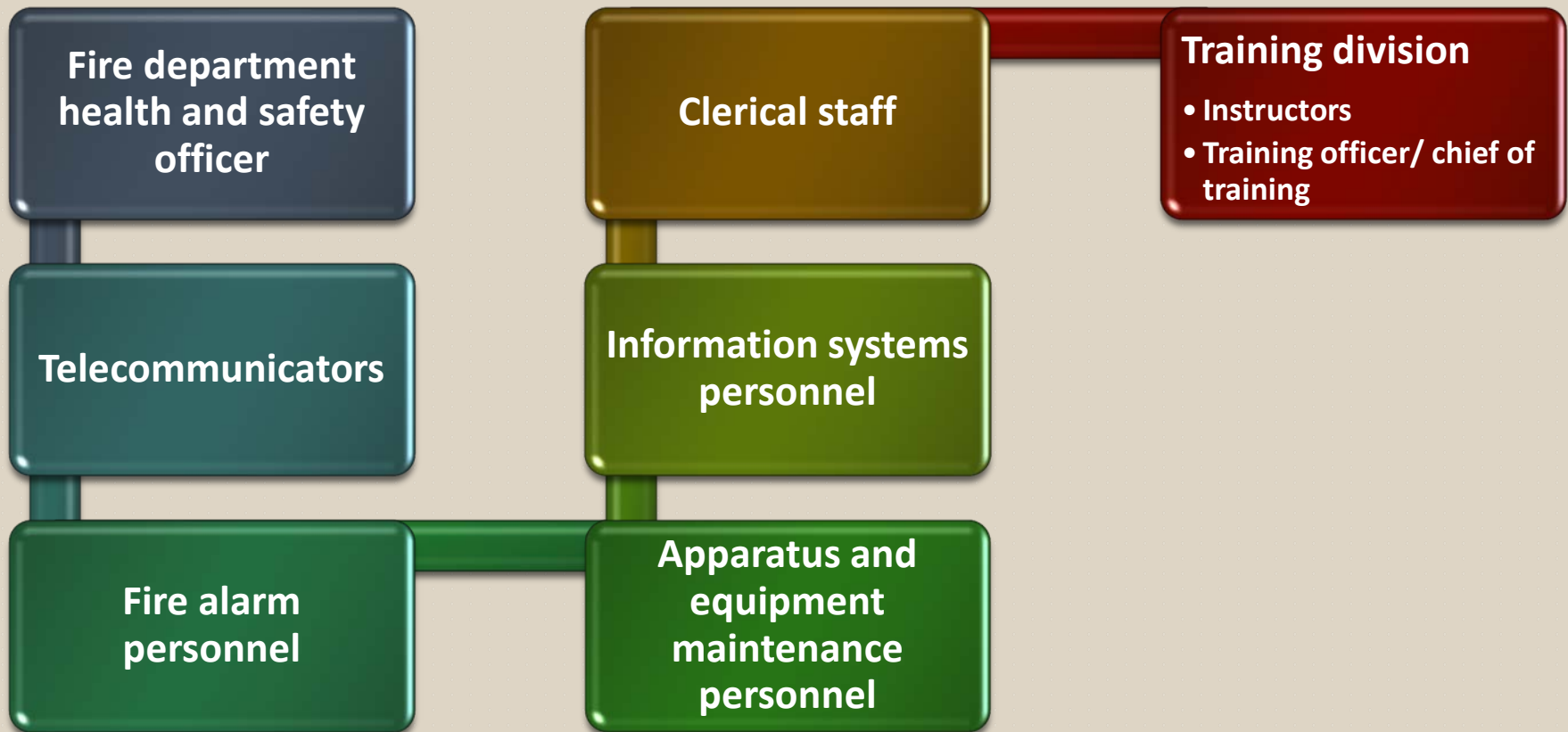


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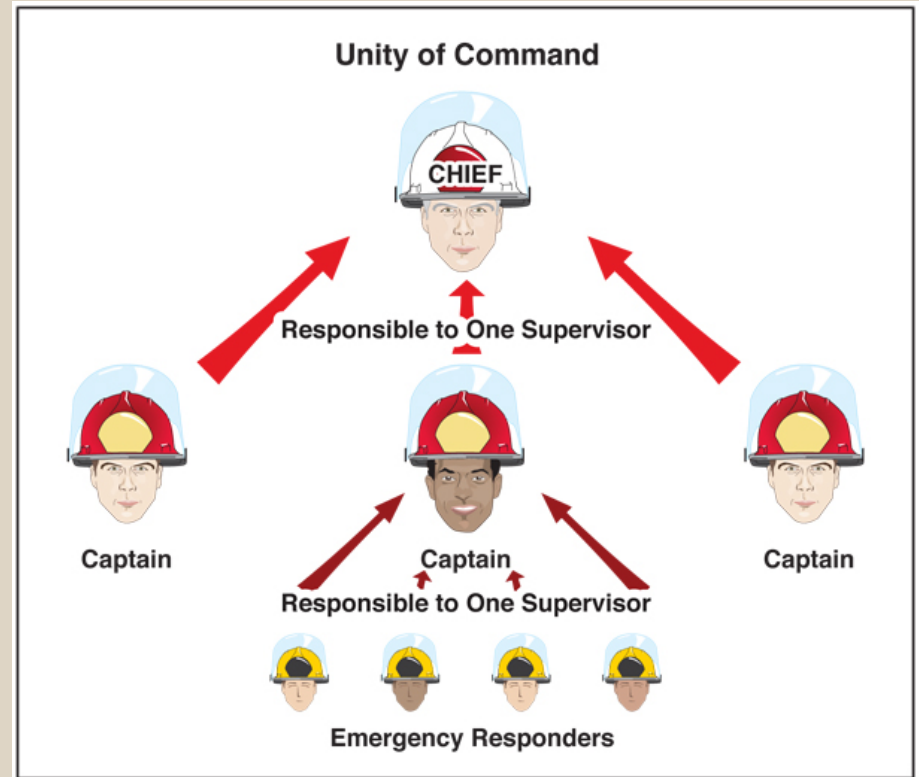


# STAFF FUNCTIONS SUPPORT AND TRAIN MEMBERS OF THE FIRE SERVICE.



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# FIRE SERVICE MEMBERS MUST UNDERSTAND DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLES.



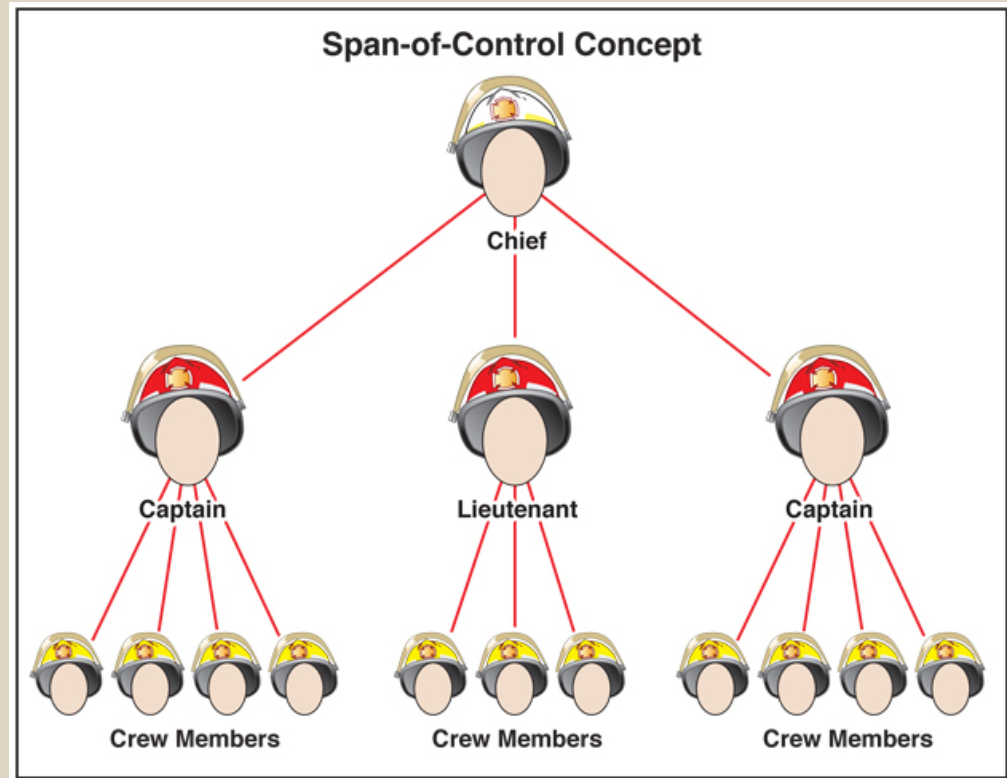
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# FIRE SERVICE MEMBERS MUST UNDERSTAND DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLES.

**Span of control**

**Division of labor**

**Discipline**



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# FIRE DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS

Written regulations  
are essential for  
successful operations



Regulations consist of  
policies and  
procedures



IT IS YOUR  
RESPONSIBILITY TO  
LEARN AND ADHERE  
TO YOUR  
DEPARTMENT'S  
REGULATIONS.



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# PERSONNEL MUST KNOW HOW TO LOCATE INFORMATION IN FIRE DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS.



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# THE FIRE SERVICE IS REGULATED BY A VARIETY OF RULES AND PROCEDURES.

## Policies

- Guide to decision making
- Set boundaries, establish standards of conduct

## Procedures

- Detailed plan of action
- List step-by-step for conducting policy



# THE FIRE SERVICE IS REGULATED BY A VARIETY OF RULES AND PROCEDURES.

## Laws, Statutes, or Ordinances

- Federal
- State/provincial
- Local

## Codes and standards

- Standard – Set of principles, protocols, procedures
- Code – Collection of rules and regulations

## Orders and Directives

- Issued from top command
- Used to implement departmental policies





# FIRE SERVICE PERSONNEL WILL INTERACT WITH VARIOUS OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

EMS and  
Hospitals



Emergency  
disaster  
management



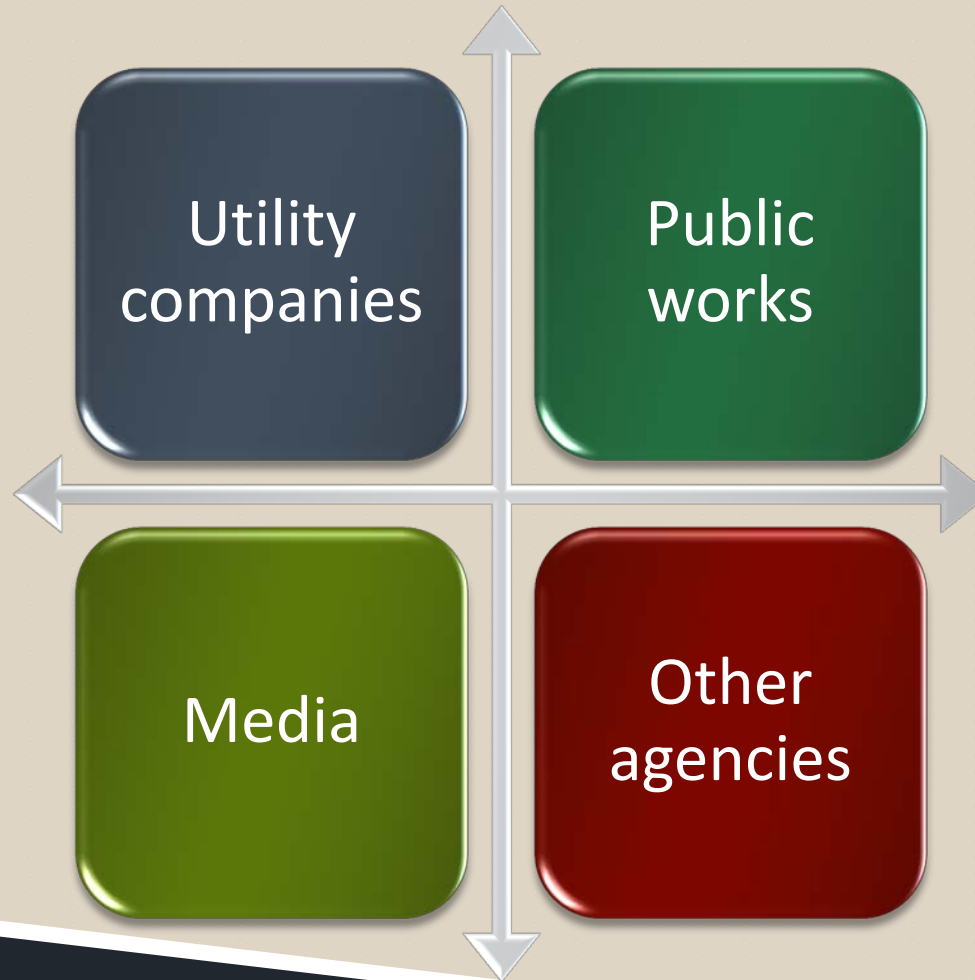
Law  
enforcement



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# FIRE SERVICE PERSONNEL WILL INTERACT WITH VARIOUS OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.



# SUMMARY

**Firefighting is a profession with a long and proud tradition of service to the community.**



**To perform as a firefighter you need physical skills, and knowledge of the regulations that govern your organization, the laws that regulate fire service, the incident command system, as well as, an understanding of agencies that interact with the fire department.**



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