



Assessor Assessment Guide Unit Standard 20392 Protect and preserve a fire scene (Level 3, Credit 4, Version 1)

In order to achieve competency in this unit standard a candidate must display an understanding of the knowledge components by completing an oral or written assessment and practically demonstrate the performances required to protect and preserve a fire scene.

This assessment may take place at a real fire where scene protection is required or at a simulated practical event.

The assessor may elect to question candidates during completion of the practical assessment to ensure theoretical knowledge can be applied during practice. This technique also provides the assessor with reinforcement that knowledge has been retained.

Where a candidate is being assessed on the basis of a RCC process evidence must be produced that indicates a candidate has a knowledge of fire scene preservation, which will include the gathering of evidence for the purpose of supporting fire investigation and actions to secure the fire affected scene.

Assessors may use this guide to record evidence of a candidates overall performance but should be aware that this may not, on its own be an adequate record for moderation purposes without appropriate notes or appendices. Notes should include a summary of the process used and a statement about the quality of the candidate's performance.

ASSESSORS SHOULD ALWAYS REVIEW THE REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN THE UNIT STANDARD DOCUMENT PRIOR TO CONDUCTING ASSESSMENTS

For this unit the following resources are available from FRSITO to assist Learners, Instructors and Assessors:

- Assessor Assessment Guide
- Learner Assessment Guide

Assessors: General Notes:

Assessors Name _____	Assessor No. _____
Candidate Name _____	NZQA No. _____
Date of Assessment _____	Final Result _____

Level Descriptor

Level	Process	Employing	Responsibility
3	Carrying out processes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require a range of well developed skills • Offer a significant choice of procedures • Are employed within a range of familiar contexts 	Employing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some relevant theoretical knowledge • Interpretation of available information • Discretion and judgement • A range of known responses to familiar problems 	Applied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In directed activity with some autonomy • Under general supervision and quality checking • With significant responsibility for the quantity and quality of output • With possible responsibility for the output of others

	Information or actions that may provide support for competency	
General	<p>Has the candidate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactorily completed a pre course self test? <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactorily completed an oral or written on course or post knowledge assessment? <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactorily completed simulation exercises? <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a course covering the Unit Standard subject matter? <input type="checkbox"/> Provided proof of experience through records? <input type="checkbox"/> Practically demonstrated in a practical scenario? <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list)? <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	Assessor Notes:

Element and PC	Evidence Typical answer/product/performance expected from the learner/candidate(s)	Judgement Statement (A statement that defines the standard to be achieved)	Result C/NYC
1	Demonstrate knowledge of fire scene preservation		
1.1	<p>Candidate must explain the legal requirement for protecting a fire scene. Explanations may include but are not limited to:</p> <p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining the scene of emergency at household units and therefore access for fire service personnel until the investigation is complete and the emergency is deemed to be over (FS Act S28 & S29) • For the purposes of any post-incident investigation that may, from time to time, be required to be carried out to determine the cause of any fire or hazardous substance emergency (FS Act S29) • To extinguish and prevent the spread of the fire (FS Act S28) • The gathering of information to assist in achieving unity and completeness of fire safety law and practice (FS Act S20) • To gather information to assist any Commission of Inquiry into the fire (FS Act S86) – (F & RF Act S59) • To investigate cause in accordance with the National Commanders Instructions issued pursuant to Fire Service Act 1975 (FS Act S27A) • Health & Safety of persons investigating or working at the scene (HaSIE Act) • Maintaining a chain of evidence for crime scene (Crimes Act) <p>Did the candidate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the legislative requirements for protecting a fire scene? <p>Assessor notes:</p>	Legislative requirements for protecting a fire scene are explained	

Element and PC	Evidence Typical answer/product/performance expected from the learner/candidate(s)	Judgement Statement (A statement that defines the standard to be achieved)	Result C/NYC
1.2	<p>Actions to mitigate hazards when protecting a fire scene are explained in accordance with the SOPs.</p> <p>Range:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> structural <input type="checkbox"/> biological <input type="checkbox"/> environmental <input type="checkbox"/> utilities <input type="checkbox"/> re-ignition <p>Consider the following:</p> <p>Candidates must explain the actions taken to manage hazards while protecting a fire scene. Explanations may include but are not limited to hazards that may arise due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The gaseous products of combustion • Instability of structural and cladding members • Reduced visibility • Climatic conditions • Building services (power, gas, water) • Water run off • Re-ignition <p>Management of these hazards may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions on entry to all or part of the fire scene • The use of ventilation fans • Breathing apparatus • PPE • Establishing a portable lighting plant • Diverting or ponding run off • Vigilant and continual watch for hot spots and re-ignition • Isolation/disconnection of building services • Securing or removing loose cladding <p>Did the candidate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the actions taken to manage hazards while protecting a fire scene? <p>Assessor notes:</p>	<p>Actions taken to mitigate hazards when protecting a fire scene are explained</p>	

Element and PC	Evidence Typical answer/product/performance expected from the learner/candidate(s)	Judgement Statement (A statement that defines the standard to be achieved)	Result C/NYC
1.3	<p>Candidate ensures actions and responsibilities for fire-fighting crew members are explained in terms of preservation of evidence in accordance with the SOPs.</p> <p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing security for all or part of a fire scene • Maintaining a register to record names of personnel who enter the scene, the purpose for the visit and the time and duration of visit. • Ensuring minimum disruption to the evidence from personnel, overhaul or firefighting operations, fire product and/or the environment. This may include placement of covers or removal of evidence • Maintaining a vigilant watch on building integrity • Maintaining a vigilant watch on hot spots and/or re-ignition • Extinguishing hot spots <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Explain the actions and responsibilities of crew members assigned to preserve evidence at a fire scene?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p>	<p>Actions and responsibilities of crew members assigned to preserve evidence at a fire scene are explained.</p>	

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2	Gather evidence for the purpose of supporting fire investigation		
2.1	<p>Identify and report evidence from a range of sources in accordance with the SOPs.</p> <p>Range:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> physical evidence relating to fire behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> and/or fire site <input type="checkbox"/> and/or surroundings <input type="checkbox"/> and/or witness evidence <p>Consider the following: For this element candidates must undertake a primary fire investigation to complete the requirements of each performance criteria.</p> <p>Candidates must identify probable evidence and report this in accordance with SOP's. Probable evidence may include but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Witness statements • Fire travel patterns (internal and external) • Depth of char • Sign of hydrocarbon • Colour of flame and/or smoke • Speed of fire growth • Occupants statement of actions prior to, during and following the fire incident • Electrical wires, contacts, switches or appliances of interest • Physical evidence in the area of origin such as fuel cans, matches, cigarette butts etc. <p>Candidates must explain the term "Evidence in Chief"</p> <p>Candidates must report their findings of evidence to a specialist fire investigation officer. This report will take the form of written and verbal statements.</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Identify probable evidence? <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the term "Evidence in Chief"? <input type="checkbox"/> Report findings of evidence in accordance with SOP's? <p>Assessor notes:</p>	<p>Probable sources/items of evidence are identified.</p> <p>Evidence is reported in accordance with SOP's.</p>	

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2.2	<p>While working through the process of elimination to determine the area of origin candidates must explain what the different items of fire behaviour evidence as presented suggest in terms of fire travel/intensity. Candidates must identify an area of origin and state the rationale to their finding.</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explain what the different items of fire behaviour evidence as presented suggest in terms of fire travel/intensity? <input type="checkbox"/> Identify an area of origin and state the rationale to their finding? <p>Assessor notes:</p>	Area of Origin is located from the fire behaviour evidence available	

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<p>3</p> <p>3.1</p>	<p>Secure the fire-affected scene</p> <p>Candidates must establish security of a fire affected building to restrict entry to authorised personnel only.</p> <p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the appointment of a scene guard • Use of barrier tape • Covering of windows or external orifices • Closing/locking doors • Instructions to the scene guard detailing • Who has right of entry • Conditions of entry • Health and Safety requirements • Maintaining a log to record names of personnel who enter the scene, the purpose for their visit and the time and duration of visit. • Signage <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Establish security of a fire affected building, restricting entry to authorised personnel only?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p>	<p>Restricted entry to a fire effected building is implemented</p>	
<p>3.2</p>	<p>Candidates must take action to protect the fire scene awaiting the attendance of a specialist fire investigation officer.</p> <p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimising fire suppression and/or overhaul activity within the area of origin • Minimising disturbance to chattels within the area of origin • Covering chattels to protect them from further damage or disruption from the products fire or firefighting operations • The removal of chattels to protect them from further damage from fire or firefighting operations • Restricting or prohibiting entry to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the area of origin ▪ the building ▪ the site <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Take action to protect the fire scene awaiting the attendance of a specialist fire investigation officer?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p>	<p>Fire scene is protected for investigation by specialist fire investigation officer</p>	

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3.3	<p>Candidates must secure the building from the elements of weather and/or unauthorised entry.</p> <p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacing roof cladding or covering holes in the roof cladding with sheeting • Hard covering over burnt or broken external doors and windows • Locking external doors where this is possible • Placing barrier tape and signage around the site • Calling Police for the establishment of a scene guard <p>(Note – candidates must not use Fire Service personnel for this task, nor should they contact a security company directly, the Police and/or building owner will manage all issues relating to the short term and ongoing building security needs).</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Secure the building from the elements of weather and/or unauthorised entry?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p>	<p>Building is secured against the elements of weather and unauthorised entry</p>	