

VCFD Urban Search & Rescue



The USAR (urban search and rescue) unit responds to structural collapses, entrapments, underground or technical rescues. It carries a wide variety of tools and equipment along with shoring and cribbing materials (wood and other items that are used to reinforce walls or secure heavy objects in place) to perform rescues at major incidents.

The motor also powers a large generator that provides power to lights and tools, and an air compressor to operate pneumatic tools. On the roof of the cab is large light mast that can be extended to provide overhead lighting at an incident scene.

USAR-40, a tractor/trailer combination, supports USAR-54 supplying additional tools, equipment and supplies used on USAR incidents.

USAR teams from Ventura City, Oxnard City and Ventura County Fire Departments comprise CA-RTF-7 (California Rescue Task Force 7).

Staffing: Normally the crew from the truck or engine will staff the USAR unit when needed. Personnel specially trained and qualified in USAR operations will join them.

Radio designation:

USAR + station number

i.e.: USAR 54.

