A primary objective of every operational fire plan is to keep firefighters out of entrapment situations. However, firefighters must always be prepared to escape quickly to a safety zone or deployment area. Consider the following during discussion of escape from possible entrapment.

- Have a plan that includes trigger points!

  - **Trigger Point**: An observable event that triggers a pre-determined action. Example: Temperature reaches 98 Degrees and RH goes into single digits the crew will follow the established escape route to the safety zone.

- Reassess escape routes throughout the operational period.
  - Has access to escape routes become more difficult as the day progresses?
  - Do you have more than one escape route?
  - Are all escape routes clearly marked?
  - Are all firefighters familiar with the escape routes?

- During an escape time will be short. Describe considerations you might make in this situation such as:
  - Maintain control of all critical equipment such as PPE and radio… jettison gear that will not aid in your escape!
  - Maintain contact with all other crewmembers!

- Describe your vision of a good safely zone. How is that different from a deployment area?

- You should always know the location of your escape routes leading to and safety zones and deployment areas.

References:
“LCES and Other Thoughts” by Paul Gleason