



Standard Operating Guideline

Commercial Structure Fire



Scope: Sacramento Regional Fire Departments

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References

The participating Sacramento Regional Fire Department current resource packaging and staffing models, and the references below were used to help construct this guideline.

- FIREScope. Field Operations Guide. 2017
<http://demo.epageview.com/FOG2017/viewer/desktop/#page/6>
- Incident Command System Publication: Structure Fire Operations, ICS-500, 10-14-2015-
<http://www.firescope.org/ics-op-guides-job-aids/ics%20500.pdf>
- Firefighter Incident Safety and Accountability Guidelines. ICS 910-
<http://firescope.caloes.ca.gov/ics-guides-and-terms/ICS%20910.pdf>
- NFPA 1561, Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management System and Command Safety (2014)

01. Guideline

To provide guidance for operating at commercial structure fires. There are a variety of building construction features and occupancy types covered in this guideline, such as:

- Strip malls
- Stand-alone commercial structures
- Industrial Complex

As the first arriving company, a description of the type of occupancy (i.e., Home Depot, Restaurant, Tire Store, Grocery Store, etc.) is extremely helpful to additional responding companies to help “paint the picture” (refer to appendices for examples). It’s important to realize that this is a guideline that provides a framework to help make fire ground decisions.



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The types of structures listed above, and the strategies and tactics used to mitigate fires in these buildings are not a “one size fit’s all” solution.

02. Definition

2.1 Strip Malls

These vary in size and number of occupancies. Use small (less than 4 businesses), medium (4-10 businesses) and large (greater than 10 businesses) as a guide when verbalizing initial size-up. Refer to Appendix for examples.

2.2 Stand Alone Commercial Structures

These are traditionally commercial occupancies up to three floors (Anything over three floors refer to the Highrise SOG). Refer to Appendix for examples.

2.3 Industrial Complex

Mixed occupancy divided by defined walls

Multi businesses for example packaging, distribution, manufacturing, repair garage, production, services. Refer to Appendix for examples.

03. Resources

3.1 First Alarm Assignment

- Five Engines
- Three Trucks
- Two Battalion Chiefs
- One Medic

3.2 Second Alarm Assignment

- Five Engines
- Three Trucks
- Two Battalion Chiefs
- One Medic

04. Procedure



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4.1 Initial Radio Report/ Size-up

The first arriving resource activates the command process by giving an initial radio report

- Unit designation of the unit arriving on the scene
- Establish incident orientation if not obvious ("A" side)
- A brief description of the building
 - Size (small, medium, large)
 - Number of floors
 - Occupancy to include business name
 - Construction type
 - Announce building construction features that may affect fire attack operations (bars on windows, board-up, lightweight tile roof, etc.)
- Confirmation of the incident location
- Conditions
 - Nothing showing
 - Smoke showing (amount, location, color, pressure)
 - Fire showing (amount and location)
- Life hazard and exposures (examples- life hazard- report of victims trapped from civilians on scene, exposures- bravo exposure has heavy smoke from front door)
- Announce mode of operation (investigation, fire attack or command)
- Declaration of strategy and potential (offensive or defensive)
- Any obvious safety hazards (power lines down, discovery of basement, unsupported mansards, hazmat potential etc.)
- Identification and location of incident command post (if establishing command)
- Request additional resources if necessary

4.2 First Engine- First Alarm

Provide initial radio report and communicate initial actions based on incident priorities. As the initial incident commander, the first arriving company officer has three options:

4.2.1

Investigation

- No signs of smoke and/or fire
- Small, extinguished fires with little or no smoke
- Fire/water-flow alarms absent of smoke and/or fire

4.2.2



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Fire Attack

- Immediate actions work directly to mitigate incident threat
- Announce location of fire attack, i.e., “Initiating Fire Attack on the second floor” or “Initiating Fire Attack on the Charlie side”.

4.2.3

Command

- Incident size/complexity demands early command structure development
- Identify incident name and Incident Command Post (ICP) location
- Assign and track resources

4.2.4

Considerations

- Ensure the ‘Alpha’ side of building is clearly identified
- Consider requesting a second alarm
- Identify staging location when requesting second alarm
- Equipment placement: construction/occupancy type and collapse zones

4.3 Second Engine- First Alarm

Establish command based on incident priorities

4.3.1

Considerations

- Ensure and/or establish a water supply
- Initiate a primary search based on probable rescue
- Evacuation or shelter in place
- Assist with Fire Attack
- Exposure protection
- Establish Two-Out

4.4 Third Engine- First Alarm

Establish Command if not already completed

4.4.1

Considerations

- Assist with Fire Attack
- Exposure protection



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- Evacuation or shelter in place
- Establish/support Two-Out
- Consider connecting into the FDC for the sprinkler system and announce location

4.5 Fourth Engine- First Alarm

4.5.1

Considerations

- Assist with Fire Attack
- Exposure protection
- Evacuation or shelter in place
- Establish/support Two-Out
- Establish RIC
- Establish a water supply for the sprinklers systems or other companies as needed
- Stage

4.6 Fifth Engine- First Alarm

4.6.1

Considerations

- Assist with Fire Attack
- Exposure protection
- Evacuation or shelter in place
- Establish/support Two-Out
- Establish RIC
- Stage

4.7 First Truck- First Alarm

Based on incident priorities: Split, All-In or All-Out. When splitting, verbalize Captain location (i.e., "Truck 1, splitting, Captain inside") and verbalize employed tactics (i.e. "Truck 1, All-In, search" or "Truck 1, All-Out, forcible entry"). Splitting is not recommended when staffed with three.

4.7.1

Primary Tactical Considerations

- Forcible Entry
- Search



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- Ventilation

4.7.2

Secondary Tactical Considerations

- Utilities
- Salvage
- Overhaul

4.8 Second Truck- First Alarm

Split, All-in, or All-out, with consideration to first arriving truck's tactics. Ensure the primary tactical considerations have been addressed or do not need additional support prior to committing to the secondary tactical considerations.

4.9 Third Truck- First Alarm

Split, All-in, or All-out, with consideration to first & second arriving truck's tactics. Ensure the primary tactical considerations have been addressed or do not need additional support prior to committing to the secondary tactical considerations.

4.10 Medic- First Alarm

Command may assign to Medical Group victim and/or firefighter support, assist with firefighting operations and/or rehab

4.11 First Chief Officer- First Alarm

Establish/Assume command if not already established

4.11.1

Considerations

- Request additional resources, as needed
- Establish appropriate command structure
- Establish personnel accountability

4.12 Second Chief Officer- First Alarm

Report to the Command Post

4.12.1

Considerations

- Complete 360 if necessary
- Assigned to a Division
- Assigned to the Safety Officer



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4.12 Greater Alarm Assignment

All resources respond on assigned staging channel (Refer to Incident Response SOG). Battalion Chiefs report directly to the ICP. Confirm staging channel with fire dispatch if it is not known or assigned.

05. Appendix A Strip Malls





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Two Story Strip Mall



06. Appendix B Stand-alone Commercial Structures





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07. Appendix C Industrial Complex





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