Residential Structure Fire

Scope: Sacramento Regional Fire Departments

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References
- FIRESCOPE. ICS 500 Structure Fire Operations. 2015
- Incident Command Sacramento Regional SOG
- Roll Call Sacramento Regional SOG

01. Guideline
To provide guidance for operating at residential structure fires

02. Definition

2.1 Residential Structures: 1-3 Story Residential Structures
- Attics converted to living space are identified as a ‘floor’
- Areas of a structure partially or entirely below-grade, whether occupied or not, are referred to as ‘basement’
- Multiple below-grade levels, i.e. on a hillside, are referenced as sub-level (sub-level 1, sub-level 2)
- Refer to Appendix A for examples

2.2 Duplexes
- Use geographical location to reference individual living units
- Refer to Appendix B for examples
2.3 Exposures
- Use geographical location in relation to fire building
- Refer to Appendix C for examples

03. Resources

3.1 First Alarm Assignment
- Four Engines
- Two Trucks
- Two Battalion Chiefs
- One Medic

3.2 Second Alarm Assignment
- Four Engines
- Two Trucks
- Two Battalion Chiefs
- One Medic

04. Procedure

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 (Residential Structures, Duplexes, etc.)
  - 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, etc.)
- Identification and location of incident command post (if taken command)
- Request additional resources if necessary
4.2 First Engine- First Alarm
Provide initial size-up report and communicate initial actions based on incident priorities; as the initial incident commander, the first arriving company officer has three command 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
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 alpha/bravo unit”

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 when all first alarm companies are engaged in operations
- 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
- Assist with Fire Attack
- Exposure protection
- Establish Two-Out
4.4 Third Engine- First Alarm
Assume Command if not already completed

4.4.1 Considerations
• Assist with Fire Attack
• Exposure protection
• Establish/ support Two-Out

4.5 Fourth Engine- First Alarm

4.5.1 Considerations
• Assist with Fire Attack
• Exposure protection
• Establish Two-Out
• Establish RIC
• Stage

4.6 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”)

4.6.1 Considerations
• Spot apparatus according to building construction and occupancy type
• Engineer may remain with truck depending on incident needs
• LOUVERS (ladders, overhaul, utilities, ventilation, entry, rescue and salvage) is used for truck company operations
• Splitting is not recommended when staffed with three

4.7 Second Truck- First Alarm
Split, All-in, or All-out, with consideration to first truck’s orientation and incident needs

4.8 Medic- First Alarm
Command may assign to: victim and/or firefighter support, assist with firefighting operations and/or rehab

4.9 First Chief Officer- First Alarm
Assume or establish command if not already established
4.9.1
Considerations
- Request additional resources, as needed
- Establish appropriate command structure
- Establish personnel accountability

4.10 Second Chief Officer- First Alarm
Report to the Command Post

4.10.1
Considerations
- Complete 360 if necessary
- Assigned to a Division
- Assigned to the Safety Officer

4.11 Greater Alarm Assignment
All resources respond on assigned Staging channel. Battalion Chiefs report directly to the ICP. Refer to Roll Call RSOG for more detail

4.11.1
Roll Call- greater alarm assignments
- The first engine on the second alarm performs roll call, assumes Staging Area Manager, and confirms and/or identifies staging location
Appendix A

One story residential with a basement

Initial size-up - “Companies on Bravo six, E1 has arrived on the alpha side of a one story residential structure with a basement”

Comment - It would be hard to determine from your initial three sided size-up to determine if this is an occupied/ unoccupied basement. Completing a 360 size up and/or updates from interior crews would help determine whether the basement had interior/ exterior access or both and whether it was occupied or unoccupied. After gathering more situational awareness, use a CAN report to update command and/or incoming companies.
One, possibly two story with a basement

**Initial size-up**- “Companies on Bravo six, E1 has arrived on the alpha side of a one, possibly two story residential structure with a basement”

**Comment**- After your initial three sided size-up, it would appear that there is an occupied basement. Completing a 360 size-up would help determine whether the basement had interior/ exterior access or both and whether it was occupied or unoccupied. Additionally, crews operating interior would be able to confirm whether there was an occupied second story or not. A 360 size-up and determining location of fire will help you determine proper line placement. After gathering more situational awareness, use a CAN report to update command and/or incoming companies.
Two story with a basement

**Initial size-up**- “Companies on Bravo six, E1 has arrived on the alpha side of a two story residential structure with a basement”

**Comment**- Based on your initial three sided size-up it is obvious that there are two stories and hard to determine if the basement is occupied or unoccupied. Completing a 360 size up and/or updates from interior crews would help determine whether the basement had interior/ exterior access or both and whether it was occupied or unoccupied. After gathering more situational awareness, use a CAN report to update command and/or incoming companies.
Two story Victorian with basement

**Initial size-up** - “Companies on Bravo six, E1 has arrived on the alpha side of a two story Victorian with a basement”

**Comment** - After your initial three-sided size-up, and based on building construction type/ era, it would appear that there is an occupied basement. Completing a 360 size up would help determine whether the basement had interior/ exterior access or both and whether it was occupied or unoccupied. Additional situational awareness may prove that this is a multi-tenant structure. After gathering more situational awareness, use a CAN report to update command and/or incoming companies.
Initial size-up- “Companies on Bravo six, E1 has arrived on the alpha side of a three story Victorian with a basement”

Comment- After your initial three-sided size-up, and based on building construction type/era, it would appear that there is an occupied basement. Completing a 360 size up would help determine whether the basement had interior/exterior access or both and whether it was occupied or unoccupied. Additional situational awareness may prove that this is a multi-tenant structure. After gathering more situational awareness, use a CAN report to update command and/or incoming companies.
Residential Structure on Hillside with Sub-L evels (floors below grade)

Initial size-up: “Companies on Bravo six, E1 has arrived on the alpha side of one story residential structure on a hillside with possible floors below grade.”

Comment- After your initial three-sided size-up, and/or completing a 360, it would be obvious that this was a house with more than one floor below grade. After gathering more situational awareness, use a CAN report to update command and/or incoming companies.
Residential Structure on a Hillside with Sub-Levels (floors below grade)

Initial size-up - “Companies on Bravo six, E1 has arrived on the alpha side of one story residential structure on a hillside with possible floors below grade.”

Comment - After your initial three-sided size-up, and/or completing a 360, it would be obvious that this was a house with more than one floor below grade. After gathering more situational awareness, use a CAN report to update command and/or incoming companies.
Appendix B

Policy: Residential Structure Fire

Alpha Side of a Single Story Residential

Bravo Exposure

Bravo Unit

Delta Unit

65th St

Fruitridge Rd

Alpha Side of a Duplex

Charlie Unit

Alpha Unit

65th St

Fruitridge Rd

Alpha Side of a Single Story Residential

Alpha Side of a Duplex
Appendix C
Signature Page

The undersigned Fire Chiefs approve the contents of this document

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