
	COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE Department of Fire Rescue STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE	
	Subject:	Initial Fireground Operations
	Reference Number:	SOG-OPS-007
	Effective Date:	1 December 2003
	Last Revision Date:	n/a
	Signature of Approval:	 J. Dan Eggleston, Chief

Purpose:

The purpose of this guideline is to provide arriving units with initial assignments that support the strategy declared by the Incident Commander.

Definitions:

Alarm – Fire alarm communications.

Division – The organizational level that is responsible for operations within a defined geographic area, or with functional responsibility. Radio designation: “specific function- (e.g., Interior) DIVISION

Division/Group Supervisor – The individual who is responsible for implementing the assigned portion of the Incident Action Plan, assigning resources within the Division/Group, and reporting on the progress of control operations and resource status within the Division/Group.

Group – The organizational level that is responsible for a specified functional assignment at an incident, e.g., fire attack, ventilation, salvage, water resources, etc. Radio designation: “specific function- (e.g., Salvage)” GROUP.

Incident Commander – The individual who is responsible for overall management of all incident operations. Radio designation: COMMAND

Staging – An area designated by the IC, ideally away from the command post. Any additional responding units shall report to the STAGING AREA MANAGER with SCBA and tools and wait for an assignment.

Lead Fire fighter – The fire fighter in charge of a crew in the absence of an officer.

Rehab – An area designated by the REHAB MANAGER to provide rehabilitation for people who have been relieved from operations. Ideally, the rehab area is set up near the staging area designated by the IC.

Staging Area Manager – The individual who is responsible for personnel and apparatus resources needed to support the operations.

Guideline:

General Guidelines

1. Freelancing will not be tolerated. Any person on-scene shall either be in a command staff position, assigned to an operational crew/position, assigned to STAGING, or assigned to REHAB.
2. Supervision each crew, division or group shall have a supervisor that is responsible for the crew’s accountability, safety, and to see that the crews assignment is completed.

Strategies

1. Investigative - A strategy used when nothing is showing from the dwelling upon arrival. All units, except for the first arriving, shall position away from the scene so that units may move in to position as necessary.
2. Fast Attack - A strategy when it is necessary for the first arriving unit officer to participate in the initial tactical/task level operations. The first arriving unit officer will assume the FIRE ATTACK DIVISION supervisor's position. The second in unit officer will assume COMMAND on arrival and establish a COMMAND POST.
3. Offensive - A strategy when the first arriving unit officer will assume and maintain COMMAND of an incident. The lead fire fighter of the first in unit shall be the FIRE ATTACK DIVISION supervisor's position. The IC will establish a COMMAND POST and will not involve himself/herself with tactical/task level operations.
4. Defensive - A strategy when the first arriving unit officer will assume and maintain command. The IC will establish a COMMAND POST and will not involve himself/herself with tactical/task level operations. A defensive strategy involves large flow, exterior lines and/or master streams with no interior operations.

Position Requirements

INCIDENT COMMAND (IC)

Radio designation: 'Location Command' (e.g. – South Street Command)

Responsibilities: Establishes strategy for situation. May confer with Divisions/Groups to determine tactical and task level assignments.

Initial procedures:

1. Size up scene, provide on-scene report to ALARM, and establish COMMAND
Example: "Engine 11 on scene, we have a two story single family dwelling with fire showing from a second story window on Side A, Captain Smith in Command of the South Street Incident."
2. Determine Strategy:
 - Investigative
 - Fast Attack
 - Offensive
 - Defensive
3. Communicate strategy to ALARM and fire ground team.
Example: "South Street Command to Alarm, we are operating in Fast Attack mode and will be passing command to the next in officer."
4. Re-evaluate situation based on:
 - Life safety
 - Property Conservation
 - Incident Stabilization
5. Request resources as necessary.

FIRE ATTACK DIVISION (FIRE ATTACK)

Radio designation: FIRE ATTACK

Report to: IC

Responsibilities: Establishes tactical objectives to carries out strategy set by the IC. May confer with crews to determine task level assignments.

Initial Procedures:

1. Search & Rescue
2. Fire Attack
3. Ventilation per IC/Division Supervisor discretion

STAGING (STAGING)

Radio designation: Staging

Report to: IC

Responsibilities: Establishes staging area and resource pool near rehab area. Staging manager establishes resources in functional crews of 2 or more with a leader for each crew. Staging also responsible for accountability of all crews.

Initial Procedures:

1. If the IC has not already done so, determine location for the staging area.
2. Assemble crews in functional groups
3. Collect accountability tags and track crews in conjunction with REHAB
4. Deploy resources to DIVISIONS/GROUPS per the IC's instruction

RIT (RIT)

Radio designation: RIT

Report to: IC

Responsibilities: To make the structure safe for easy egress of personnel operating in the IDLH atmosphere. To rescue personnel in distress.

Initial Procedures:

1. Establish cache of tools and spare SCBA with mask
2. Create second means of egress
3. Place ladders to second floor if needed

REHAB (REHAB)

Radio designation: REHAB

Report to: IC

Responsibilities: To provide rehabilitation for people who have been relieved from operations. To evaluate a person's well being per TJEMS protocol prior to being released back to staging.

Initial Procedures

1. Establish a rehab area near the staging area
2. Supply station with water and diagnostic equipment
3. Coordinate personnel accountability with STAGING

Working Residential Fire - Hydrant Area
ATTACK, SUPPLY, STAGE

Initial Strategy	
<u>1st in Apparatus</u> (1) Lay supply line from hydrant (2) Establish command and provide on-scene report to Alarm (3) Determine strategy (see below) and communicate strategy to team & Alarm (4) Consider calling for SECOND ALARM	
Fast Attack	
<u>1st in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer leads FIRE ATTACK DIVISION 	<u>2nd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish water supply to Attack Engine Officer assumes COMMAND Remainder of crew assigned to "2-OUT", pull backup line (Officer part of 2-OUT in this case)
<u>3rd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIT 	<u>4th in Apparatus & Beyond</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPO assumes STAGING AREA MANAGER. Reports to the IC. Crew report to STAGING
<u>Heavy Squad</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to STAGING 	<u>Ambulance</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish REHAB area
Offensive	
<u>1st in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer in COMMAND Lead fire fighter leads FIRE ATTACK DIVISION 	<u>2nd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish water supply to Attack Engine Remainder of crew assigned to "2-OUT" ", pull backup line
<u>3rd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIT 	<u>4th in Apparatus & Beyond</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPO assumes STAGING AREA MANAGER. Reports to the IC. Crew report to STAGING
<u>Heavy Squad</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to STAGING 	<u>Ambulance</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish REHAB area
Defensive	
<u>1st in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer in COMMAND Crew establishes high flow exterior attack 	<u>2nd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish water supply to Attack Engine Officer and remainder of crew reports to the IC
<u>3rd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIT (Prepare for change to OFFENSIVE mode) 	<u>4th in Apparatus & Beyond</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPO assumes STAGING AREA MANAGER. Reports to the IC. Crew report to STAGING
<u>Heavy Squad</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to STAGING 	<u>Ambulance</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish REHAB area

**Working Commercial Fire
ATTACK, SUPPLY, STAGE**

Initial Strategy	
<u>1st in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lay supply line from hydrant Establish command and provide on-scene report to Alarm Determine strategy Communicate strategy to team & Alarm Consider calling for SECOND ALARM 	
Fast Attack	
<u>1st in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer leads FIRE ATTACK DIVISION 	<u>2nd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish water supply & supply the sprinkler system Officer assumes COMMAND Remainder of crew assigned to "2-OUT" ", pull backup line (Officer part of 2-OUT in this case)
<u>3rd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIT 	<u>4th in Apparatus & beyond</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPO assumes STAGING AREA MANAGER. Reports to the IC. Crew report to STAGING
<u>Heavy Squad</u>	<u>Ambulance</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to STAGING 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish REHAB area
Offensive	
<u>1st in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer in COMMAND Lead fire fighter leads FIRE ATTACK DIVISION 	<u>2nd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish water supply & supply the sprinkler system Remainder of crew assigned to "2-OUT" ", pull backup line
<u>3rd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIT 	<u>4th in Apparatus & beyond</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPO assumes STAGING AREA MANAGER. Reports to the IC. Crew report to STAGING
<u>Heavy Squad</u>	<u>Ambulance</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to STAGING 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish REHAB area
Defensive	
<u>1st in Engine</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer in COMMAND Crew establish high flow exterior attack 	<u>2nd in Engine</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish water supply & supply the sprinkler system
<u>3rd in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish water supply to Attack Engine Remainder of crew RIT (Prepare for change to OFFENSIVE mode) 	<u>4th in Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPO assumes STAGING AREA MANAGER. Reports to the IC. Crew report to STAGING
<u>Heavy Squad</u>	<u>Ambulance</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to STAGING 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish REHAB area