

BLACKWOOD FIRE COMPANY OPERATING GUIDELINE

1.8 INCIDENT RESPONSE - STRUCTURE FIRES

1.8.1 Upon arrival of the IC or the first arriving apparatus the following actions must be completed:

- Perform initial size up of structure and report conditions to Communications, providing the following minimum indications and instructions:
 - Type of building
 - Number of floors
 - Conditions evident
 - Staging / Water Supply Instructions
 - Firefighting Mode (Offensive, Defensive, Transitional)
- Establish command, and assign division and group responsibilities as necessary.
- Conduct fire ground operations with the following priorities in order:
 1. Life Hazard (firefighter and civilian)
 2. Incident Stabilization (Fire Control)
 3. Property Conservation
- The operational framework described in Section 1.8.6 and 1.8.7 deploys companies in a logical order to accomplish tasks necessary in nearly every incident.

1.8.2 The IC, and all arriving companies, SHALL engage in continuous risk analysis and report observations to command. The IC will include risk analysis and feedback into a strategic plan. Risk significant situations include, but are in no way limited to:

- Fires attacking the structural components of the building.
- Fires involving multiple floors of the structure.
- Obvious degradation of the structure.
- Imminent collapse hazards
- Advanced basement fires
- Fires in void spaces (ceilings, walls, attic, floors)
- Rapid fire growth conditions.
- Building construction features such as lightweight wood or steel trusses and metal deck roofs.
- Obviously abandoned or derelict structures.
Firefighting operations in these structures are addressed in detail in OG 9.8

1.8.3 Members engaged in structural firefighting shall utilize SCBA IAW OG 7.2

Respiratory Protection Plan. OG 7.2 also details 2 in / 2 out requirements.

1.8.4 When it is apparent the fire will not be readily controlled (i.e., multiple rooms, involved, numerous hand lines required, etc...) or all fire ground resources will be committed, the IC should notify the dispatcher that they have an "All Hands" fire. This action will re-dispatch the company, summon additional resources, and result in various other notifications. An "All Hands" notification should be made early in the fire or prior to arrival for maximum benefit and safety.

1.8.5 Minimum Requirements for IDLH / Interior Operations:

- Crew size of at least 2
- FFI / SCBA Qualified Firefighters
- Full PPE as described in OG 7.1
- SCBA in use with operational PASS device
- Personal lights
- Minimum of 1 portable radio per crew.
- Tools required for task assignment.
- Assemble, or receive direction prior to entry with the IC, Operations or Division Officer to receive assignment, coordinate interior efforts, and provide accountability of members entering the structure.

1.8.6 Company assignments should be made IAW OG 9.1 whenever possible. Truck or Rescue companies should be utilized for search, ventilation, and interior assistance of engine crews. These activities shall not be delayed due to unavailability or non-response of a Truck or Rescue company.

- 1.8.7 The following table provides a standard operational framework for dwelling, apartment fires and small commercial fires. The IC must make adjustments as incident conditions dictate, but must ensure that all critical functions addressed by this OG are addressed. Additional break down by resource and riding assignment is found in OG 9.1 Tactical Operations – Company Assignments. Sprinklered occupancies require adjustments to standard policy and should be conducted IAW OG 1.12.

Resource	Single Family Dwelling	Apartment	Commercial Building
1 st Engine	Lay Supply Line Attack Line to Fire Division A	Lay Supply Line Attack Line to Fire Division A	Lay Supply Line Attack Line to Fire Division A
2 nd Engine	Hook up or Pump 1 st Hydrant, Back up line from 1 st Engine	Pump 1 st Hydrant, Back Up line from 1 st Engine	Pump 1 st Hydrant, Back Up line from 1 st Engine
3 rd Engine	2 nd Hydrant Standby Manpower Division A	Lay 2 nd Supply Line Attack Line to 1 st Exposure	Lay 2 nd Supply Line Attack Line to 1 st Exposure
4 th Engine	2 nd Hydrant, Stand Fast	Pump 2 nd Hydrant Attack Line to 2 nd Exposure	Pump 2 nd Hydrant Attack Line to 2 nd Exposure
1 st Truck	Division A – FE, Search, Vent Fire Floor, Ladders	Division A – FE, Search fire apartment, vent fire apartment, ladders	Division A – FE, search, locates fire, check ceilings.
2 nd Truck	Stand Fast Division A	Division C – Roof Operations, Ladders	Division C – Roof Operations, Ladders, FE 2 nd entry / egress
3 rd Truck	Stand Fast	Floor Above Fire	As Required
1 st Rescue / Squad	Division A with FAST and Truck Co Equipment	Division A with FAST and Truck Co Equipment	Division A with FAST and Truck Co Equipment
1 st Chief	Division A	Division A	Division A
2 nd Chief	Division C	Division C	Division C

- 1.8.8 When necessary the fire ground shall be lighted as soon as possible to reveal trapped occupants, structural features, power lines and for firefighter safety.

- 1.8.9 Sides of the building shall be identified in a uniform manner as outlined below:

- Side A (ALPHA) - Front of the fire building (side of the building where the main entrance to building is located, and where IC is located.) Proceeding clockwise, structures and properties are identified in order.
- Next side clockwise: Side B, (BRAVO)
- Rear of the building: Side C, (CHARLIE)
- Next side clockwise: Side D. (DELTA)

- 1.8.10 Interior areas of the building shall be designated as follows:
- Ground floor - Floor 1,
 - 2nd floor - Floor 2, etc...,
 - Any fully below ground floors shall be designated as "Basement".
 - Multiple below ground floors shall be designated as "Basement 1, Basement 2 from ground floor down (See Attachment 1.8).
 - The roof of the building will be identified as Roof Division.
- 1.8.11 Exposures shall be labeled IAW OG# 1.8.9 and will be numbered outward from fire building. Exposures to a fire in a townhouse row would be labeled B, B-1, D, D-1 starting with the closest occupancy and moving away from the fire.
- 1.8.12 Upon receipt of the emergency evacuation signal, all personnel in, or on the structure shall exit immediately and report to IC for accountability.
- 1.8.13 Any member hearing an activated PASS device shall:
- Attempt to locate the source.
 - Report alarm to Interior Division or immediate officer for coordination of search.
 - Interior Division shall notify IC.
 - IC should conduct operations IAW OG 9.6.
- 1.8.14 Salvage and loss control operations should be undertaken as personnel and fire conditions permit. Prompt ventilation of the structure and the use of salvage covers before beginning overhaul and wet down activities can limit collateral damage to personal belongings and other property.

- 1.8.15 Upon fire control and confinement, a secondary search of the fire building shall be performed and results reported.
- 1.8.16 An SCBA refill station will be established near the entry/exit point of the building and its presence marked with a salvage cover. All spare cylinders and SCBA shall be brought to this area.
- 1.8.17 Building security must be maintained at all times during firefighting activities. Any member noticing an unauthorized person in the building shall monitor their actions and notify the IC. The IC will coordinate fire building security with police. The IC will coordinate with the Police and Building representative prior to leaving the scene to ensure that buildings are secured.
- 1.8.18 The IC will consult with the property owner and offer to request board up service to secure the structure. If the property owner does not agree to secure the structure, the IC shall consult with police and the fire marshal to ensure that state and local codes are explained and enforced.
- 1.8.19 Fire investigations shall be requested IAW OG# 5.0.

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