

Cumberland County
Standard Operating Guideline
Order of Apparatus Arrival - Structural Fire Assignment

Purpose:

To establish a standard method for fire apparatus arrival and positioning at structure fire incidents. All **personnel** must use the procedures below during structure firefighting operations. It is important to note that unless otherwise directed by the Incident Commander you must follow this apparatus positioning guideline. **Unit Officers** must LIMIT radio transmissions to critical fire ground information. Single units should routinely not contact the Incident Commander for "instructions and assignments".

Procedure:

While enroute to the incident scene **Unit Officers** must maintain situational awareness of their specific location and order of apparatus arrival.

Personnel must not take action until their **Unit Officer** in charge directs them to do so. All drivers who are not specifically assigned to **apparatus** operations will assemble with their **crew**.

Fire ground discipline is critical during all incident responses. In addition to the listed responsibilities **Unit Officers** must:

- A. Maintain **crew** integrity
- B. Ensure that **personnel** and **apparatus** take their assigned positions
- C. Follow this and other applicable policies, including the *Incident Command System*.

The **IC** may modify these assignments as necessary.

First Due Engine

1. Unit Responsibilities

Initiate water supply by laying a supply line from the most suitable water supply, beginning a split lay or give instructions for reverse lay as necessary.

Position the engine on Side Alpha, reserving adequate space for the aerial unit to position. Connect to the building standpipe and/or sprinkler system, if so equipped, on or closest to Side Alpha. Activate VTAC for optimal portable radio coverage. If the first due engine is required to position elsewhere, this must be reported immediately to all other responding **units** and Command Officers.

2. Unit Officer Responsibilities

- A. Provide water supply instructions by radio while en route to the incident location.
- B. On arrival, if on the scene before IC give initial radio report as required and conduct size up.
- C. Assure accountability of crew – (leave accountability tags at the engine or drop them prior to entering hazard zone).
- D. Ensure Standby Team (Two-Out) is in place prior to interior attack.

Note: If arriving **personnel** find a **known life hazard** and immediate action may prevent the loss of life or serious injury, the **crew** may begin appropriate interior operations without a **Standby Team** in place. Once the **known life hazard** has been resolved, **personnel** must withdraw until a **Standby Team** or **RIC/RIG** has been assembled

3. Crew. Advance a hand line to the fire floor and begin fire attack/confinement, with attack line placement to best support the search function.

4. Equipment: Includes SCBA, portable radios, tools, hose, and other **equipment** appropriate for the structures construction and operational tactics.

Second Due Engine

- 1. Unit.** Ensure and expand upon the water supply as necessary for the first due engine, by connecting to the hydrant and improving the intake pressure of the first due engine, and/or laying additional supply lines as necessary.
- 2. Crew.** Advance a hand line and back up the first due engine.
- 3. Equipment:** Includes SCBA, portable radios, tools, hose, and other **equipment** appropriate for the structure's construction and operational tactics.

Third Due Engine

1. Unit. Initiate water supply by laying a supply line from an unused hydrant, when possible, or beginning a split-lay to Side Charlie. Position the **unit** to reserve adequate space for aerial unit positioning. Connect to the buildings standpipe / sprinkler system on or closest to Side Charlie. If on Side Charlie, activate VTAC for optimal portable radio coverage.

2. Unit Officer

- A. Give water supply instructions by radio while en route to the incident location.
- B. On arrival, report to Side Charlie give reports as required.
- 3. **Crew.** Advance a hand line to the floor **above** the fire floor, or the exposure most threatened by horizontal extension, and initiate operations. Check the basement and the floors below the fire while en route to the floor above.
- 4. **Equipment:** Includes SCBA, portable radios, tools, hose, and other **equipment** appropriate for the structure's construction and operational tactics.

Fourth Due Engine (Standby/Safety Engine)

- 1. **Unit.** Ensure, and as necessary, expand upon the water supply for the third due engine by connecting to the hydrant and improving the intake pressure of the third due engine, and/or laying additional supply lines as necessary.
- 2. **Crew.**
 - A. Report to the **IC** and advise that you are the stand by crew; unless specifically ordered otherwise, safety / standby / initial rapid intervention until the RIT Group can arrive.
 - B. Secure an additional hose line and immediately relieve the "two-out" crew and become the safety/standby/ initial rapid intervention crew. This is usually done face-to-face, but on larger scale incidents, it may be done by radio.
 - C. Determine the location of the fire and its progression.
 - D. Monitor all critical operational talk groups.
 - E. Observe fire conditions, note the progress of the fire attack, and know the location of companies working in the building.
 - F. Determine the occupancy type and building construction.
 - G. Support of 3rd due engine as needed or assigned.
- 3. **Equipment.** Includes SCBA, portable radios, tools, hose, and other **equipment** appropriate for the structure's construction and operational tactics, and any additional **equipment** specific to the **RIC** function.

Fifth Due Engine – (Manpower As Needed)

1. **Unit.** Position in an unassigned and uncommitted location to avoid impeding responding or departing **apparatus**.
2. **Crew.** Report to the **IC** or establish **manpower** for assignment; do not engage in any job task until assigned by the **IC**.
3. **Equipment:** Includes SCBA, portable radios, tools, hose, and other **equipment** appropriate for the structure's construction and operational tactics.

First Due Aerial Unit

1. **Unit.** Position on Side Alpha
2. **Crew:**
 - A. Perform rapid outside horizontal ventilation coordinated with the fire attack.
 - B. If necessary, perform initial forcible entry for the first due engine.
 - C. Provide secondary exit(s) for interior **crews** with ground and/or aerial ladders on buildings more than one story high.
 - D. After completing the duties outlined above, report to the fire floor. Initiate or assist the assigned rescue with search and rescue. Begin checking for extension by opening concealed spaces as necessary after the bulk of the fire has been extinguished.
 - E. Support the fire attack by providing lighting, and perform ventilation, overhaul, and salvage operations.
3. **Equipment:** Includes SCBA, portable radios, tools, and other **equipment** appropriate for the structure's construction and operational tactics.

Second Due Aerial Unit

1. **Unit.** Position on Side Charlie
2. **Crew**
 - A. Assist first due aerial unit with outside horizontal ventilation that is coordinated with, and supports, the fire attack plan.
 - B. Perform initial forcible entry as necessary for the third due engine.

- C. Provide secondary exit(s) for interior **crews** with ground and/or aerial ladders for buildings more than one story high.
- D. Provide vertical ventilation when ordered or approved by the **IC**.
- E. After completing the duties outlined above, report to the floor above the fire. Initiate or assist the assigned rescue squad with search and rescue on that floor. Begin checking for extension by opening concealed spaces as necessary after the bulk of the fire has been extinguished.
- F. Support the fire attack by providing lighting, and performing ventilation, overhaul, and salvage operations.

3. **Equipment.** Includes SCBA, portable radios, tools, and other **equipment** appropriate for the structure's construction and operational tactics.

1st Due Rescue

- 1. **Unit.** Position to avoid impeding responding or departing **apparatus**.
- 2. **Unit Officer.** Report to the **IC** or division/group supervisor as soon as the primary and all subsequent secondary searches are completed and utilities are controlled.
- 3. **Crew:** Ensure completion of a systematic search of the building; control the buildings utilities and assist, in coordination with the assigned aerial units, with ventilation, overhaul, and salvage activities.

4 **Equipment.** Includes SCBA, portable radios, tools, and other **equipment** appropriate for the structure's construction and operational tactics.

Ambulance or MICU

- 1. **Unit.** Position on Side Alpha, assuring that the vehicle can leave the fire ground if necessary. The vehicle does not have to be included in the aid station.
- 2. **Crew.** Establish an aid station on Side Alpha
- 3. **Equipment.** All **units** must carry a litter, oxygen equipment, first aid kit, a burn kit, and ALS **equipment if equipped**.

Incident Commander

1. **Unit** - Normally, position on Side Alpha, allowing space for the engine, aerial, and rescue squad to implement tactical operations.
2. **Officer** - Establish a Command Post and assume Command of the incident Scene, establish incident accountability, notify Headquarters to begin PAR check.
3. **Equipment.** Wear appropriate identifier vest and have immediate access to full **PPE** and **SCBA**.

Additional Command Officers

1. **Unit.** Position vehicles to allow access of responding engines, aerial **units**, and rescue squads.
2. **Crew.** Report to the **IC** for assignment.
3. **Equipment.** Wear appropriate identifier vest and have immediate access to full **PPE** and **SCBA**.

Members Arriving POV

1. Position vehicles to allow access of responding units.
2. Report to the IC or manpower with full PPE and SCBA.