

4

CRITICAL INITIAL REPORTS

FOR STRUCTURE FIRES

1 ON SCENE REPORT

- 1 Confirm address (if necessary)
- 2 Building height and occupancy type
- 3 Conditions visible, and their location
- 4 Your actions

2 360 REPORT

- 🔥 Changes in:
 - ↳ Configuration of the building
 - ↳ Presence of a basement / conditions in it
 - ↳ Fire conditions or location
 - ↳ Actions
- 🔥 Mode declaration

3 INTERIOR REPORT

- 🏠 Brief description of smoke/fire conditions (or absence) by first company to make each interior floor
- 🏠 “Light Smoke” = to your shoulders
- 🏠 “Moderate Smoke” = to your hips
- 🏠 “Heavy Smoke / Zero Visibility” = to your feet

4 ROOF REPORT

- 🏠 Roof type
- 🏠 Smoke/fire conditions and location
- 🏠 Any dead loads present
- 🏠 Roof team actions



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THE STRUCTURE FIRE PLAN YOU MUST HAVE

What is the structure fire plan you **MUST** have? **THE OFFENSIVE FIRE WITH PEOPLE TRAPPED AND A MAYDAY.**



SCALE DOWN NOT UP

Why? This is the **WORST POSSIBLE SCENARIO**. And if this is the scenario that you find, you have little to **NO TIME** to “get ready” for it - you have to **BE READY** for it. And the first step in being ready is making sure that we have enough resources for the actions we know we are going to need to take.

So what are the minimum resource requirements to be ready for this anticipatable life-threatening situation?

First, assume you’re going to have at least **2 Tactical Positions**. We know that the fire is going to go up and out. So, we must always assume there will be at least one floor above.

2 TACTICAL POSITIONS

With at least one exposed floor (that might be a first floor and a second floor, a basement and a first floor, the list goes on), you can always assume you’re going to have two interior tactical positions - a fire floor and a floor above. →



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THE PLAN

So how many companies do you need for the initial actions at this fire?

Let's do the math:

OUTSIDE TRUCK WORK:

1 company minimum for outside work (ventilation, ladders, egress, utilities, etc.)

Inside Operations:

Each tactical position will require at least 2 crews:

- 1 for fire attack
- 1 for search

FLOOR ABOVE: 2 companies

- (fire attack, search)

FIRE FLOOR: 2 companies

- (fire attack, search)

1 TRUCK COMPANY



SCAN FOR
TRAINING
VIDEO

1 RIT TEAM

1 COMMAND



TOTAL MINIMUM COMPANIES:

6



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YOU NEED A MINIMUM OF 6 COMPANIES ON EVERY STRUCTURE FIRE

You need six operational crews, with two or more people per crew. These can be engines, trucks, rescues, or whatever your area does.

If you **DON'T** have **6 functional crews within the first few minutes of this fire**, the outcome will suffer. You will need to start choosing what you are not going to do from the list above.

So what happens in the worst scenario? We try to do it all anyway and end up overextending ourselves. This increases the likelihood that someone will get injured or even killed because we are operating above a reasonable threshold.

Can you call for more help after confirming it's a fire? Of course, but how far away is that help on the best day? A lot can happen in just a few minutes, and in many departments that is realistically going to be 10 or more minutes.

So – line up your resources **NOW**. Once you have enough resources, then we can plan where each goes under different scenarios.

YOUR FIRST STEP, even before having a good plan, is making sure you have enough resources going to the fire. And that means 6 - minimum. Scale down, not up.



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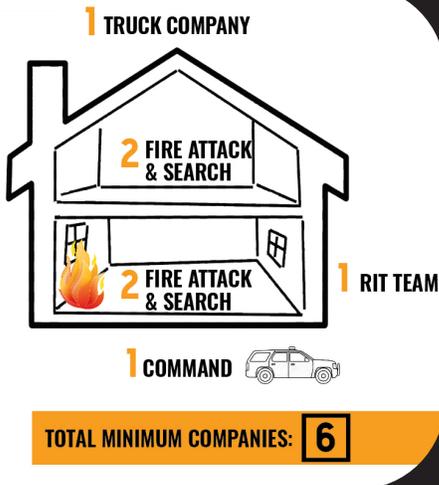
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THE COMMANDMENTS

FOR STRONG COMMAND THAT SUPPORTS AGGRESSIVE FIREFIGHTING

1 MINDSET & PREPARATION ARE EVERYTHING.

They have predetermined 99% of what will happen at your next fire.



2 YOU NEED A GOOD PLAN & ENOUGH RESOURCES TO CARRY IT OUT.

Make sure you are ready for an offensive fire, with people trapped, and a MAYDAY.

3 THE IC MUST BE AT A DISTRACTION-FREE COMMAND POST.

Keep your eyes on the building, your ears on the radio, and don't let anyone or anything distract you. You get one chance to hear the MAYDAY!



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THE COMMANDMENTS FOR STRONG COMMAND THAT SUPPORTS AGGRESSIVE FIREFIGHTING



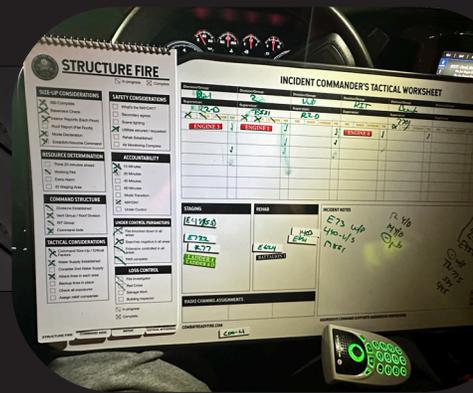
4 DO NOT LET YOURSELF GET OVERWHELMED.

Never be “maxed out” in command. Divide up the incident to stay within your span of control and build out your command team - command aide, tactical supervisors, etc.

5

TRACK THE INCIDENT ON A TACTICAL WORKSHEET

The IC must know where companies are at ALL TIMES. Begin tracking companies immediately, do not wait for it to escalate.



Almost every LODD contains COMMAND RELATED FAILURES. Don't let it happen to you or your firefighters!

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