

ESCAMBIA COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE

Rules, Policies, and Guidelines

4100.070

**Company Operations /
Private Dwelling Fires**

Implemented: 05/21/14

Revised:



Patrick T Grace, *Fire Chief*

Page 1 of 6

PURPOSE:

One story, private dwellings comprise a large percentage of the structures that ECFR will encounter on fire incidents. Many of these dwellings do not possess the fire safety devices that are commonly found in a commercial building, therefore, it is imperative that clear and effective standard operating procedures are utilized to provide occupants with the greatest likelihood of survival and property conservation.

OBJECTIVE:

To define the roles and responsibilities of each arriving company when responding to a report of a fire in a private dwelling. Typical response for a private dwelling is four (4) engines and one (1) ladder company. The arrival of the companies will dictate on scene duties at the Incident Commander's discretion.

SCOPE:

All Personnel / Private Dwelling Fires

I. FIRST ARRIVING COMPANIES RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. First Arriving Company

1. Size-up, make an accurate arrival report, pulling past the structure if possible leaving room for the first arriving ladder company and establish command.
2. Officer shall get a 360 degree view of the building. Prioritizing life safety / rescue / VES, exposures, and fire attack.
3. Stretch appropriate hose line (size/length) to the main body of fire or exposure depending on priority. The main body of fire will not always be the priority.
4. For companies arriving with a fourth firefighter, he/she will normally be the "control firefighter" who assists with the hose line advancement. In cases where an engine routinely arrives alone, they may be required to force entry, perform outside (horizontal) ventilation, or vent, enter and search (VES) where warranted and conditions allow.
5. Make an inspection hole in ceiling upon entry, if warranted.



Patrick T Grace, Fire Chief

6. Initiate an interior attack, if conditions allow.

7. First arriving engine shall establish a water supply or assign as necessary.

8. If a company of 4 certified members arrives first, they should establish an Initial Rapid Intervention Team (IRIT) of the two outside members. If a company of 3 certified members arrives first and a chief is on scene, they should establish IRIT. IRIT shall require the Driver to wear full bunker gear and have an SCBA nearby. The chief shall wear full bunker gear and SCBA. The Incident Commander can and should assign a later arriving company to assume the RIT duties. **Entry will not be made until an IRIT can be established or life safety has been identified.**

II. SECOND ARRIVING COMPANY RESPONSIBILITIES:

B. Second Company

1. Shall establish a connection to the attack pumper and if directed or needed they should make the connection from the hydrant to supply pumper. The supply pumper will then be the "Booster Back-Up." This will typically be one 5-inch supply line to the hydrant and for large dwellings may require the use of the hydro-assist valve attached to the hydrant then to the supply engine.

2. Stretch a second hose line of equal or greater diameter and 50' greater in length than the attack line to back up the first attack line and/or confine the fire.

3. Announce and open any rear and side doors, if it does not adversely affect ventilation and fire control efforts.

4. Assist with search and occupant removal.

5. Complete specific tasks ordered by Command.

6. Take over tasks not performed when first-in crews recover victim(s) and are committed to medical aid.



Patrick T Grace, *Fire Chief*

III. THIRD ARRIVING COMPANY RESPONSIBILITIES:

C. Third Company

1. Level 1 stage and remain uncommitted unless directed by Command.
2. Crew will be utilized to establish the suppression component of RIT if not established by second arriving company .
3. Command may have this crew proactively stretch a hose line to be pre-positioned for use.
4. Crew may be utilized to perform secondary search.
5. This crew may be utilized to secure utilities such as electric and gas.
6. This company may be used to vent the fire area.

IV. FOURTH ARRIVING COMPANY RESPONSIBILITIES:

D. Fourth Company

1. Level 1 stage and remain uncommitted until directed or assigned by command. The fourth due company may be utilized for the following as prioritized and assigned by command;
2. Vent fire area if needed.
3. Secure utilities, electric and gas if needed.
4. Check and report conditions at rear of fire building.
5. Gain secondary points of entry and egress.
6. Vent and search as needed.
7. Remove occupants as needed.
8. Render medical aid to victims as needed.



Patrick T Grace, *Fire Chief*

9. Provide lighting as needed.
10. Provide mechanical ventilation as needed.
11. Perform salvage and overhaul.
12. Ladder, if necessary.
13. Provide forcible entry if needed.
14. Provide access to concealed areas to expose hidden fire in walls, ceilings, soffits, voids, etc
15. Recon building and provide a report of the perimeter.

IV. Fifth Arriving Company Responsibilities

E. Fifth Company

Level 1 stage and remain uncommitted unless assigned by command. If operations are still working with the IRIT the fifth arriving company shall be assigned R.I.T. (Rapid Intervention Team)

1. Recon building and provide a report of the perimeter.
2. Assume proactive RIT (i.e., familiarization with operating interior company locations, building layout; confirmation of secondary egress and identification of other hazards).
3. Confirm utilities have been controlled.
4. Ensure a secondary means of egress has been established.
5. Stage equipment and personnel near the Command Post or at strategic locations around the perimeter of the fire building and remain a resource to Command while acting as the RIT.
6. The company officer will be designated as the R.I.T. officer



Patrick T Grace, *Fire Chief*

V. SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. A Company Officer may assume the role of Safety Officer until the designated Safety Officer arrives.
2. Safety should check for hazards directly associated with the structure and any exposures that could present any problems.
3. Check for potential building collapse due to fire conditions.
4. Anticipate potential explosion or fire associated with broken gas and electric lines.

VII. COMMAND CONSIDERATIONS

1. First arriving chief shall assume command preferably face-to-face, or by relieving the I.C. by radio and assigning him/her to return to work with their assigned company.
2. Determine the need for additional resources for the given situation.
3. Second arriving Chief shall assume the role of operations or could be assigned as a sector or safety officer.
4. The incident commander may assign R.I.T. to any company operating on the fire ground prior to the arrival of the fifth company depending on fire ground operations being conducted and the situation at hand. When this happens the fifth arriving company shall report to the I.C. for additional assignment.
5. As the incident commander notification of the Florida Fire Marshal shall be made early on in the event for all suspicious fires and those that results in the injury/death of a civilian or responder.
6. Notification to command staff for fires that result in the injury or death of a civilian or responder.
7. Notification to the Escambia County Public Information Office (PIO) for fires that result in the injury/death of a civilian or responder or calls of any significant.
8. If the situation warrants, the Escambia County Sheriff's Office should be requested for traffic and crowd control.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE

Rules, Policies, and Guidelines

4100.070

**Company Operations /
Private Dwelling Fires**

Implemented: 05/21/14

Revised:



Patrick T Grace, *Fire Chief*

Page 6 of 6

9. Ensure that EMS is responding for possible victims and to stand by for responders until the conclusion of the incident.

10. Rehab and personnel rotation should be considered.