





<u>Charles County Emergency Services</u>		
Subject: Structure Fire Responses Non-Hydrant Area	SOG# 04-03-2013	
Approved: County Fire Chief, Wally Danielson	Approved: October 2013	
Approved: County EMS Chief, Brent Huber	Initiated:	
Approved: Director of Emergency Services, Bill Stevens	Revised:	

I. Purpose

- a. These guidelines are established to direct the activities of Fire and EMS units while operating at Structure Fires. Due to the infinite number of possible scenarios that may be encountered, these guidelines shall be used to assist with strategic and tactical decision making throughout the operation.

II. Procedure's

a. Structure Fires:

- i. Response shall consist of at least: (5) Engine companies, (2) Trucks, (1) Squad, (3) Tankers, (1) Battalion Chief, EMS Unit(s).
- ii. The following SOG has been established to provide a consistent and safe response while mitigating structural fire emergencies.
 1. Personnel operating must make decisions as to which actions will benefit fire ground operations the most. These actions may include rescue, confinement, or extinguishment. Every effort must be made to coordinate the attack with other operations, especially water supply and ventilation. A good rule to follow is:
 - R – Rescue
 - E – Exposures
 - C – Confinement
 - E – Extinguishment
 - O – Overhaul
 - V – Ventilation
 - S – Salvage

iii. 1st Due Engine

1. Take necessary steps establish a continuous water supply. The unit OIC shall announce their water supply intentions on the assigned TAC channel. *When a working fire is indicated it is strongly suggested that a Water Supply Taskforce be requested to ensure a sufficient water supply.*
 - a. Units equipped with 3" hose should consider laying out dual 3 inch lines to ensure sufficient water supply for the 1st Due Engine to accomplish the tasks out lined in this SOG.
 - i. If the layout distance does not allow for dual 3 inch lines consideration should be given to utilizing a relay operation to ensure a sufficient water supply.
2. Apparatus shall be positioned on the Alpha side, leaving adequate room for responding special services as to not hinder their placement & responsibilities by pulling past or stopping short of the incident address.
3. The unit OIC shall complete an initial size up and provide a brief radio return to include:
 - Announce correct address *(if different from dispatched address)*
 - Announce number of floors
 - Announce type of construction
 - Announce occupancy type
 - Announce conditions found *(Smoke, Fire, People Trapped etc...)*
 - Establish/Pass Command *(if passed the next arriving Fire Units shall establish command until relieved by a Higher Ranking Officer)*
 - Identify Command by name *(i.e. "Main Street Command")*
 - Announce location of the Incident Command Post (ICP)
 - If the OIC must remain with their crew to ensure the safe & effective operation to complete outlined tasks, command shall be passed to 2nd arriving Engine.
2. The OIC shall conduct 360 ° size-up prior to initiating the fire attack.
3. Affect any obvious rescues.
4. Advance an attack line of sufficient length and GPM flow to confine/extinguish any fire & hand tools needed to accomplish this task.
5. Conduct a primary search while accomplishing the above tasks, in preforming the search the primary objective is to ensure the advancement of an attack line & extinguishment of the fire.
6. OIC may be assigned "Attack Group Supervisor/Leader"

7. Basement Fires

- a. The OIC shall make a risk versus reward decision to attack the basement fire from exterior basement entrance or via the interior stairs.
- b. Command must give authorization prior to any advancement or direction of water streams into the basement or involved areas. *Communication with the 2nd Due Engine is critical during basement fire to ensure a coordinated fire attack.*
- c. Crews shall ensure the stability of the 1st floor prior to operating above an active fire.

iv. 2nd Due Engine

1. Ensure continuous water supply to 1st Due Engine.
 - a. The 2nd Due Engine shall set up a dump site.
 - i. Every effort shall be made to utilize a low level suction strainer. Consideration shall be given to using either “side steamer” intake for draft to allow for maximum flow. The dump site shall be set up in a manner to hinder other apparatus if possible.
 - ii. The 2nd Due Engine Driver will assume the “Dump Site Supervisor” until relieved.
2. Ensure obvious rescues are being made and the occupants are evaluated and given appropriate emergency medical care.
3. If the 1st Due Engine OIC passes command, the 2nd Due Engine OIC shall establish command until it is assumed by a senior command officer.
4. The OIC shall complete a size up of the rear (side C) and provide a brief radio report.
 - a. Number of floors.
 - b. Conditions present and location of fire, if known.
 - c. Any pertinent information for tactical consideration. *If a basement fire situation the report shall include if an attack line can be advanced into the fire area via a ground level access point.*
5. Advance an attack line of sufficient length and GPM flow to reach the floor above the fire to ensure confinement and extinguishment; and hand tools to accomplish this task. *The 2nd Due Engine shall ensure that the initial attack line gets in-service prior to advancing to the floor above.*

6. ***Basement Fires***

- a. The OIC shall notify command if there are any exterior entrances to advance attack lines through.
- b. Command must give authorization prior to any advancement or direction of water streams into the basement or involved fire area; particularly concerning a coordinate attack between the 1st and 2nd Engines.

v. **3rd Due Engine**

1. Shall establish the Rapid Intervention Group (RIT) without direction from Command.
 - a. When arriving on scene the 3rd Due Engine shall announce their RIT assignment on the assigned TAC channel. OIC shall report to the Command Post and confer with the Incident Commander. *It is strongly suggested that the Incident Commander request a RIT Taskforce when I working fire is indicated to supplement the RIG.*
 - b. The crew shall take a strategic position based on the type of structure and fire involvement.
 - i. Establish a RIT tool cache of the following, but shall not be limited to:
 - Attack line of sufficient length to cover the structure
 - Hand lights
 - Portable Radios (at least one radio shall monitor FESAFE channel)
 - Forcible Entry hand tools
 - Tagline and/or search rope
 - RIT Pack, If not available a complete SCBA with face piece
 - Thermal Imaging Camera
 - Chain & Rescue Saw
 - c. The crew shall preform a reconnaissance lap of the structure and report any safety concerns to the Incident Commander.
 - Assess emergency conditions and forecast potential rescue problems
 - Determine all access points into the building including placement of ladders
 - Determine the most rapid access to units operating in hazard zones
 - Assess building construction features

d. The crew shall also consider Proactive Tasks. However, should not commit to any operations that will prevent maintaining RIT operational readiness.

- Placement of ground ladder in strategic positions to support firefighter egress from the building
- Placement of lighting at strategic building entry points to illuminate a point of egress
- Force open exterior doors in the operational area to improve egress opportunities
- Remove any window obstructions in the operational area such as security bars, window screens, and casement windows
- Confirm utilities are controlled

ii. **4th Due Engine (as dispatched)**

1. Shall report directly to the water supply location as determined by the 1st Due Engine, Chief Officers or Battalion Chief.
2. 4th Due Engine OIC shall assume the “Fill Site Supervisor” until relieved.
3. Consideration should be given to reverse laying to the water source from the actual tanker fill area.
4. If 3 or more minutes are needed to accomplish a draft the IC shall be notified immediately.
5. Tankers should be filled at 1,000gpm if possible, 1500gpm fill rate is ideal.

iii. **5th Due Engine**

1. Shall position their apparatus in the rear (Side C) and announce their water supply intentions on the assigned TAC Channel to ensure a continuous water supply is established.
2. OIC shall complete a size up of the rear (Side C) and provide a brief radio report of any changes from the 2nd Due Engines size up.
3. Ensure obvious rescue are being made and the occupants are evaluated and given appropriate emergency medical care.
4. Advance an attack line of sufficient length and GPM flow to the rear and stand by for orders from the Incident Commander. The attack line shall be able to reach the top floor to ensure confinement and extinguishment; and hand tools to accomplish this task.

iv. **1st Arriving Special Service**

1. Apparatus shall be positioned on side A to provided special duties including but not limited to: Search, Ladders, Lights, and Ventilation.
 - a. *If the 1st Arriving Special Service is a Squad, adequate room shall be left open on side A for the later arriving Ladder Truck for aerial usage.*
2. Ensure ladders are placed in the rescue position for the rescue/removal of occupants and firefighters. *Consider utilizing ground ladders from Engine Companies if needed.*
 - i. Ladders shall be thrown in the following order
 - Fire Floor
 - Floor Above
 - Roof
 - All floors in between the floor above & roof.
 - Floor below fire floor
3. The crew & OIC are responsible for operations on the fire floor and all equipment necessary to complete the following tasks.
 - i. Complete a primary search of the fire floor. Beginning at the fire area then the areas adjacent to the fire area.
 - ii. Forcible entry in coordination with the 1st Due Engine
 - iii. Utility control as necessary on the interior / exterior.
 - iv. Assist with checking for fire extension.
4. The apparatus Driver shall be responsible for providing a report of conditions on the roof to the Incident Commander.
5. Crews shall operate in teams of two (2) or more and with a portable radio.
6. OIC may be assigned the “Ventilation” group leader/supervisor. All Special service tasks shall be completed if assigned. As the group leader/supervisor shall report the progress and obstacles met while operating.

v. **2nd Arriving Special Service**

1. Apparatus shall be positioned on side C to provide special service duties but not limited to: Ladders, Lights, and Ventilation.
 - a. *If the 2nd arriving special service is a Squad, adequate room shall be left open on side C for later arriving Ladder Trucks for aerial usage.*
2. Ensure ladders are placed in the rescue position for the rescue/removal of occupants and firefighters.
 - i. Ladders shall be thrown in the following order
 - Fire floor
 - Floor above
 - Roof
 - All floors between the floor above and roof.
 - Floor below fire floor.
3. The crew & OIC are responsible for operations on the floor above the fire floor and all equipment necessary to complete the following tasks.
 - i. Complete a primary search of the floor above the fire floor. Beginning at the fire area then the area adjacent to the fire area.
 - ii. Forcible entry in coordination with the 4th Due Engine
 - iii. Utility control as necessary on the interior / exterior.
 - iv. Assist with checking for fire extension.

vi. **3rd Arriving Special Service**

1. In the event the 3rd Arriving Special service is a Truck the apparatus shall be positioned on the opposite side of the earlier arriving Ladder Truck for aerial usage.
2. The crew shall report to the command post for further orders.
3. The Incident Command should consider augmenting the Rapid Intervention Group with the 3rd Arriving Special Service.

vii. **1st Arriving Tanker**

1. Shall provide a “nursing” water supply to the 1st Due Engine.
2. Assist the 2nd Due Engine with setting up the dump site.
3. All necessary tools / appliances shall be dropped at the dump site.
4. Once the dump site is ready all remaining tank water shall be dropped in the basin and then begin shuttling water.

viii. **All remaining tankers**

1. Shall report directly to the dump site.
2. Drop all necessary tools, appliances, and additional drafting basins at the dump site.

ix. **Battalion Chief**

1. Establish Command if not completed by initial arriving companies.
2. If command is established, don Personal Protective Equipment and report to the Command Post prepared for an assignment.

x. **Additional Chief Officers**

1. Consideration should be given to assigning the role of Water Supply Group Supervisor to an early arriving Chief Officer to ensure an efficient and effective water supply operation.

xi. **EMS Units**

1. The first EMS unit to arrive on the scene shall position their apparatus in a manner not to delay transporting a patient if needed or to interfere with suppression activities. Crewmembers shall report to the Incident Command Post with all necessary equipment for patient care.

STRUCTURE FIRE SOG (HYDRANT AREA)

1st Engine	Announce layout or if taking your own water, position side "A" leaving room for truck, provide size-up(sides viewed, # of floors, type of use, type of construction, conditions showing) establish or pass command, stretch attack line, perform 360.
2nd Engine	Establish a continuous water supply for 1st due engine, establish command if not established by 1st due engine, view side "C" and report findings, advance an attack line to floor above fire.
3rd Engine	Announce over TAC channel that RIT has been established, obtain RIT equipment (attack line, hand lights, portable radios, forcible entry tools, tagline and/or rope, RIT Pack, If not available a complete SCBA with face piece, thermal imaging camera, chain & rescue saw) 360 building, know points of entrance/egress
4th Engine	If possible position apparatus on side "C", announce water supply intentions, stretch attack line to side "C", report findings from the rear, await directions from incident commander.
5th Engine	Ensure continuous water supply for 4th due engine, report to command post for instructions.
1st Special	Position side "A" (leave room for 1st truck) perform the following task on the fire floor (forcible entry, primary search, ladders, lights, secure utilities, check for extension and overhaul.) Determine the need for the roof to be opened up and relay intentions to the Incident Commander.
2nd Special	Position side "C" (leave room for 2nd Truck) perform the following task on the floor above the fire (forcible entry, primary search, ladders, lights, secure utilities, check for extension and overhaul.) Determine the need for the roof to be opened up and relay intentions to the Incident Commander
3rd Special	If 3rd special service is a truck then it should be positioned opposite of the first arriving truck. Crew should report to command post to receive instructions.

STRUCTURE FIRE SOG (NON-HYDRANT)

1st Engine	Announce layout, position side "A" leaving room for truck, provide size-up(sides viewed, # of floors, type of use, type of construction, conditions showing) establish or pass command, stretch attack line, perform 360.
2nd Engine	Establish a continuous water supply for 1st due engine, set up dump site if needed, establish command if not established by 1st due engine, view side "C" and report findings, advance an attack line to floor above fire.
3rd Engine	Announce over TAC channel that RIT has been established, obtain RIT equipment (attack line, hand lights, portable radios, forcible entry tools, tagline and/or rope, RIT Pack, If not available a complete SCBA with face piece, thermal imaging camera, chain & rescue saw) 360 building, know points of entrance/egress
4th Engine	With your entire crew, report immediately to water supply location determined by the 1st due engine or command, OIC will become "Fill Site Supervisor", establish a water supply that is capable of filling tankers at a minimum of 1000GPM.
5th Engine	If possible position apparatus on side "C", announce water supply intentions, stretch attack line to side "C", report findings from the rear, await directions from incident commander.
1st Special	Position side "A" (leave room for 1st truck) perform the following task on the fire floor (forcible entry, primary search, ladders, lights, secure utilities, check for extension and overhaul.) Determine the need for the roof to be opened up and relay intentions to the Incident Commander.
2nd Special	Position side "C" (leave room for 2nd Truck) perform the following task on the floor above the fire (forcible entry, primary search, ladders, lights, secure utilities, check for extension and overhaul.) Determine the need for the roof to be opened up and relay intentions to the Incident Commander
3rd Special	If 3rd special service is a truck then it should be positioned opposite of the first arriving truck. Crew should report to command post to receive instructions.