



Standard Operating Guideline	
SOG Name:	Multi-Story Structure Fire Response
SOG Number:	100.7
Standard:	TBD
Guideline Owner:	Emergency Operations
Implementation Date:	May 31, 2017
Date of Last Revision:	April 20, 2021
Authority:	Larry H. Williams, Jr, Fire Chief

**PURPOSE:** Operations in occupancies greater than three stories require more resources and proper coordination of the additional resources to develop an organized and successful operation in the initial stages.

**A. ASSIGNMENT**

**SECTION 1**

One to three story occupancies will receive three engine companies, one truck company, and a battalion chief on the initial alarm assignment. The initial assignment on high-life occupancies (hotels, nursing homes, dormitories, etc.) shall be same unless the battalion chief of Incident Commander order additional units based on information received from Communications.

**SECTION 2**

If the Incident Commander requests a second alarm for occupancies four stories or greater, two additional engines, and one ladder will be automatically dispatched. As always, the Incident Commander can alter this guideline depending on incident situations.

**B. COMMAND AND CONTROL**

**SECTION 1**

One to three story occupancies will not differ from normal operating procedures under the standard Incident Command System.

**SECTION 2**

Four story or greater occupancies will require specific assignments for units as they arrive. This will relieve the Incident Commander of the burden of assigning units to positions or functions that must be filled on all alarms as they are needed.

1. Strategy
  - Rescue occupants in immediate danger
  - Locate fire
  - Confine fire
  - Extinguish fire

2. Tactical Objectives
  - Removal of occupants from areas affected by fire
  - Support sprinkler/standpipe system
  - Investigation and size up of conditions
  - Fire Suppression

**C. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS****SECTION 1**

All units shall turn off warning lights upon arrival at the scene.

**SECTION 2**

Request additional units and command officers if fire or smoke is showing on the interior or exterior. Remember, if you think that you need help, you probably do.

**SECTION 3**

All operating groups/divisions shall keep the Incident Commander and the Operations Section Chief fully informed of all conditions found in their area of responsibility by providing C.A.N. (Conditions, Actions, Needs) Reports regularly.

**SECTION 4**

All unnecessary outside radio speakers will be turned off.

**(Signature on File)**

**Larry H. Williams, Jr.**

Fire Chief

DOTHAN FIRE DEPARTMENT

**ADDENDUM 1**

**GUIDELINE FOR INCIDENTS IN MULTI-STORY STRUCTURES**

**ALL PERSONNEL ENTERING A MULTI-STORY BUILDING SHALL BE EQUIPPED WITH FULL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING, INCLUDING S.C.B.A.**

**A. FIRST ARRIVING ENGINE**

**APPARATUS POSITION**

- ~ Shall position where initial rescue, fire confinement and extinguishment, and exposure protection can be best achieved. Normally side A of the fire building.
- ~ Shall position to allow for adequate truck company access.

**UNIT RESPONSIBILITY**

- ~ Shall not normally lay a supply line, unless initial attack can be made with pre-connected hand lines, or no built-in protection exists.
- ~ In buildings with built-in standpipe systems higher than three stories, the first in officer will be more effective using the driver with the crew since the initial attack will be made utilizing the standpipe.
- ~ Check enunciator panel to locate fire floor
- ~ Obtain building keys, if available
- ~ Connect standpipe hose one floor below the fire floor
- ~ Officer and crew to fire floor
- ~ Investigation/size up fire condition
- ~ Make initial attack on the fire floor

**EQUIPMENT**

- ~ High-rise equipment, forcible entry tools, portable radio, pike pole, thermal imaging camera and hand light

**B. SECOND ARRIVING ENGINE**APPARATUS POSITION

- ~ Position apparatus to support Sprinkler/Standpipe System

UNIT RESPONSIBILITY

- ~ Report any pertinent exterior rescue or fire information observed to the Incident Commander.
- ~ Support Sprinkler/Standpipe System or complete water supply operation
- ~ Officer will set up staging (Normally two floors below the fire unless conditions prevent this. The Staging Officer will announce the specific location of staging).
- ~ Obtain additional building keys, if available
- ~ Firefighter(s) will report to the Staging Area
- ~ Perform additional tasks as assigned by the Incident commander.

EQUIPMENT

- ~ High-rise equipment, forcible entry tools, portable radio, pike pole, thermal imaging camera and hand light

**C. THIRD ARRIVING ENGINE**APPARATUS POSITION

- ~ Shall position the unit to establish Staging Level II

UNIT RESPONSIBILITY

- ~ Driver will establish Staging Level II. Officer and Firefighters will report to Staging Level I.

EQUIPMENT

- ~ Air bottles, portable radio, hand lights, thermal imaging camera and high-rise pack

**D. ADDITIONAL RESPONDING ENGINES**

- ~ Respond to the designated Staging Level II area and wait for orders from the Incident commander.

**E. FIRST DUE TRUCK COMPANY**APPARATUS POSITION

- ~ Shall position for tactical advantage to allow maximum operational use of the aerial ladder, ground ladders and equipment.
- ~ Shall position to allow access to other sides of the building by additional responding apparatus.

UNIT RESPONSIBILITY

- ~ Officer to set up Lobby control Sector
- ~ Firefighters report to Staging

EQUIPMENT

- ~ Pike pole, forcible entry tools, portable radio, thermal imaging camera, hand light and air bottles

**F. SECOND DUE TRUCK COMPANY**APPARATUS POSITION

- ~ Report to Staging Level II

**G. EMS VEHICLE**APPARATUS POSITION

- ~ Report to Staging Level II
- ~ Shall position in such a manner so that the unit can leave Staging freely for the transport of any patients

UNIT RESPONSIBILITY

- ~ Provide an Emergency care Station with the location to be determined by the EMS Sector Officer
- ~ Provide emergency care to any victims

**H. INCIDENT COMMAND VEHICLE**

APPARATUS POSITION

- ~ Shall position so as to establish a Command Post
- ~ Shall position so as not to impede the access of all other incoming fir/rescue apparatus.

UNIT RESPONSIBILITY

- ~ Notify Communications of the command Post location
- ~ Serve as a Command Post and communications Center for the incident
- ~ Notify all operating and incoming units via Emergency Communications of any change in the Command Post location
- ~ Assign subsequent arriving Command Officers to ICS positions, as required by the incident

**STAGING LEVEL I GUIDELINES**

**A. FUNCTIONAL LOCATION**

- ~ Two floors below incident floor, normally
  - ~ Must be large, not congested
  - ~ Adjacent to designated stairwell, elevator

**B. RESPONSIBILITIES**

- ~ Manage all Staging Area activities; Control of Reserve and Rehab Personnel, Maintenance of Reserve Equipment, First Aid Station
- ~ Plan and Lay Out Staging Area
  - Reserve area
  - Rehab Area
  - Reserve Equipment areas
  - Bottle Change Area
  - First Aid Station

**C. STRATEGY AND TACTICS**

- ~ Verify Staging Area Location with Operations Section Chief and Incident Commander
- ~ Consult with Operations Section Chief and Incident Commander
  - Minimum Staffing Reserve
  - Projected needs
  - Rapid Intervention Crew
- ~ Control Areas
  - Designated Stairwell
  - Elevator Lobby Area
  - Personnel Areas (Rehab and Reserve)
  - Equipment Areas
- ~ Maintain Records
  - Company Status (In, Out, On Hand)
  - Equipment, General
- ~ Establish Equipment Priority, According to need
  - Air bottles
  - Hose with fittings
  - Breathing apparatus
  - Fans
  - Forcible entry tools
  - Salvage Equipment
  - Resuscitator
  - Pike poles

**STAGING LEVEL II GUIDELINES****A. FUNCTIONAL LOCATION**

- ~ 200 Ft. from building – minimum
  - Consider control, observation, access to building
  - Verify location with Incident commander
  - Verify announcement from Dispatch Office

**B. RESPONSIBILITIES**

- ~ Manage all operations at Staging Level II; Apparatus parking, Company Standby area, equipment Pool area, Traffic, Pedestrian Control around Fire Building
- ~ Deliver equipment from Staging Level II to Lobby Control

- ~ Direct companies from Staging Level II to Lobby Control
- ~ Maintain communication, Record
  - Assign Specific Personnel

### **C. STRATEGY AND TACTICS**

- ~ Street, Traffic Control
  - Use apparatus, block street
  - Control apparatus parking
  - Police Assistance when available
- ~ Staging Level II Arrangement
  - Establish funneled control, Communication
    - o Equipment Pool location
    - o Company Reserve Standby Location
- ~ Equipment, Personnel Movement to Building
  - Establish safe route
  - Coordinate with Lobby control
  - All personnel take equipment
  - Obtain outside assistance for equipment movement
- ~ Consult with Incident commander or Logistics
  - Establish reserve minimum
- ~ Use of Reserve Personnel
  - Stock Equipment Pool
  - Move priority equipment to building – return

### **LOBBY CONTROL GUIDELINES**

#### **A. Functional Location**

- ~ Lobby Area
- ~ Elevator Lobby
- ~ Ground Level Stairwell Access

#### **B. Responsibilities**

- ~ Manage all Lobby control Activities



- Account for personnel entering and leaving the building
- Elevators
- Air Handling Systems
- Stairwell Access
- Priority equipment movement
- Building engineer contact
- Interior Communication System

### C. Strategy and tactics

~ Obtain Lock Box Keys

~ Access Elevators

- Safety
- Designate elevators for use with authority of Operations Officer
  - Personnel
  - Equipment only

~ Access Stairwells

- Unlock ground level entrances
- Direct incoming companies
- Establish equipment pool area
- Move priority equipment
- Coordinate with Staging Level I and II

~ Air Handling System

- Shut down, generally

~ Interior Communication System, i.e. Telephone

- Establish telephone communication via building telephone system for Lobby, Staging and Operations