

# DALTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Standard Operating Guideline

**S.O.G.:** FO-12  
**Effective:** 07-09-2013  
**Revised:** 10-24-2017  
**Reviewed:** 10-22-2019

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Fire Chief Signature

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DATE

**Title:** Initial assignments for all structure fires and fire alarms

**Scope:** All personnel

**Reference:** NFPA 1021, 1500, 1710  
OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134(g) (4)

**Purpose:** To assist the Incident Commander and company officers in improving efficiency, effectiveness, and safety by establishing a framework for initial assignments at structure fires and fire alarms.

### **Procedure:**

The first unit to arrive on scene shall give an initial report, conduct a 360 degree size-up, and establish command over the priority radio channel (DFD Main). The Incident Commander will be responsible for ensuring a 360 is completed and communicated on all incidents. Other benchmarks, including fire under control (where applicable), primary & secondary search, and termination of command, shall be communicated over the priority radio channel.

Making obvious rescues and providing care for victims takes priority over all other fire ground operations.

### **First Arriving Engine Company**

The first arriving engine company is responsible for the initial hoseline stretch and fire attack. A dedicated water supply may be established by this company, but is not mandatory. The second due engine company should be notified immediately if the initial arriving engine company establishes their own water supply.

Fire attack should be initiated when there is an immediate life safety issue or when the officer determines that an interior fire attack will make a dramatic impact on the spread of the fire. If there is no life safety issue or an interior attack will not greatly affect the outcome, the first arriving engine should prepare for fire attack but not enter the building without a rapid intervention team (RIT) established and in place.

### **Second Arriving Engine Company**

The second arriving engine company is responsible for establishing a dedicated water supply (if not achieved by first arriving engine) for fire suppression operations.

Once a water supply is secured, the second arriving engine company should deploy a backup line (if not already in place) and establish a Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) to include a dedicated equipment cache.

The RIT officer will report directly to the Incident Commander. He or she will monitor all radio traffic while crews are actively working, and will complete continual 360s of the involved structure where possible.

### **Third Arriving Engine Company**

The third arriving engine company will report to Command/Staging for assignment.

In the event of a working fire where an active suppression system and/or standpipe system is present, the third arriving engine will be responsible for water supply to the suppression system and/or standpipe.

At the discretion of the Incident Commander, the supply lines to the suppression system may be left uncharged until initial recon reports are received, identifying the need for the system.

### **First Arriving Truck Company**

The initial truck functions of forcible entry and primary search shall be conducted with utmost priority, regardless of the order of arrival.

For the purposes of this guideline, it is assumed that Squad 1 will act as a complement to the initial arriving truck company.

Truck company functions on single family, multifamily, and commercial structure fires should include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Forcible entry – priority function
- Primary search – priority function
- Rescue and/or extrication
- Ventilation (natural or forced)
- Laddering (ground and aerial)
- Utility control
- Salvage and overhaul
- Scene lighting
- Elevated master streams

The most efficient and effective way to accomplish these tasks is through the formation of interior and exterior elements of the truck company. The formation and assignment of these teams shall be at the discretion of the truck company officer based on observed conditions and tactical needs of the scene.

### **Notes**

All truck company operations should be performed in accordance with DFD SOG FO-17, *Truck Operations at Working Structure Fires*.

All operations on the fire ground should be performed with firefighter safety as the primary goal. As always, overarching incident priorities are life safety, incident stabilization, and property conservation.

The assignments included in this guideline are meant to serve as a framework for initial operations and are subject to modification by the Incident Commander.

Task and tool assignments are outside the scope of this guideline and shall be at the discretion of the company officer.

If dispatch has advised that the incident is a confirmed structure fire, the OIC may consider having additional units dispatched, depending on the structure.