



Jason Catrambone, Fire Chief

**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, one (1) ladder company, two (2) battalion chiefs and one (1) incident safety officer. **The arrival of the companies and/or the fire conditions will dictate on scene duties at the Incident Commander's discretion.**

**NFPA 1710:**

**NFPA 1710 requires that 15 firefighters be on the initial alarm of a private dwelling fire. To meet the requirements of NFPA 1710, Escambia County Dispatch will automatically add additional companies in addition to those originally dispatch until 15 certified firefighters are on scene.**

**SCOPE:**

All Personnel / Private Dwelling Fires

**I. FIRST DUE COMPANY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- **Primary Responsibility of the first due company is to initiate fire attack and life safety.**
- Size-up, make an accurate arrival report, pulling past the structure if possible, leaving room for the first arriving ladder company and establish command.
- Officer shall get a 360-degree view of the building and use the thermal imaging camera to assist with building size up. Prioritizing life safety / rescue / VES, exposures, and fire attack.
- 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.



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- 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.
- Make an inspection hole in ceiling upon entry, as warranted.
- Initiate an interior attack if conditions allow.
- 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 DUE COMPANY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- **Primary Responsibility of the second due company is to conduct a primary search.**
- Ensure the initial attack line is stretched and operating.
- Search and occupant removal.
- Stretch a backup/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.
- Shall establish a connection to the attack pumper with a 3-inch green supply line and provide tank water (Booster Back-Up). If needed/directed the second company may connect to a hydrant and lay a supply line. The supply line will go directly into the Booster Back-Up apparatus. The supply line will typically be a 5-inch supply line. For large dwellings, or dwellings further than 300' from the hydrant, a hydro-assist valve should be attached to the hydrant.
- Announce and open any rear and side doors, if it does not adversely affect ventilation and fire control efforts



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- Take over tasks not performed when first-in crews recover victims and are committed to medical aid.
- Complete specific tasks ordered by Command.

### **III. THIRD DUE COMPANY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- **Primary Responsibility of the third due company is to secure a water supply and/or stretch a backup/second attack line.**
- The third due company will connect to a hydrant and lay a supply line. The supply line will go directly into the Booster Back-Up apparatus. The supply line will typically be a 5-inch supply line. For large dwellings, or dwellings further than 300' from the hydrant, a hydro-assist valve should be attached to the hydrant.
- Level 1 stage and remain uncommitted unless directed by Command.
- Crew may be utilized to establish the suppression component of RIT if not established by second arriving company.
- Crew may be utilized to perform secondary search, deploy ground ladders, or vent the fire area.
- This crew may be utilized to secure utilities such as electric and gas.

### **IV. FOURTH DUE COMPANY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- **Primary Responsibility of the fourth due company is to provide ventilation to the structure.**
- Level 1 stage and remain uncommitted unless directed by Command
- Vent fire area if needed (horizontal or vertical ventilation).
- Stretch additional attack lines if needed.
- Check and report conditions at rear of fire building (provide a report of the perimeter/exposures).
- Gain secondary points of entry and egress (forcing entry if needed).



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- Provide access to concealed areas to expose hidden fire in walls, ceilings, soffits, voids, etc.
- Search for victims as needed (secondary search)
- Render medical aid to victims as needed.
- Ladder structure, if necessary.
- Provide lighting as needed.
- Provide mechanical ventilation as needed.
- Perform salvage and overhaul.
- Secure utilities, electric and gas if needed.

#### **V. FIFTH DUE Company Responsibilities**

- **Primary Responsibility of the fifth due company is to be the Rapid Intervention Team**
- 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)
- Recon the building and provide a report of the perimeter.
- Stage equipment/tools and personnel near the Command Post or at a strategic location around the perimeter of the fire building and remain a resource to Command while acting as the R.I.T
- Assume proactive RIT (i.e., familiarization with operating interior company locations, building layout; confirmation of secondary egress and identification of other hazards).
- Monitoring all radio communications is of utmost importance (gathering information as to the locations and progress of the fire crews inside).
- Confirm utilities have been controlled.



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- Ensure a secondary means of egress has been established.
- The company officer will be designated as the R.I.T. officer

## **VI. FIRST DUE CHIEF OFFICER**

- First arriving chief shall establish/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.
- Determine the need for additional resources for the given situation.
- 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.
- Provide regular progress reports to dispatch.
- Notification to the Florida Fire Marshal shall be made early in the event for all suspicious fires and those that results in the injury/death of a civilian or responder.
- Notification to command staff for fires that result in the injury or death of a civilian or responder.
- Notification to the Escambia County Public Information Office (PIO) for fires that result in the injury/death of a civilian or responder.
- If the situation warrants, the Escambia County Sheriff's Office should be requested for traffic and crowd control.
- Ensure that EMS is responding for possible victims and to stand by for responders until the conclusion of the incident. If EMS transports a patient from the scene, an additional EMS unit will need to respond. EMS shall position their ambulance to rapidly leave the incident if necessary. EMS personnel shall bring their stretcher, monitor, and airway bag to an area near the command post.
- Rehab and personnel rotation should be considered.



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## **VII. SECOND DUE CHIEF OFFICER**

- Second arriving Chief shall assume the role of operations or could be assigned as a sector or safety officer.
- Report to the incident commander in full PPE/SCBA prepared to assume a division/group assignment.

## **VIII. ADDITIONAL CHIEFS**

- Report to command in full PPE/SCBA prepared to assume division/group, safety officer, or command post aid.

## **IX. SAFETY OFFICER**

- The safety officer shall know the assignment/location of all companies.
- Check for hazards directly associated with the structure and any exposures that could present any problems.
- Check for potential building collapse due to fire conditions.
- Anticipate potential explosion or fire associated with broken gas and electric lines
- A Company Officer may assume the role of Safety Officer until the designated Safety Officer arrives.



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## **X. Quick Reference Sheet (QRS)**

- The Quick Reference Sheet is to be reference while responding to a private dwelling fire (when necessary), its purpose is to provide a guide for responding companies for completing task based on arrival. The QRS is to be used as a guideline and it is permissible to deviate when necessary. The items in bold are the primary responsibilities that should be completed by each company at a private dwelling fire. All other actions listed are possible task that a company could perform. The arrival of the companies and/or the fire conditions will dictate on scene duties at the Incident Commander's discretion.

**ESCAMBIA COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE***Standard Operating Guidelines***4100.070****Private Dwelling Fires**

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Revised:

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<b>UNIT</b>	<b>Private Dwelling Fire Quick Reference Sheet</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Due Company</b>	Size-Up & 360, establish command, <b>stretch initial attack line, initiate attack</b> , and establish/assign water supply.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Due Company</b>	<b>Search</b> , Booster Back-Up, ensure initial attack line is stretched and operating, stretch a Back-up line, horizontal vent, complete task order by command.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Due Company</b>	<b>Water supply, stretch a Backup/Second attack line</b> , deploy ground ladders, search, vent.
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Due Company</b>	<b>Vent</b> , Search, deploy ground ladders, stretch additional attack lines.
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Due Company</b>	<b>Proactive RIT</b> , control utilities, stage equipment, deploy ladders, forcible entry/open exit points.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Chief Officer</b>	Establish / Assume Command.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Chief Officer</b>	Report to Command in full PPE/SCBA prepared to assume division/group assignment.
<b>Additional Chiefs</b>	Safety Officer, Command Post Aid, or Report to Command in full PPE/SCBA prepared to assume division/group assignment.
<b>Notes</b>	Always leave the "A" side of the building for the ladder company. Park apparatus as close to the curb as possible. Bring supply lines into the officer's side intake, making sure the line does not block the road for other apparatus to pass. If possible, 2 <sup>nd</sup> due apparatus passes the 1 <sup>st</sup> due.
	Connect hydro-assist valve on private dwelling fires (forward lay) when the hydrant is greater than 300'. If "reversing out" the hydro-assist is not needed. When "reversing out" fully tap the hydrant and utilize all apparatus intakes.
	Ladder Companies & Squads companies will primarily be assigned truck company duties, except when first due or directed by the incident commander.
	1st due drivers should assist with placement of attack lines, ground ladders, and additional equipment.
	The items in bold are the primary responsibilities that should be completed at a private dwelling fire.