



MOUNTAIN BROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT

POLICY NO. 105.08

VOLUME: 1

SUBJECT: Fire Control

SIGNED: _____

DATE: 3/6/2019 - revised

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It is standard operating procedure to attempt to stabilize fire conditions by using appropriate suppression tactics, such as, an aggressive interior attack or a transitional attack. Supporting these tactics with available resources will help to reduce fire extension and bring the fire under control.

A critical decision to be made (both initial and on-going) requires choosing one of the following strategies: Offensive, Transitional, or Defensive

- Offensive Attack Strategy – Interior attack and related support directed toward quickly conducting a search for victims and/or bringing the fire under control.
- Transitional Attack Strategy – Combination of exterior and interior attack methods to “re-set” the fire and reduce flashover conditions for the interior crews and victims.
- Defensive Attack Strategy – Exterior attack directed to first reduce fire extension, protect exposures, and then bring the fire under control.

The first company on the scene should establish command, rapid 360° size-up, and declare which strategy is being used as part of the on-scene report. Other responding companies can then have an understanding of on-going operations before arrival.

The offensive/defensive strategy or the use of the transitional attack is based upon a standard risk management profile evaluating:

- Fire location
- Fire extent
- Structural conditions
- Entry capability
- Ventilation profile
- Rescue profile of occupants
- Resources profile

Basic Offensive Plan Considerations

- Perform a 360° size-up with TIC (Thermal Imaging Camera)
- Identify critical fireground factors
- Establish Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)

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- First line – fast, aggressive interior attack
- Provide support activities (ventilation and/or forcible entry)
- Do primary search
- Second line – Backup first line, protect search crews, or use as a 2nd attack line
- Establish a dedicated water supply
- Continuously evaluate for success and react if needed

Transitional Attack Plan Considerations

***Utilized on a structure in pre or post flashover conditions with visible flames venting from one or more openings. The Transitional Attack can be utilized multiple times if fire growth continues over a 90 second period.**

- Perform a rapid 360° size-up with TIC (Thermal Imaging Camera)
- First line – Deploy to vented fire location – exterior application
- Establish Rapid Intervention Team
- Provide Support Activities (ventilation and/or forcible entry)
- Second line – Deploy using a coordinated, aggressive interior attack
- Do a Primary Search
- Third Line (or consider using first line) – Backup the second line, protect search crews, or second attack line
- Establish a dedicated water supply
- Continuously evaluate for success and react if needed

Basic Defensive Plan Considerations

- Perform a rapid 360° size-up with TIC (Thermal Imaging Camera)
- Evaluate fire spread/write-off lost property
- Identify critical fireground factors
- Prioritize fire streams to protect exposures
- Provide large, well placed streams
- Establish a dedicated water supply
- Quick determination on additional resources
- Surround and Drown
- Continuously evaluate for success and react if needed

The safety of firefighting personnel represents the major reason for an effective and well-timed offensive/defensive decision or the use of the transitional attack. All of these strategies are based on a standard risk management plan that is to be employed at all structure fires.

- We may risk our lives a lot to protect savable lives.
- We may risk our lives a little to protect savable property.

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