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Purpose

Rapid application with an adequate flow rate and distribution of water on burning surfaces are key elements in effective and efficient fire control. Tactics for fire control include deployment of attack lines on the exterior, to the interior, and use of portable and apparatus mounted master streams. Each of these tactical options has advantages and disadvantages depending on the critical factors presented by the incident.

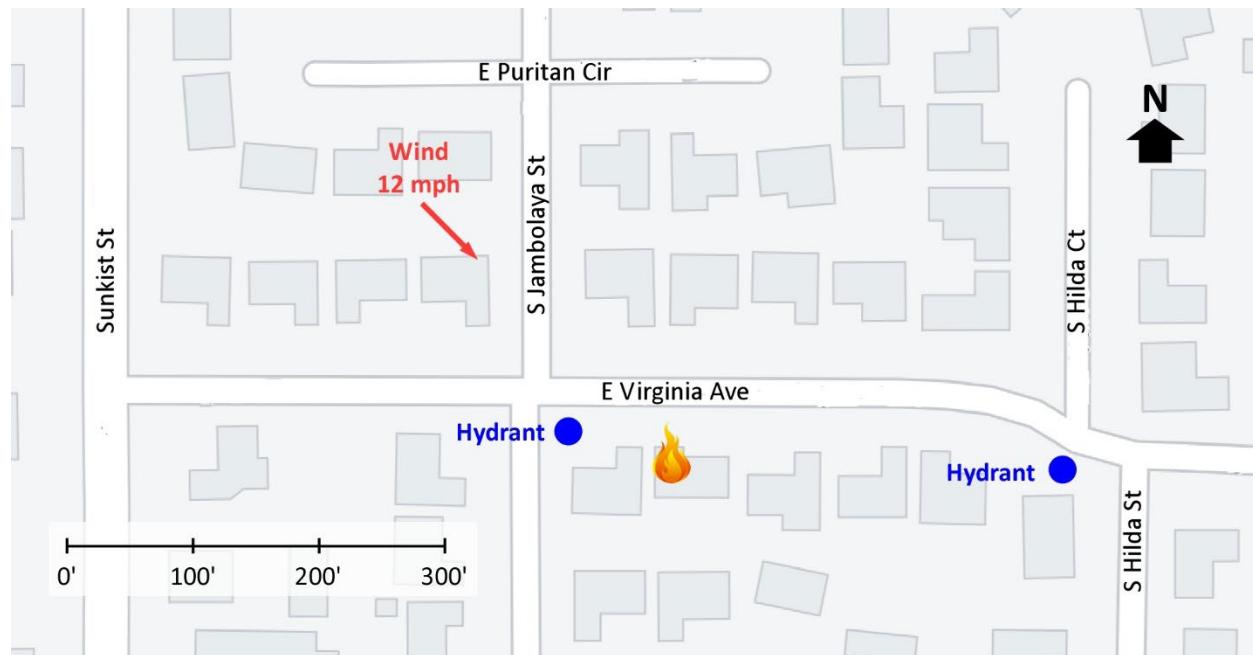
Learning Outcomes

Firefighters and officers perform an effective size-up; select an appropriate strategy, and implement tactics based on the strategic decision-making model.

Conducting the Drill

This incident involved a residential fire at 2536 E Virginia Avenue, Anaheim, California on February 15, 2023, at 02:30 (On Scene TV, 2023). Review the map and photos (Figures 1-6) to gain an understanding of area and building involved.

Figure 1. Map of the Incident Area



Note: Adapted from Google. (2023a). [map 2536 E Virginia Ave, Anaheim, CA]. <https://bit.ly/3JaTT7O>.

The closest hydrant is located on East Virginia Ave in front of the Delta 1 Exposure as illustrated in Figures 1 and 2.

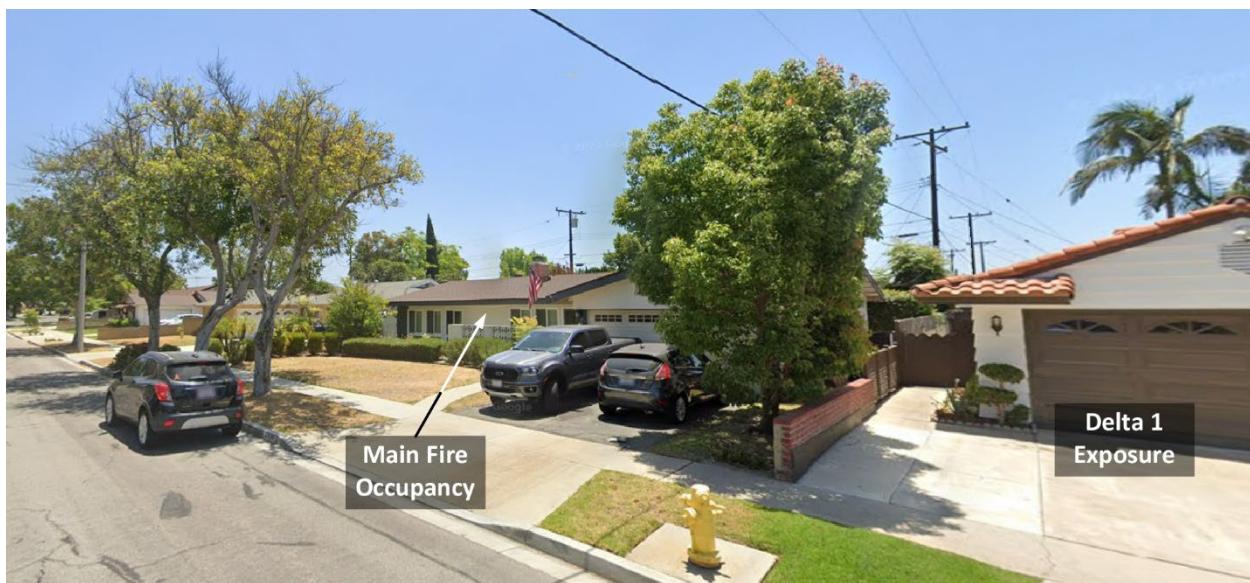
Figure 2. Aerial View



Note: Adapted from Google. (2023b). [aerial view 2536 E Virginia Ave, Anaheim, CA].

<http://bit.ly/3y9Hwj>.

Figure 3. Alpha/Delta Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2022a). [street view 2536 E Virginia Ave, Anaheim, CA].

<http://bit.ly/3Fp1Xkf>.

Figure 4. Side Alpha



Note: Adapted from Google. (2022b). [street view 2536 E Virginia Ave, Anaheim, CA].

<http://bit.ly/3Llv8Zf>.

Figure 5. Alpha/Bravo Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2022c). [street view 2536 E Virginia Ave, Anaheim, CA].

<http://bit.ly/3yGgsfE>.

Figure 6. Side Charlie



Note: Adapted from Redfin. (2023). 2536 E Virginia Ave, Anaheim, CA 92806. <https://bit.ly/3lbffKi>.

You have been dispatched to 2536 E Virginia Avenue for a residential fire. You are the company officer or AIC of the first arriving engine and have your company's typical staffing. Temperature is 48° F with wind at 12 mph from the northwest (Weather Underground, 2023).

1. What critical factors would you consider when dispatched and during response and what conversations would you have with your crew while responding?

While responding you hear a command officer, an engine and advanced life support ambulance with typical staffing for your agency go enroute. The second engine and ALS ambulance will arrive approximately eight minutes after you, followed by the command officer. All other units dispatched on the first alarm will arrive after the command officer. You are arriving from the west on East Virginia Avenue.

Watch the [incident video](#) (On Scene TV, 2023) from 00:05 to 00:15 and examine Figure 7 illustrating conditions on arrival.

Figure 7. Conditions on Arrival



Note: Adapted from On Scene TV. (2023). Residential structure fire in Anaheim [video].

<https://bit.ly/3Fo7uaF>

2. State your initial radio report (IRR) exactly as you would transmit it to dispatch.

3. What specific actions would you take (as the company officer) immediately upon arrival and exiting the apparatus and what task orders you would give your crew?

The occupants of the home meet you when you exit the apparatus and advise that everyone is out of the house. Conditions on Sides Bravo, Charlie, and Delta are consistent with those observed from Side Alpha with smoke showing from the eaves and a smoke layer several feet down from the ceiling visible through windows on Side Charlie.

4. Would you change the action you are taking or modify the assignments given to your crew? If so, what task orders would you provide?

5. State your update report exactly as you would transmit it to dispatch.
6. State the tactical assignment you would give the next arriving engine exactly as you would transmit it.
7. Based on the anticipated effectiveness of your tactical operations, state your conditions, actions, and needs (CAN) report that you would provide to the first arriving command officer as part of command transfer to IC #2?

Watch the [incident video](#) (On Scene TV, 2023) from 00:20 to 02:00 and consider that the first arriving engine in this incident had a staffing level of four before answering the next several questions.

8. How could deployment of the initial attack line have been improved?
9. The first arriving company appeared to connect to the hydrant (apparatus operator) and place the apparatus mounted master stream into operation (firefighter) concurrently with deployment of the initial attack line? Was this an effective tactic? Why or why not?

Watch the incident video from 02:00 to 03:00 before answering the next question.

10. It is likely that many of the firefighters and officers operating at this incident received significant exposure to toxic products of combustion. What factors may have influenced the individuals who chose not to go on air during firefighting operations? How could this be addressed at the company and organizational level?

Additional Learning: Get out and stretch some hose! Replicate the conditions encountered at this incident with the engine stopping short of the fire (to allow the apparatus operator to take the hydrant) and complete the following tasks while tracking the time required for completion:

- Stretch the initial attack line on Side Alpha for fire control (quick hit on the garage)
- Stretch a second attack line off the first arriving engine on Side Alpha for use by the second arriving company.
- Make hydrant connections to establish a continuous water supply.

Sequence these operations to get quick and effective water on the fire and maintain a continuous water supply (when the second line gets stretched may depend on the tank capacity of your apparatus).

References

Google. (2022a). [street view 2536 E Virginia Ave, Anaheim, CA]. Retrieved March 18, 2023, from <http://bit.ly/3Fp1Xkf>.

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