



In-Station Training

TM 23-22 Residential Fire



Author

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Purpose

Effective size-up depends on a sound understanding of the stages of fire development, burning regime (fuel or ventilation limited), and recognition of building, smoke, air track, heat, and flame (B-SAHF) fire behavior indicators along with other critical fireground factors.

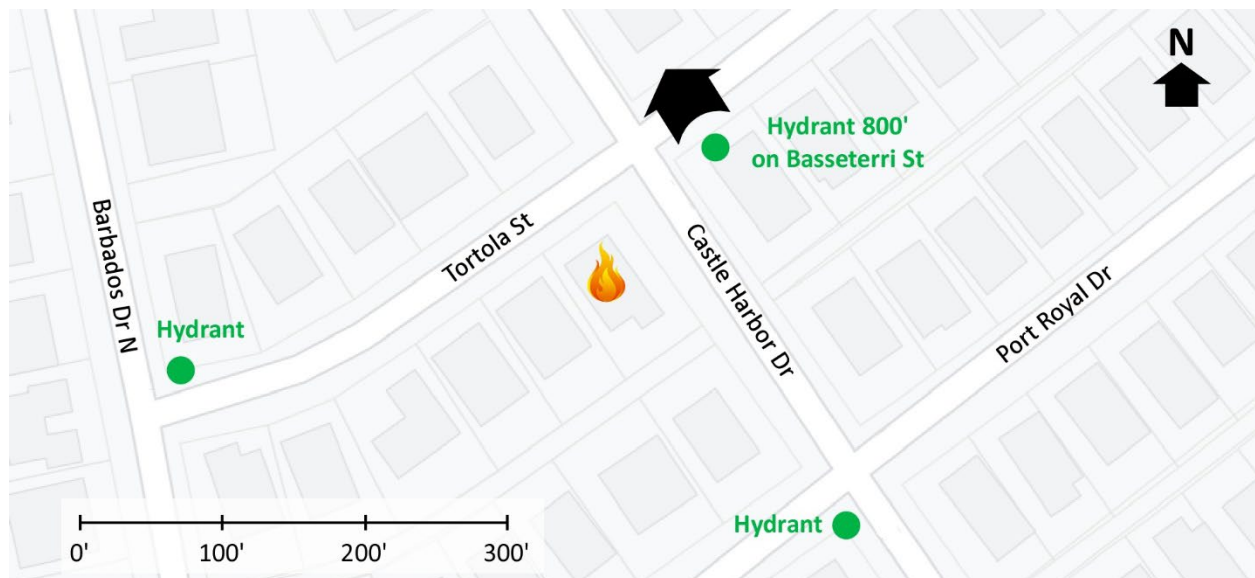
Learning Outcomes

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 fire at 12 Tortola Street, Holiday City, New Jersey on May 10, 2023, at 13:30 (Deamonracer2, 2023; Flesher, 2023; & Trapani & Marte, 2023). Review the map and photos (Figures 1-7) to gain an understanding of the area and building involved.

Figure 1. Map of the Incident Area



Note: Adapted from Google. (2023a). [map, 12 Tortola Street, Holiday City, NJ]. <https://bit.ly/3MfcD7u>.

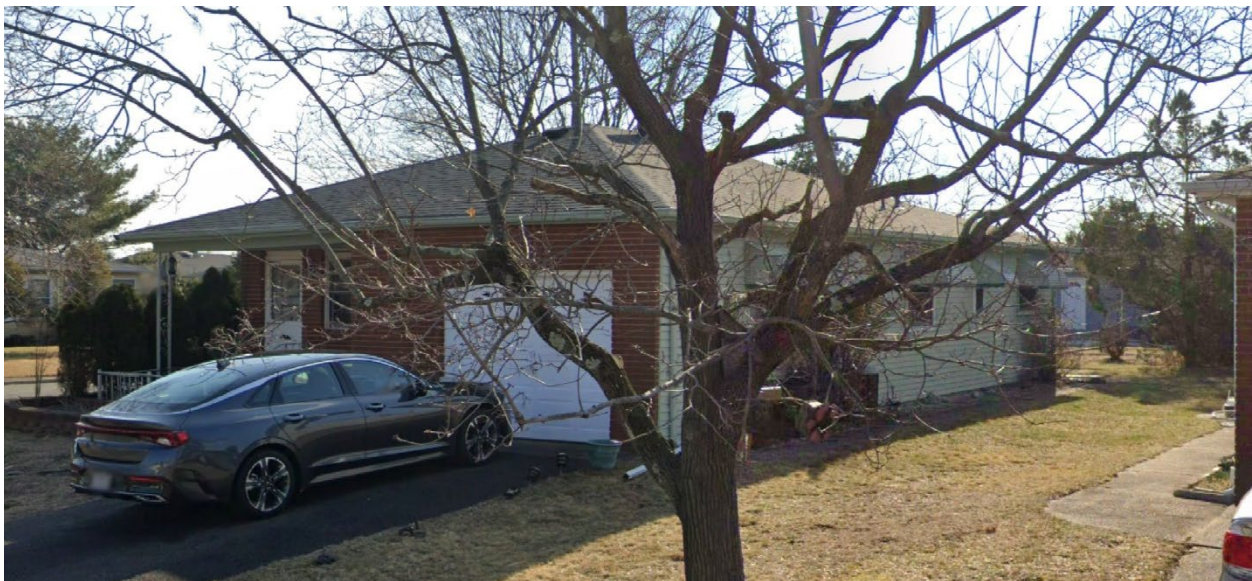
The closest hydrants are at Tortola Street and Barbados Drive North and Castle Harbor Drive and Port Royal Drive and an additional hydrant is located at Castle Harbor Drive and Bassetterri Street as illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 2. Aerial View



Note: Adapted from Google. (2023b). [aerial view, 12 Tortola Street, Holiday City, NJ].
<https://bit.ly/3pZXGik>.

Figure 3. Alpha/Delta Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2022a). [street view, 12 Tortola Street, Holiday City, NJ].
<https://bit.ly/3WJIJDq>.

Figure 4. Side Alpha



Note: Adapted from Google. (2022b). [street view, 12 Tortola Street, Holiday City, NJ].
<https://bit.ly/3IQpNan>.

Figure 5. Alpha/Bravo Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2022c). [street view, 12 Tortola Street, Holiday City, NJ].
<https://bit.ly/3MTu9Qt>.

Figure 6. Side Bravo



Note: Adapted from Google. (2022d). [street view, 12 Tortola Street, Holiday City, NJ].
<https://bit.ly/3MH2JwY>.

Figure 7. Side Charlie



Note: Adapted from Google. (2023c). [3d aerial view, 12 Tortola Street, Holiday City, NJ].
<https://bit.ly/3BGEJUa>.

You have been dispatched to the corner of Tortola Street and Castle Harbor Drive for a residential fire at 13:30. You are the company officer or AIC of the first arriving engine and have your company's typical staffing. Temperature is 67° F with wind at 8 mph from the south (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, another engine and advanced life support ambulance with typical staffing for your agency go enroute. Dispatch provides an update reporting smoke coming from the house. The second engine and ALS ambulance will arrive approximately six 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 southwest on Tortola Street.

Watch the first 00:07 [incident video](#) (Deamonracer2, 2023) from 01:04 to 01:30 and examine Figure 8 illustrating conditions on arrival.

Figure 8. Conditions on Arrival



Note: Adapted from Deamonracer2. (2023). Pre arrival working house fire in Holiday City Berkeley 5-10-23 [video]. <https://bit.ly/3ML5Svu>

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?

On approach, you observe a moderate amount of smoke is visible on Side Delta. Law enforcement officers report that bystanders stated they knocked on the door after seeing smoke from the house, but had no answer. Watch the [incident video](#) (Deamonracer2, 2023) from 00:10 to 00:20 and examine Figure 9, illustrating conditions on Side Bravo. No appreciable smoke is visible from Side Charlie.

Figure 9. Conditions on Side Bravo



Note: Adapted from Deamonracer2. (2023). Pre arrival working house fire in Holiday City Berkeley 5-10-23 [video]. <https://bit.ly/3ML5Svu>

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?
8. What stage(s) of fire development and burning regime (fuel or ventilation limited) do you believe are present inside the building on arrival at this incident? What B-SAHF fire behavior indicators lead you to these conclusions?

Watch the [incident video](#) (Deamonracer2, 2023) from 02:00 to 05:00 before answering the next several questions.

9. How did smoke conditions change during this video segment? What factors may have influenced this change?
10. How could deployment of the initial attack line have been improved? Given apparatus positioning and building setback, what method of hoseline deployment would you have used (accordion forward, accordion reverse, or coil)? Why?

11. The fire was in the living room on the Alpha/Bravo corner of the house (a short distance from the front door). Would you have maintained door control after entry, until effective water on the fire? Why or why not?

12. How would you have addressed fire control and primary search if you located a victim on the floor in the living room (fire compartment) during fire suppression?

Companies operating at this incident discovered a 59-year-old male victim on the floor during fire suppression operations. He was transported to the hospital where he died from his injuries.

Additional Learning: Complete the recently released Underwriters Laboratories Fire Safety Research Institute (UL FSRI) on-line course [Search and Rescue Tactics in Single Family Single Story Residential Structures](#) (2023).



The time required to complete this on-line course is approximately two hours, but it is time well spent. You can divide your course completion over multiple sessions as the course keeps track of what you have completed and allows you to pick up where you left off. As you complete the course (and particularly the tactical considerations section) consider how this information can be applied in your specific staffing and deployment context.

References

- Deamonracer2. (2023). *Pre arrival working house fire in Holiday City Berkeley 5-10-23* [video]. Retrieved May 20, 2023, from <https://bit.ly/3ML5Svu>.
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