



In-Station Training

TM 23-25 Garage Fire with Extension



Author

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Purpose

Garage fires comprise a relatively small percentage of residential fires. However, fires originating in the garage present significant hazards beyond those resulting from fires in other areas of residential occupancies. These hazards include substantial fuel load (including vehicles), hazardous chemicals, and potential for rapid extension into structural voids such as the attic.

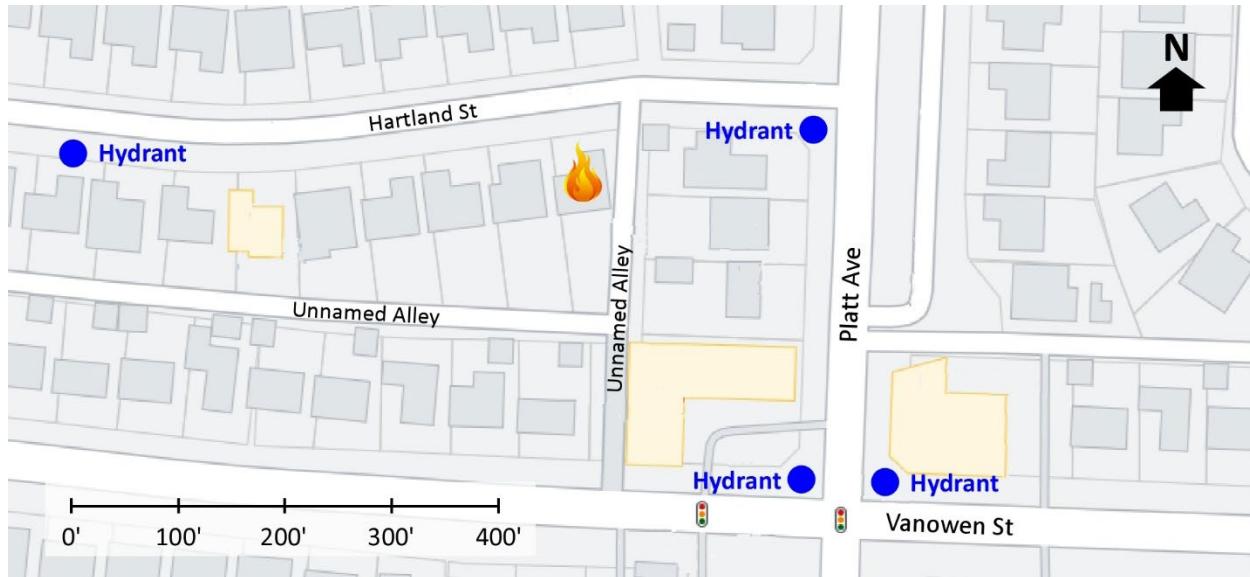
Learning Outcomes

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 23720 W Hartland Street in Los Angeles, California on May 24, 2023, at 00:17 (Traffic News LA, 2023 & LAFD, 2023). Review the map and photos (Figures 1-5) to gain an understanding of the area and building involved.

Figure 1. Map of the Incident Area



Note: Adapted from Google. (2023a). [map, 23720 W Hartland Street, Los Angeles, CA].

<https://bit.ly/42iT0Qr>.

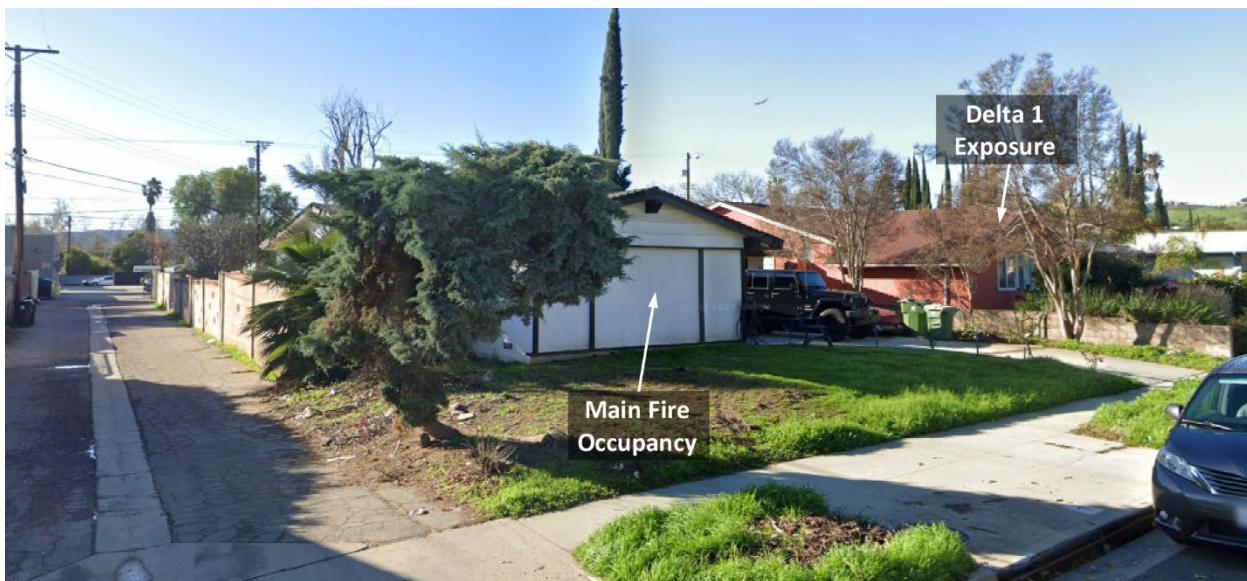
The closest hydrant is located to the east of the incident location on Hartland Street and several other hydrants are in the area as illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 2. Aerial View



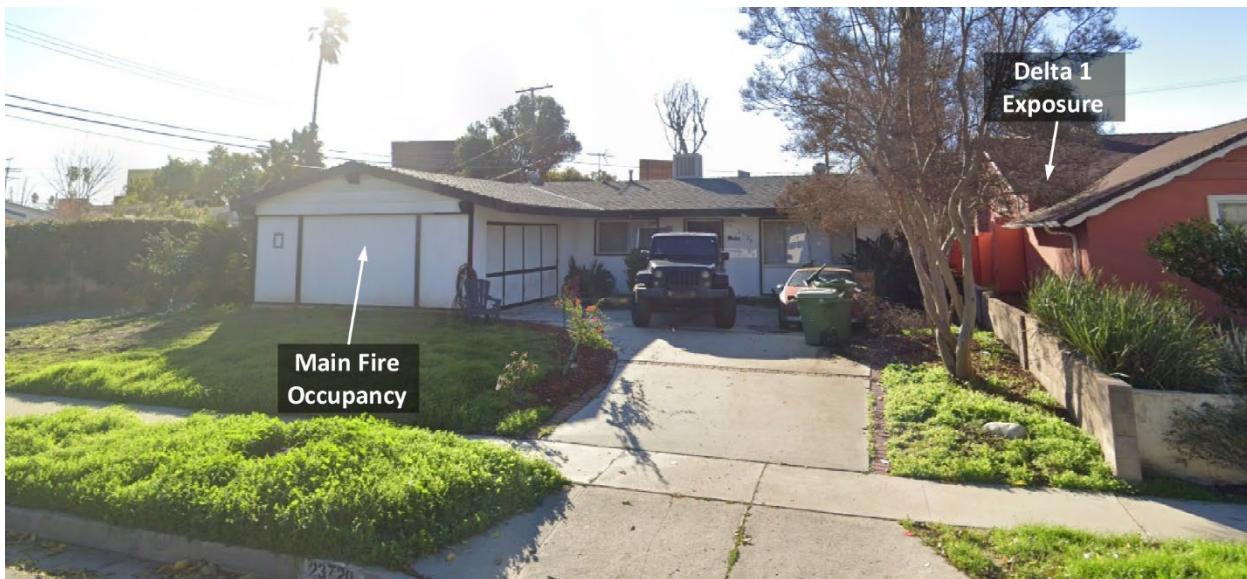
Note: Adapted from Google. (2023b). [aerial view, 23720 W Hartland Street, Los Angeles, CA].
<https://bit.ly/3IUq8sq>.

Figure 3. Alpha/Bravo Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2023c). [street view, 23720 W Hartland Street, Los Angeles, CA].
<https://bit.ly/43ICyeO>.

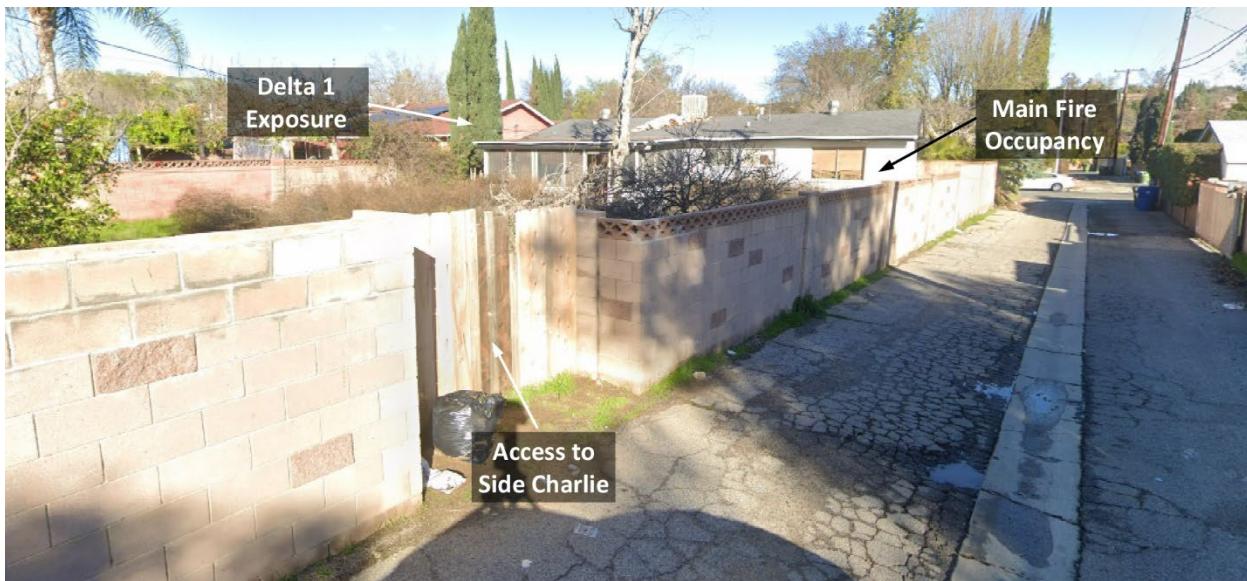
Figure 4. Side Alpha



Note: Adapted from Google. (2023d). [street view, 23720 W Hartland Street, Los Angeles, CA].

<https://bit.ly/3oDOr7b>.

Figure 5. Side Charlie (from the Unnamed Alley)



Note: Adapted from Google. (2023e). [street view, 23720 W Hartland Street, Los Angeles, CA].

<https://bit.ly/3CbEPn6>.

You have been dispatched to 23720 W Hartland Street for a residential fire at 00:17. You are the company officer or AIC of the first arriving engine and have your company's typical staffing. The temperature is 59° F with wind from the south at 6 mph.

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 flames from the attached garage. 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 arrive from the east on Hartland Street.

Watch the first 00:10 [incident video](#) (Traffic News LA, 2023) and examine Figure 6 illustrating conditions on arrival. The incident video begins after the arrival of the first company, but prior to the start of suppression operations and as such it illustrates conditions on arrival.

Figure 6. Conditions on Arrival



Note: Adapted from Traffic News LA. (2023). *LAFD fully involved residential fire-West Hills* [video]. <https://bit.ly/3WSntW6>

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?

Bystanders do not have any information regarding the possibility of occupants. Access to Side Charlie is from the unnamed alley on Side Bravo through a gate in the masonry wall. A moderate amount of smoke is visible from the eaves on Sides Bravo and Charlie. Minimal smoke is visible from the eaves on Side Delta.

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 remainder of the [incident video](#) (Traffic News LA. 2023) before answering the next several questions.

8. Given the fire and structural conditions in the attached garage, how would you have applied water for fire control? Think about task level specific details such as position of the attack line, angle of application, pattern (straight stream or cone angle), and movement of the nozzle? Was this approach similar or different to that used in this incident?

9. If your company was tasked with fire control and primary search in the house, how would you approach this assignment? As with the preceding question, think about the task level specific details. If the access door from the interior to the garage was intact, how would this influence your sequence of operations?
10. Between 03:50 and 04:24 in the incident video (Traffic News LA, 2023), a ladder company can be observed working on the roof performing vertical ventilation. Based on incident conditions, was this an appropriate ventilation tactic? Why or why not?

Additional Learning: Watch [Fighting Garage Fires](#) (LACoFD, 2020) and [Fresno Firefighter Falls Through Roof of Burning Garage](#) (Fresno Bee, 2015). For additional information on the Fresno incident, review the [Cortland Incident Final Report](#) (Fresno Fire Department, 2015) and watch [Catching Up with Former Fresno Fire Captain Pete Dern](#) (MedWatch Today, 2022).

References

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