



In-Station Training

TM 24-13 Residential Fire with Entrapment



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Purpose

Report of trapped occupants raises the stress level of firefighters and officers responding to a structure fire. This is particularly true for IC #1 who will need to operate at the strategic, tactical, and task levels until the arrival of a command officer and transfer of command.

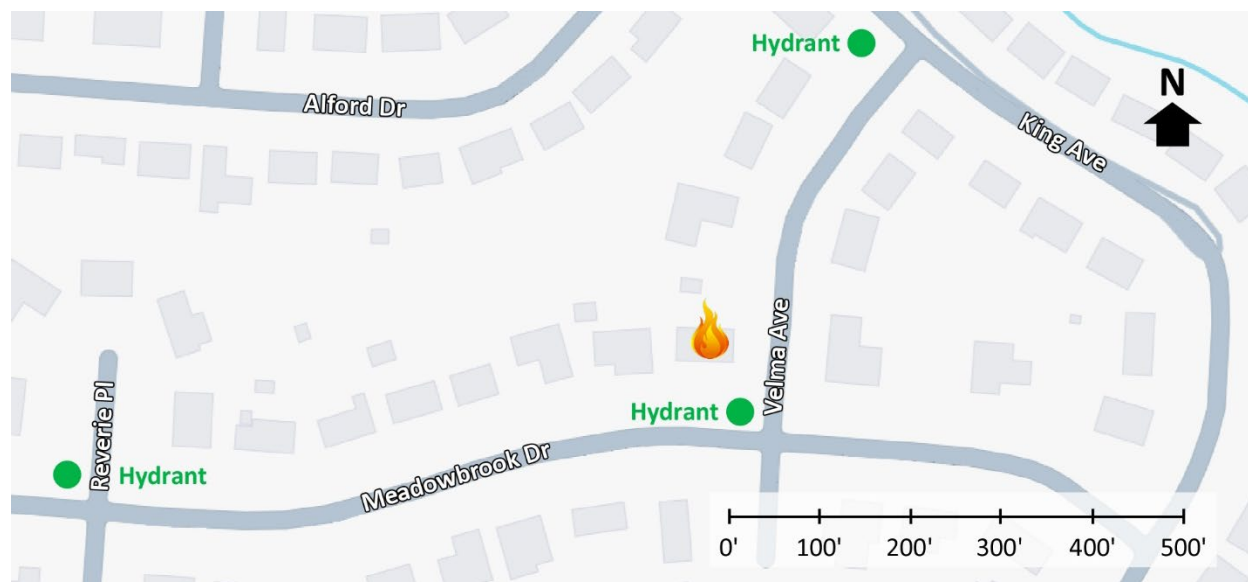
Learning Outcomes

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 370 Meadowbrook Drive, Newark, Ohio on November 22, 2022, at 05:53 (Decker, 2024; Summer, 2022; & Levine, 2022). Review the map and photos (Figures 1-6) to gain an understanding of the area and building involved.

Figure 1. Map of the Incident Area



Note: Adapted from Google. (2024a). [Map, 370 Meadowbrook Drive, Newark, OH].

<https://bit.ly/3Tda2i7>.

Figure 2. Aerial View



Note: Adapted from Google. (2024b). [Aerial view 370 Meadowbrook Drive, Newark, OH].
<https://bit.ly/3Tb4k1f>.

The closest hydrant is on the corner of Meadowbrook Drive and Velma Avenue with additional hydrants at Meadowbrook Drive at Reverie Place and King Avenue at Velma Avenue as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 3. Alpha/Bravo Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2012a). [Street view, 370 Meadowbrook Drive, Newark, OH].
<https://bit.ly/3wrLxpn>.

Figure 4. Side Alpha



Note: Adapted from Google. (2012b). [Street view, 370 Meadowbrook Drive, Newark, OH].
<https://bit.ly/3wrLxpn>.

Figure 5. Alpha/Delta Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2012c). [Street view, 370 Meadowbrook Drive, Newark, OH].
<https://bit.ly/3TdAAk8>.

Figure 6. Charlie/Delta Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2012). [Street view, 370 Meadowbrook Drive, Newark, OH].
<https://bit.ly/3wti7Hv>.

The temperature is currently 27° F with wind from the south southeast at 3 mph (Weather Underground, 2022). You have been dispatched to 370 Meadowbrook Drive for a report of a residential fire with a trapped occupant at 05:53. You are the company officer or AIC of the first arriving engine and have your company's typical staffing.

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

Dispatch provides an update reporting an adult male is reporting that his invalid wife is trapped. You hear a command officer, three other engines, and an advanced life support ambulance with typical staffing for your agency go enroute. You will arrive from the west on Meadowbrook Drive. The second engine will arrive from the same direction six minutes after you. The command officer will arrive shortly after the second engine. All other units dispatched on the first alarm will arrive after the command officer.

Watch the [incident video](#) (Decker, 2024) from 03:50 to 04:05 and examine Figure 7 illustrating conditions on arrival.

Figure 7. Conditions on Arrival



Note: Adapted from Decker, D. (2024). *Newark Ohio Fire Department house fire with victim rescue*. 370 Meadowbrook Drive. *Command Vision* [video]. <https://bit.ly/49rit4l>.

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 front door on Side Alpha is open and you encounter a male occupant outside the door reporting that his wife is trapped. The male occupant advises that his wife is in a hospital bed in the living room. You can hear her calling for help from inside the building. Watch the [incident video](#) (Decker, 2024) from 04:38 to 04:58.

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. Engine 2 arrives and reports that they are Level 1 on a hydrant at Meadowbrook Drive at Reverie Place. State the tactical assignment you would give them 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](#) (Decker, 2024) from 05:10 to 05:40. Interior conditions included hoarding conditions and optically dense smoke with zero visibility. After the first company enters, the victim does not respond when you call out to her. The fire is in the Bravo/Charlie Corner of the house.

8. How did you address the critical factors related to the fire and reported victim prior to the arrival of the second engine? How did your staffing influence your decision-making?
9. After the arrival of the second engine, how did your tactical assignments address the critical factors related to the fire and reported victim?
10. If the male occupant provided a specific location for his wife, how would you approach search? Would this be different if he was unable to provide you with a specific location? If so, how?

Watch the [incident video](#) (Decker, 2024) from 07:10 to 10:20 before answering the next several questions.

11. When the female occupant was located, she was unresponsive. What challenges would you anticipate in removing the victim located in a hospital bed with hoarding conditions and zero visibility. How would you approach this task? Think specifically about your removal path and exit point as well as how you would move the victim.

12. After Rescue 1 reported water on the fire, they advised that they need ventilation. IC #2 provided Ladder 3 with the tactical order “ventilate”. If your company received this tactical order, how would you approach this task? How should a tactical order for ventilation be framed when using the task, location, objective format?

Additional Learning: Two areas for additional learning this week are victim removal and ventilation.

Give some thought to the path of removal for trapped fire victims. Key considerations are keeping the victim low (close to the floor), minimizing the time of exposure, and avoiding travel through the fire area or any space with worse conditions than where the victim was found. Consider isolation and ventilation of the compartment containing the victim if this can be done. Consider the option of removal directly to the exterior via a window (even if it is necessary to enlarge the opening by performing a window cut).

The incident in this 10-Minute Training had several similarities to a recent East County Fire and Rescue incident with a civilian rescue. Working fire in the Bravo/Charlie Corner of a small, one-story house, trapped invalid occupant with the reporting party outside. However, there were two significant differences, the trapped occupant was in a bedroom with a closed door and greater visibility as the smoke layer was not all the way to the floor.

In this incident, the victim was in the living room, likely close to the front door on Side Alpha, providing a relatively short path of travel without moving through the fire compartment or area. In the ECFR incident, the victim was in a bedroom on the Charlie/Delta corner and isolated from the fire area by a closed door. Given the smoke conditions between the bedroom and the front door on Side Alpha, ECFR and Camas Washougal Fire Department personnel removed the victim through normal means of egress. However, Captain John Prasch, ECFR E91 weighed this option against removing them directly to the exterior, stating that if fire and smoke conditions were worse, this would have been the preferred option. For additional information on the influence of victim removal path and other search tactical considerations, have a look at *Analysis of Search and Rescue Tactics in Single-Story Single-Family Homes Part III: Tactical Considerations* (Weinschenk & Stakes, 2022) and take the UL FSRI on-line course [Search and Rescue Tactics in Single-Family Single-Story Residential Structures](#) (ULFSRI, 2023). Please make sure you identify your agency when creating your UL FSRI Fire Safety Academy login and profile.

Read [Fireground ventilation: Tactical considerations from UL’s FSRI research](#) (Stakes, 2024). Given the tactical considerations presented from UL FSRI’s research, reconsider how you would approach tactical ventilation in the incident presented in this 10-Minute Training. Discuss the options, advantages, and disadvantages with your crew. Work on task, location, and objective format tactical orders that provide clarity to the receiving company. What type of ventilation is appropriate (this is the task)? Where will the ventilation be performed (will you specify the location of the exhaust, inlet, or both, defining the flow path)? What is the objective? Is it to support fire control, search, or both? How might this influence ventilation tactics?

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