



In-Station Training

TM 24-19 Residential Fire



Author

Chief Ed Hartin

Purpose

Selection of an appropriate risk management profile is based on the answers to three questions: 1) Is it reasonable to believe that the building is occupied? 2) Is there searchable space, and 3) Is there anything you can do about it? Consider if you can answer these questions with a single view of incident conditions from the cab of your apparatus. Sometimes yes, but more often the answer is no, and you cannot answer them definitively until you complete 360-degree reconnaissance.

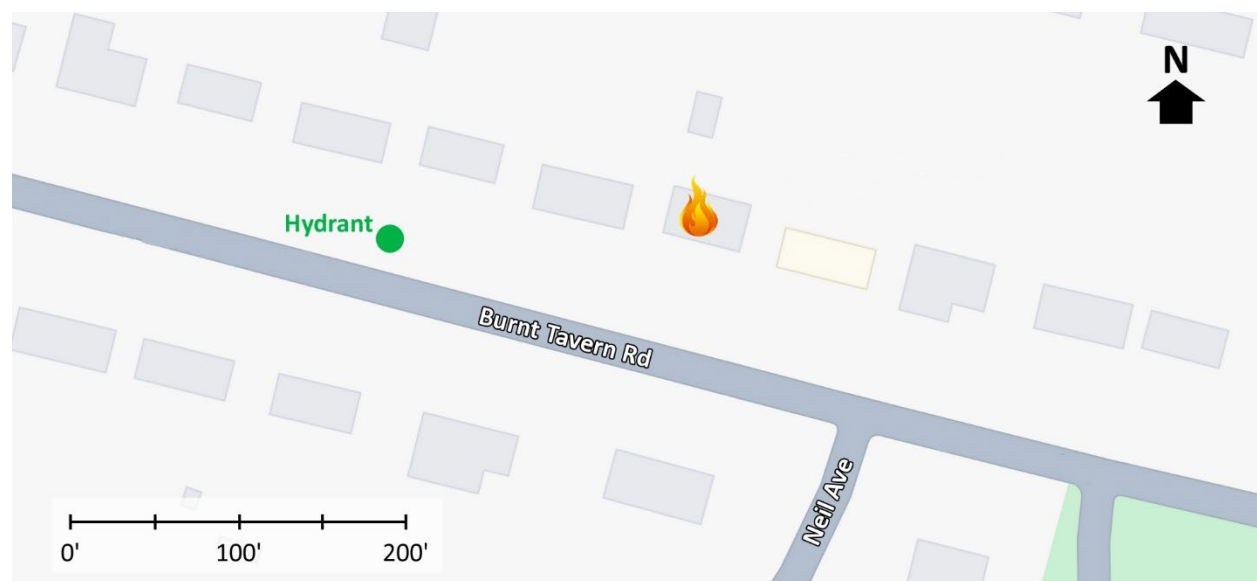
Learning Outcomes

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 53 Burnt Tavern Road in Brick, New Jersey on February 23, 2024, at 04:12 (Jersey Shore Fire Response, 2024 & MidJersey.News, 2024). 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. (2024a). [Map, 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ]. <https://bit.ly/3U8SIBG>.

Figure 2. Aerial View



Note: Adapted from Google. (2024b). [Aerial view 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ].
<https://bit.ly/4aNmsEg>.

The only hydrant in the immediate area is just west of the incident location on Burnt Tavern Road as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3. Alpha/Delta Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2021a). [Street view, 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ].
<https://bit.ly/3Jd5wv6>.

Figure 4. Side Alpha



Note: Adapted from Zillow. (2022). 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ 08724. Retrieved April 8, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/4b4B6HF>.

Figure 5. Alpha/Bravo Corner



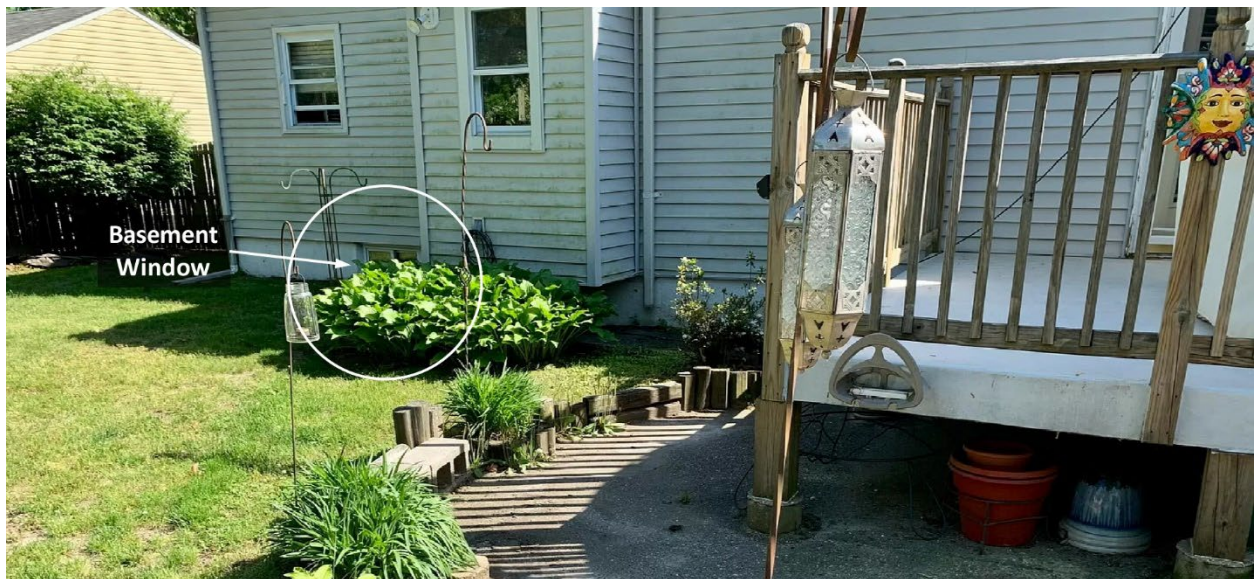
Note: Adapted from Google. (2021b). [Street view, 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ]. <https://bit.ly/3PV6C2F>.

Figure 6. Side Charlie



Note: Adapted from Zillow. (2022). 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ 08724. Retrieved April 8, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/4b4B6HF>.

Figure 7. Side Charlie Closeup



Note: Adapted from Zillow. (2022). 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ 08724. Retrieved April 8, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/4b4B6HF>.

The temperature is currently 38° F with wind from the north at 5 mph (Weather Underground, 2024). You have been dispatched to 53 Burnt Tavern Road for a report of a residential fire at 04:12. 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 law enforcement on-scene, “fully involved”. 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 east on Burnt Tavern Road. 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.

Examine Figure 8 illustrating conditions on arrival (the incident video begins as the first engine company arrives).

Figure 8. Conditions on Arrival



Note: Adapted from Jersey Shore Fire Response. (2024). *Pre arrival fully involved structure fire Brick New Jersey 2/23/24* [video] <https://bit.ly/49sH0ku>.

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?

Watch the [incident video](#) (Jersey Shore Fire Response, 2024) from 00:31 to 01:01. Law enforcement reports that the two occupants and their dog evacuated the house before you arrived. Dark gray to black smoke is pushing from Side Charlie. There is no smoke or flames from the single basement window 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. Engine 2 arrives and reports that they are Level 1 east of Neil Avenue. 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.

Reflect on your strategic decision-making and responses to questions 1 through 7 before answering the next six questions.

8. What was the problem?
9. What was getting in the way of achieving your tactical priorities?
10. Was there anything in this incident that could have hurt or killed you (right now)?

11. Was it reasonable to believe that the building was occupied?

12. Was there searchable space?

13. If you believed it was reasonable that the building was occupied and there was searchable space, what could you do about it?

Watch the [incident video](#) (Jersey Shore Fire Response, 2024) from 01:01 to 03:31 before answering the next several questions.

14. Companies operating at this incident appeared to operate in a defensive strategy. Is this consistent with your strategy? How did the critical factors and your answers to the three risk management questions influence your choice of strategy? Would your strategy have been different if you did not receive a report that occupants had evacuated or if you had a report of trapped occupants? Why or why not?

15. The first arriving engine deployed a small diameter (likely 1 ¾") attack line for exterior attack on Side Alpha. Was this initial line effective? What factors influenced the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the initial attack line?

Additional Learning: How long does it take to get water on the fire with each of the following tactical options?

- 1 ¾" attack line.
- 2 ½" attack line.
- Blitzfire portable master stream.
- Apparatus mounted master stream.

Do you know? Are you sure? Time to get out and stretch some hose and determine the answer to this question. Discuss the application of each of these options for fire control with your crew.

References

- Google. (2021a). [Street view, 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ]. Retrieved April 9, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/3Jd5wv6>.
- Google. (2021b). [Street view, 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ]. Retrieved April 9, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/3PV6C2F>.
- Google. (2024a). [Map, 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ]. Retrieved April 9, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/3U8SIBG>.
- Google. (2024b). [Aerial view 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ]. Retrieved April 9, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/4aNmsEg>.
- Jersey Shore Fire Response. (2024). *Pre arrival fully involved structure fire Brick New Jersey 2/23/24* [video]. Retrieved April 9, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/49sH0ku>.
- MidJersey.News. (2024). *2nd alarm fire In Brick Township, NJ*. Retrieved April 9, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/3VSPGxw>.
- Weather Underground (2024). *Ewing, NJ weather history* [historical weather February 24, 2024]. Retrieved April 9, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/3TUmcg3>.
- Zillow. (2022). 53 Burnt Tavern Road, Brick, NJ 08724. Retrieved April 8, 2024, from Retrieved April 9, 2024, from <https://bit.ly/4b4B6HF>.