



# In-Station Training

## TM 25-3 Residential Fire



### Author

Chief Ed Hartin

### Purpose

Fixed critical fireground factors can be identified prior to an incident. Formal pre-plans are essential in effective response to complex occupancies. However, effective response to residential occupancies is often dependent on informal pre-planning; observation, discussion, and consideration of building layout and configuration when responding to other types of incidents or previous fire responses.

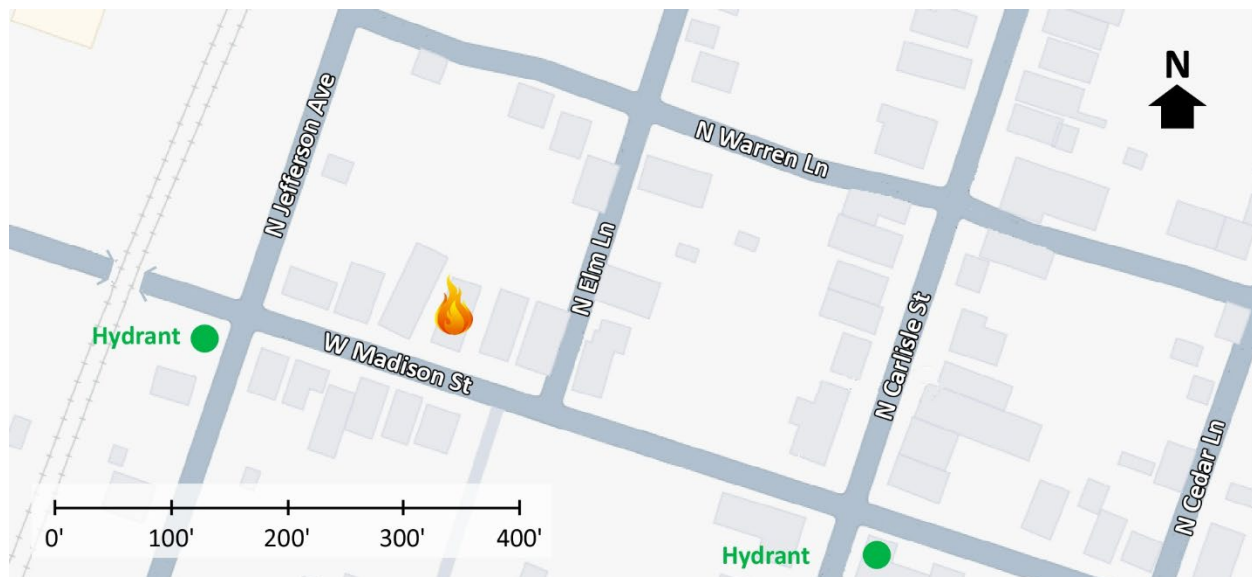
### Learning Outcomes

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 43 West Madison Street, Greencastle, Pennsylvania on Friday, July 19, 2024, at 16:10 (Scanner02, 2024, Franklin Fire Company, 2024, & Franklin County Free Press, 2024). 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, 43 W Madison Street, Greencastle, PA].

<https://bit.ly/4gng3mp>.

Figure 2. Aerial View



Note: Adapted from Google. (2024b). [Aerial view 43 W Madison Street, Greencastle, PA]. <https://bit.ly/3ZP5j9m>.

The closest hydrant is just west of the incident location on West Madison Street. An additional hydrant is located to the east on West Madison Street illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 3. Alpha/Delta Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2012a). [Street view 43 W Madison Street, Greencastle, PA]. <https://bit.ly/3Dq1VKJ>.

Figure 4. Side Alpha



Note: Adapted from Google. (2012b). [Street view 43 W Madison Street, Greencastle, PA].  
<https://bit.ly/3BtYYix>.

Figure 5. Alpha/Bravo Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2012c). [Street view 43 W Madison Street, Greencastle, PA].  
<https://bit.ly/3P66IU7>.

Figure 6. Bravo/Charlie Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2024c). [Street view 43 W Madison Street, Greencastle, PA]. <https://bit.ly/3VPegWi>.

The temperature is currently 86° F with wind from the southwest at 7 mph (Weather Underground, 2024). It is Friday July 19<sup>th</sup>, and you have been dispatched along with two other engines, ladder company, medic unit, and command officer at 16:10 to 43 West Madison Street for a residential fire. The engines and ladder have four-person staffing<sup>1</sup>. You are the company officer or AIC of the first arriving engine.



Time starts now! Answer the first eight questions within the next 10 minutes. Decide and put your answers in the form of communication you would have with your crew, other companies, and the first arriving command officer. Save discussion for after answering the first eight questions.

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

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<sup>1</sup> If your first alarm deployment is different, use your own resource assignment and staffing with the first and second arriving resources typical for your agency (e.g., two engines vs. engine and ladder).

You hear a command officer, two other engines, a ladder company, an advanced life support ambulance go enroute. You will arrive from the east on West Madison Street. The ladder company will arrive from the same direction three minutes after you arrive. The second engine will arrive from the north five minutes after you. The command officer will arrive shortly after the second engine and ladder company. All other units dispatched on the first alarm will arrive after the command officer.

While enroute, dispatch advises that they have multiple callers reporting a fire on the second floor. Watch the first 00:30 of the [incident video](#) (Scanner02, 2024) and examine Figure 7, illustrating conditions on arrival.

Figure 7. Conditions on Arrival



*Note: Adapted from Scanner02. (2024). Pre-arrival of fire companies in Franklin County, Borough of Greencastle, PA [video]. <https://bit.ly/3BAejqZ>*

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 would you give your crew?

As you exit the apparatus, an adult male occupant tells you that everyone is out of the house. There is no smoke from Floor 1 on Sides Bravo, Charlie and Delta. Conditions on Floor 2 are consistent with those observed from the Alpha/Delta corner.

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. Ladder 1 arrives and reports that they are Level 1 to the east. State the tactical assignment you would give them exactly as you would transmit it.
  
7. Engine 2 arrives and reports that they are Level 1 on a hydrant on West Madison and Carlisle Street. State the tactical assignment you would give them exactly as you would transmit it.
  
8. 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 one through eight before answering the next six questions. Give some thought to what cues, patterns, or anomalies (differences from conditions that you would anticipate) inform your answers.

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

12. Was it reasonable to believe that the Main Fire Occupancy was occupied?

13. Was there searchable space?

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

Watch the remainder of the [incident video](#) (Scanner02, 2024) before answering the next several questions.

15. There is a transition in the incident video at 00:35 (unknown duration of time gap). How do the building, smoke, air track, heat, and flame indicators change over the duration of the video? What conditions would you anticipate on Floor 1, in the stairwell to Floor 2, and on Floor 2? How would closing the door on Side Alpha prior to and after entry with an attack line influence conditions on Floor 2?

16. While not shown in the incident video, the first arriving engine made a quick hit on the fire from Side Delta and then transitioned to the interior (Franklin Fire Company, 2024) Was this consistent with your incident action plan? If so, what factors influenced your choice of initial attack position?

17. Did you consider the Delta 1 exposure to be significantly threatened? If so, did you take action to address that threat or identify the need to address this exposure in your transfer of command conditions, actions, and needs report?

Figure 8. Exposure Delta 1 Post-Fire



Note: Adapted from Google. (2024d). [Street view 43 W Madison Street, Greencastle, PA].  
<https://bit.ly/3VPegWi>.

18. The first arriving ladder company was assigned to search (Franklin Fire Company, 2024). If you were the company officer of the ladder company arriving shortly after the first arriving engine initiated an interior attack on Floor 2, how would you approach primary search? State your answer in the form of task assignments to the members of your crew.

**Additional Learning:** What were your assumptions regarding the interior layout and floor plan of the house in this 10-Minute Training? While there are no interior photos available of the Main Fire Occupancy, examine Figure 9 which illustrates the exterior and interior of the Delta 1 Exposure (similar building except for the location of the front door).



Figure 9. Delta 1 Exposure Exterior and Interior



Note: Adapted from Redfin. (2019). 37 W Madison, Greencastle, PA 17225. <https://bit.ly/49MpVDZ>.

Would knowledge of the interior layout of this type of house impact on your selection of the initial point of entry? Why or why not? Discuss how this interior configuration and layout would impact the deployment of an attack line to Floor 2 with your crew. Ask the members of your crew where you may encounter multiple stairways and/or stairway configurations that would impact stretching an attack line that are in your response area.

## References

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