



# In-Station Training

## TM 25-24 Residential Fire



### Author

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### Purpose

Wind, water supply, and response delays can significantly complicate the challenges encountered by the initial incident commander (IC #1).

### 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 109 Beverly Avenue in Edgewater, Maryland on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 14:30 (tall28guy, 2025 & Broadcastify 2025). Review the map and photos (Figures 1-7) to gain an understanding of the building and area involved.

Figure 1. Map of the Incident Area



Note: Adapted from Google. (2025a). [Map, 109 Beverly Avenue, Edgewater, Maryland].

<https://bit.ly/3Hf0Rv4>.

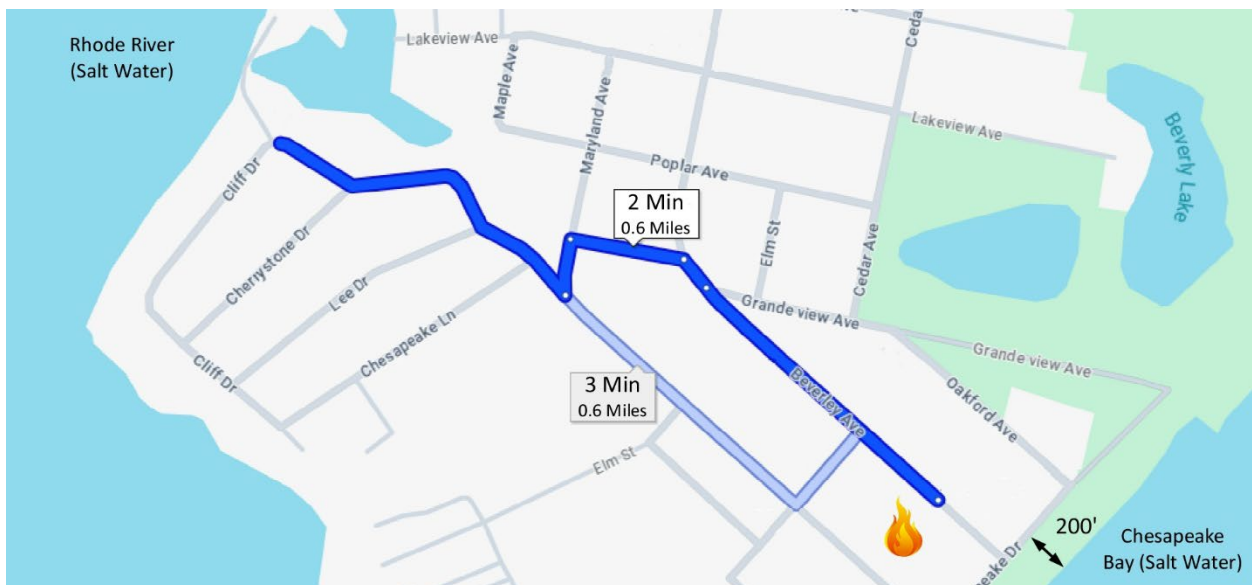
Figure 2. Aerial View



Note: Adapted from Google. (2025b). [Aerial view 109 Beverly Avenue, Edgewater, Maryland].  
<https://bit.ly/3HiKxtq>.

There are no hydrants in the immediate area. The closest water tender fill point is an open draft (salt water) site 0.6 miles to the northwest at 1669 Cliff Drive as illustrated in Figures 1 and 3.

Figure 3. Water Supply Map



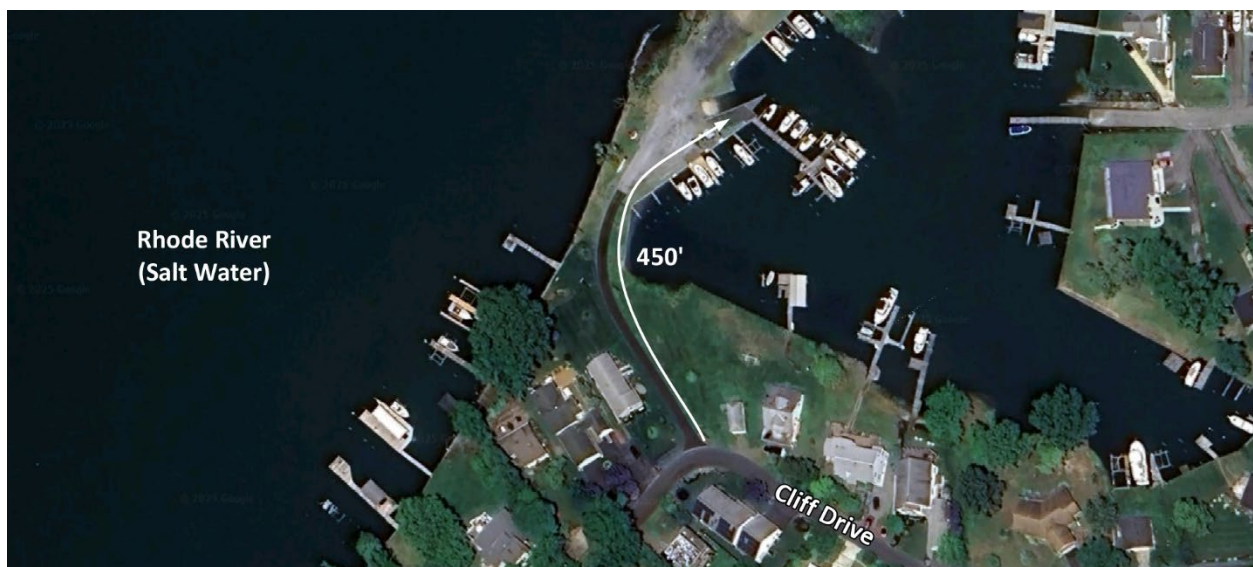
Adapted from Google (2025c) [Map with drive time to water tender fill point, 1669 Cliff Drive].  
<https://bit.ly/4khGI64>.

Figure 4. Water Tender Fill Point Access (Open Draft-Salt Water)



Note: Adapted from Google. (2022a). [Street view 1669 Cliff Drive Edgewater, MD].  
<https://bit.ly/4mB3lnG>.

Figure 5. Water Tender Fill Point (Open Draft-Salt Water)



Note: Adapted from Google. (2025c). [Aerial view 1669 Cliff Drive Edgewater, MD].  
<https://bit.ly/4knHH50>.



Figure 6. Alpha/Bravo Corner



*Note:* Adapted from Google. (2022b). [Street view 109 Beverly Avenue, Edgewater, Maryland].  
<https://bit.ly/4kk42QR>.

Figure 7. Side Alpha



*Note:* Adapted from Google. (2022c). [Street view 109 Beverly Avenue, Edgewater, Maryland].  
<https://bit.ly/3HfbsGm>.

The temperature is currently 64° F with wind from the north at 9 mph with gusts to 18 mph (Weather Underground, 2025). **You are the company officer of an engine company.** It is Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, and you have been dispatched along with two other engines, two water tenders, a ladder company, medic unit, and command officer at 14:30 to 109 Beverly Avenue for a residential fire. The engines and ladder

have four-person staffing<sup>1</sup>. The water tenders are cross staffed with the other two engine companies (three personnel on the engine and one on the water tender).



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?

You hear a command officer, two other engines, two water tenders, a ladder company, and an advanced life support ambulance go en route. The ladder company reports that they will be delayed as they are out of position. You will arrive first, approaching from the northwest on Beverly Avenue. The second engine and a water tender will arrive from the same direction two minutes after you. The third engine and a water tender will arrive from the southeast five minutes after the second engine. The command officer will arrive shortly after the second engine and water tender. All other units dispatched on the first alarm will arrive after the command officer.

While responding, the dispatcher advises that a caller reports that a dog is trapped in the house and that the call taker is attempting to keep the caller from re-entering the house to rescue the dog. A subsequent update from dispatch indicates multiple callers reporting flames from the back of the house and explosions. Watch the incident video (Tall28guy, 2025) from 00:25 to 00:45 and examine Figure 8, illustrating conditions on arrival.

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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).

Figure 8. Conditions on Arrival



*Note:* Adapted from tall28guy. (2025). *Pre arrival house fire 100 Blk Beverly Ave Edgewater, Md 3-18-25*. <https://bit.ly/450m7P8>

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?

You observe dark smoke pushing from the eaves and windows on Side Delta. Watch the incident video (Tall28guy, 2025) from 01:14 to 01:32 and examine Figure 9 illustrating conditions on Bravo/Charlie Corner shortly after arrival. Conditions on Side Charlie are consistent with those seen on other sides of the building with dark smoke pushing from the eaves, windows and a closed door. The electrical service on Side Charlie has burned through and is on the ground.



Figure 9. Bravo/Charlie Corner Shortly After Arrival



*Note: Adapted from tall28guy. (2025). Pre arrival house fire 100 Blk Beverly Ave Edgewater, Md 3-18-25. <https://bit.ly/450m7P8>*

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 Maryland Avenue at Washington Street with Tender 2. State the tactical assignment you would give them exactly as you would transmit it.
7. Engine 3 arrives and reports that they are Level 1 Maryland Avenue at Washington Street with Tender 3. 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 incident video (tall28guy, 2025) from 02:10 to 05:30 and examine Figure 10 before answering the next several questions.

Figure 10. Conditions After Water on the Fire



*Note: Adapted from tall28guy. (2025). Pre arrival house fire 100 Blk Beverly Ave Edgewater, Md 3-18-25. <https://bit.ly/450m7P8>*

15. The first arriving engine stretched a long 1 ¾" attack line on Side Charlie. Was this consistent with your initial action plan? If so, why did you choose this initial attack position? If not, why did you choose a different alternative?
  
16. After a second attack line was stretched on the Bravo/Charlie Corner, the first arriving engine advanced their attack line through side Charlie for fire control. What potential hazards could have been encountered operating in this attack position

The first arriving medic unit was tasked to a second attack line on Side Charlie and the second arriving engine advised IC #2 that they were entering Side Alpha (they also had an attack line). IC #2 advised the company entering through Side Alpha that the first arriving engine was in through Side Charlie. The first arriving ladder company advised IC #2 during response that they were responding from an out of position location (this location had an approximate 20 minute travel time to the incident).

17. How could the actions of the companies operating on and through Side Charlie and the company operating through Side Alpha be deconflicted and coordinated?
  
18. It is likely that it is standard procedure for the agency responding to this incident for ladder companies to perform primary search. The first arriving ladder company advised the IC they were entering through Side Alpha for search. Given that the ladder company indicated that they would have a delay in response (due to being out of position), how could the IC have addressed the need for primary search in a timelier manner?
  
19. If your company was assigned to establish the water tender fill site at 1669 Cliff Drive, how would you approach this assignment? Refer to Figures 3 through 5 for information on the layout and configuration of this water tender fill point.

**Additional Learning:** The Anne Arundel County Fire Department did an outstanding job in proactively addressing rural water supply as a critical factor in this incident. Actions included:

- Including additional engines and water tenders in the initial resource deployment.
- Upgrading to a working fire assignment prior to arrival based on multiple callers.
- Adding fire boats to the working fire assignment based on the proximity of the incident to Chesapeake Bay.
- Identification of a nearby open draft site for water supply and communicating this information over the radio during response.
- Early assignment of a separate talk ground for water supply.
- Pre-arrival assignment of a later arriving engine (5<sup>th</sup> due) as the tender fill site engine.
- Identification of the dump site at Washington Street and Maryland Avenue and laying a supply line from the dump site to the attack engine in anticipation of sustained rural water supply operations.
- Assigning travel routes for the engine assigned to the dump site, and water tenders based on the location of the supply line from the dump site to the attack engine.

If your agency has areas without fire hydrants, discuss your rural water supply standard operating guidelines and how the effectiveness and efficiency of rural water supply operations can be improved.

For the second part of additional learning, discuss with your crew how incident operations would have changed if the call taker had been unsuccessful in keeping the occupant from reentering the house to rescue the dog and the occupant was still inside when you arrived. Specifically address how this would have impacted your operations as the first arriving company, and assignments you would have made to the ladder company and second arriving engine (within the context of this 10-Minute Training). Would your incident action plan (IAP) have been the same as it was in this training or would it have been different? Why or why not?

## References

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