



In-Station Training

TM 26-28a Residential Fire



Author

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Purpose

Size-up and risk assessment must continue throughout the incident as changing conditions may require a strategic shift from offense to defense.

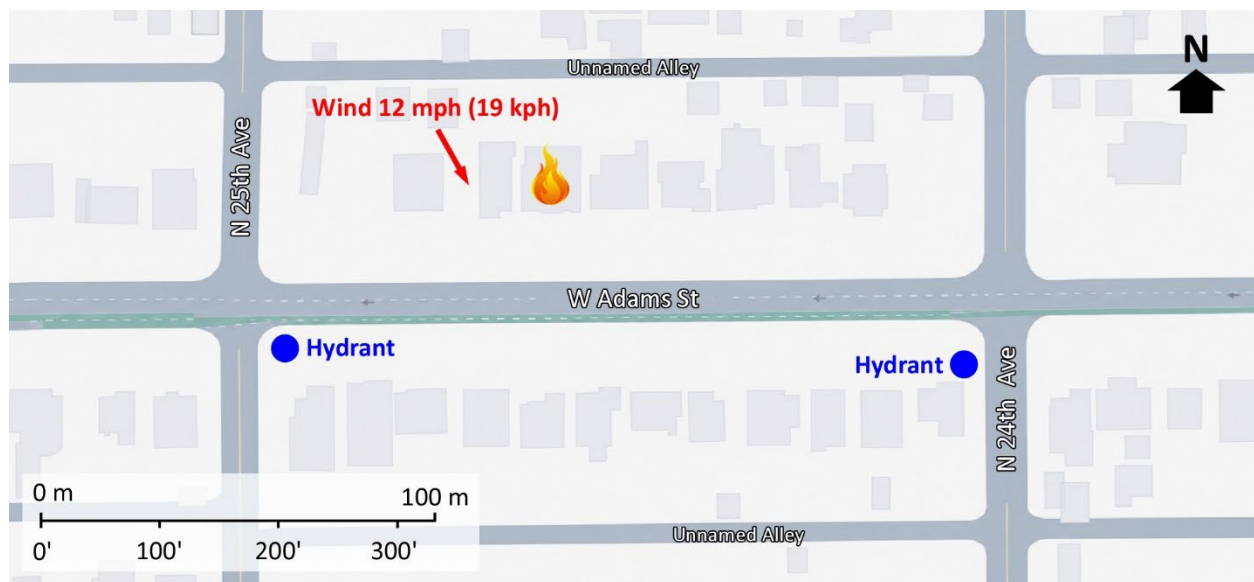
Learning Outcomes

Incident commanders demonstrate command presence, 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 2428 West Adams Street in Phoenix, Arizona on Sunday, June 28, 2026, at 01:07 (Key News Network, 2026; Newsflare, 2026; & AZ Valley News, 2026). Review the map and photos (Figures 1-6) to gain an understanding of the building and area involved.

Figure 1. Map of the Incident Area



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026a). [Map, 2428 West Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ]. Map data ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4vFx56Y>.

The closest hydrant is on West Adams Street at North 25th Avenue and another hydrant is located on North 24th Avenue at West Adams Street as illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 2. Aerial View



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026b). [Aerial view 2428 West Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ]. Imagery © Google, Imagery © Airbus Maxar Technologies, Map Data © 2026. <https://bit.ly/4bpoblT>.

Figure 3. Alpha/Bravo Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026c). [Street view 2428 West Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4fgXClc>.

Figure 4. Side Alpha



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026d). [Street view 2428 West Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4p8AZmE>.

Figure 5. Alpha/Delta Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026e). [Street view 2428 West Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4p0623l>,

Figure 6, Side Charlie 3D



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026f). [3d aerial view 2428 West Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ]. Imagery © Google, Imagery © Airbus Maxar Technologies, Map Data © 2026. <https://bit.ly/4bpoblT>.

The incident is in an older residential neighborhood. The area consists primarily of modest, closely spaced single-family homes on small lots arranged along a traditional street grid. Many of the homes in this area were constructed during the 1930s and 1940s. Residential occupancy includes both owner-occupied and rental housing. English and Spanish are both commonly spoken in the surrounding community (Open AI, 2026). Fire and emergency medical call volume in this area is typical of other residential neighborhoods in the community.

The temperature is currently 91° F (33° C) with wind from the north northwest at 12 mph (19 kph). (Weather Underground, 2026). It is Sunday, June 28th and you are dispatched to a **residential fire** at 2428 West Adams Street along with three engines, a ladder company, and a medic unit at 01:07. The engines and ladder have four-person staffing¹. **You are the command officer** and anticipate that you will arrive after the first two engines and ladder company. The remainder of the first alarm companies will arrive after you.

This [simulation video](#) (Hartin, 2026) provides prompts to pause the simulation and answer related questions. Each question has a brief prompt that appears in the simulation (e.g., the text “Critical Factors” is a prompt for question one. Click the link above or scan the QR code to access the incident simulation video.



¹ If your first alarm deployment is different, use your own resource assignment and staffing.



Time starts now! Answer the first nine questions within the next 10 minutes. Save discussion until after you have answered these questions.

1. What critical factors would you consider when dispatched and during response?
2. Based on the dispatch information and what you know about the response area, what do you anticipate finding on arrival?

You approach the incident location from the east on West Adams Street.

3. What actions will you take prior to contacting IC #1 (Engine 1) to begin command transfer?



Important! Answer questions four through nine in the form of communication you would have with dispatch and the companies operating at this incident. State the communications exactly as you would say them over the radio. Save explanation or discussion until after you have completed these questions.

4. State your command transfer communication after IC #1 acknowledges your radio contact (exactly as you would transmit it).

After contacting IC #1 for a command transfer and confirming the position and function of Engine 1, Ladder 1, and Engine 2, Engine 1 provides a CAN report.

5. State the communication you would have with IC #1 to initiate the command transfer exactly as you would transmit it

6. Continue the simulation to receive a CAN report from Engine 1 and then complete the command transfer stating the communication you would have with dispatch exactly as you would transmit it.

7. Would you initiate a strategic shift based on the CAN from Engine 1 and priority traffic message from Ladder 1. State the communication you would have with the companies operating in the hazard zone and dispatch exactly as you would transmit them.

8. Engine 3 arrives and reports that they are Level 1 on a hydrant on North 24th at West Adams. State the tactical assignment you would give them exactly as you would transmit it.

9. Medic 3 arrives and reports that they are Level 1 at North 24th at West Adams. State the tactical assignment you would give them exactly as you would transmit it.



Reflect on your strategic decision-making and responses to questions one through nine before answering the next eight questions. Think about what cues, patterns, or anomalies (differences from conditions that you would anticipate) informed your answers.

10. What information most influenced your expectations?
11. Did anything in the incident post-arrival challenge your initial expectations?
12. What was the actual problem once you arrived?
13. What were your tactical priorities and what was getting in the way of achieving them?
14. During initial operations, was there an immediate threat of serious injury or death to the members of the companies operating at this incident?
15. Was it reasonable to believe that the Main Fire Occupancy was occupied?
16. Was there searchable space?
17. If you believed there was searchable space and that it was reasonable that the building was occupied, what could you do about it?

Watch the incident video (Key News Network, 2026) to gain perspective on operations during this incident before answering the remaining questions.



One of the companies operating at this incident was operating an attack line from the roof (01:10 in the incident video).

18. What were the potential hazards of operating on the roof at this incident?
19. What factors influenced the effectiveness of the attack line that was operating from the roof?
20. After shifting to a defensive strategy, companies were operating an apparatus mounted master stream and multiple handlines for fire control. What factors likely influenced the IC's choice of defensive tactics? What alternative tactics may have been effective for defensive fire control?

Additional Learning

The “swamp cooler” (evaporative cooling system) and photovoltaic (PV) panels provided a substantial dead load on the roof of this house. Evaporative cooling systems are commonly used in hot, dry, climates encountered in the southwestern United States. The swamp cooler was likely installed when the house was constructed. However, given the age of the structure, the PV were likely added later, increasing the dead load imposed on the roof support system. While not having an adverse effect under normal conditions, this increased dead load has resulted in more rapid collapse under fire conditions.

Watch [*Photovoltaic Safety for Firefighters*](#) (LACoFD, 2020) for an overview of firefighter safety when working around residential and commercial photovoltaic (PV) installations.



Discuss the following with the companies you work with:

- Procedures for disconnecting power from PV systems.
- Hazards presented when working around PV panels.
- Tactical options during offensive and defensive firefighting operations at buildings with PV systems.

References

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