



In-Station Training

TM 26-30 Commercial Fire



Author

Chief Ed Hartin

Purpose

Exterior fires with potential to extend into structural void spaces require prompt action for fire control and to check for extension.

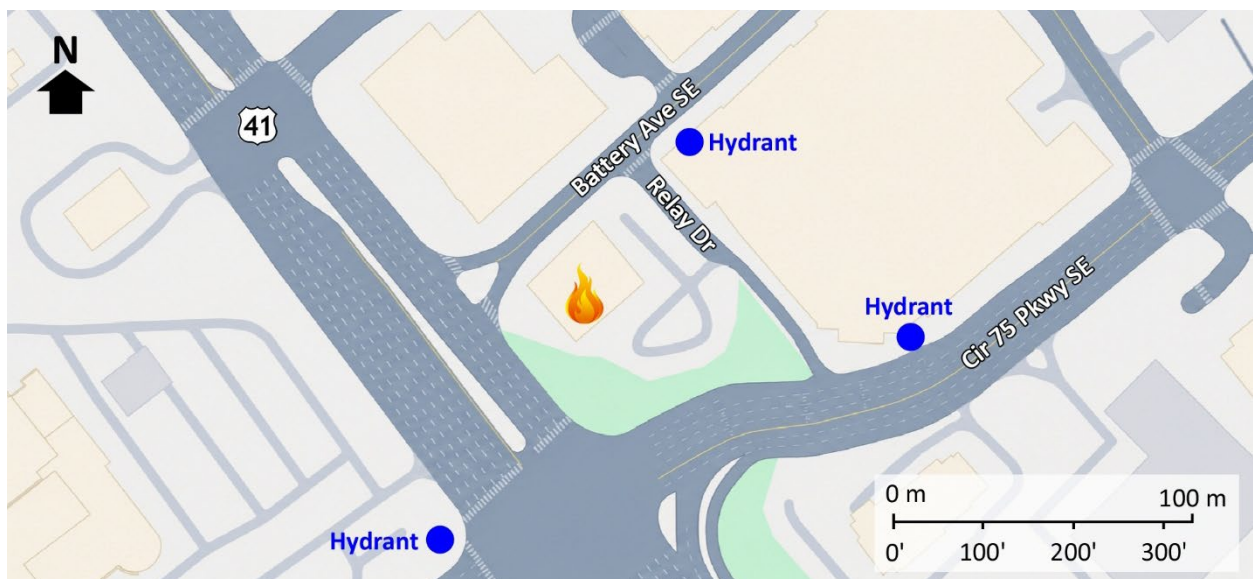
Learning Outcomes

Initial incident commanders 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 commercial fire at Xfinity, located at 945 Battery Ave SE in Atlanta, Georgia on Monday, December 29, 2024, at 10:28 (On Scene Atlanta, 2025 & CCFES, 2024). 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, 945 Battery Ave SE, Atlanta, GA]. Map data ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4ype4aA>.

The closest hydrant is at Battery Avenue Southeast and Relay Drive and there are other hydrants in the area as illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 2. Aerial View



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026b). [Aerial view 945 Battery Ave SE, Atlanta, GA]. Imagery © Google, Imagery © Airbus Maxar Technologies, Map Data © 2026. <https://bit.ly/4yki1NS>.

While this commercial occupancy is addressed off Battery Avenue SE, the main entrance faces the parking lot adjacent to Relay Drive.

Figure 3. Bravo/Charlie Corner (View from US Route 41)



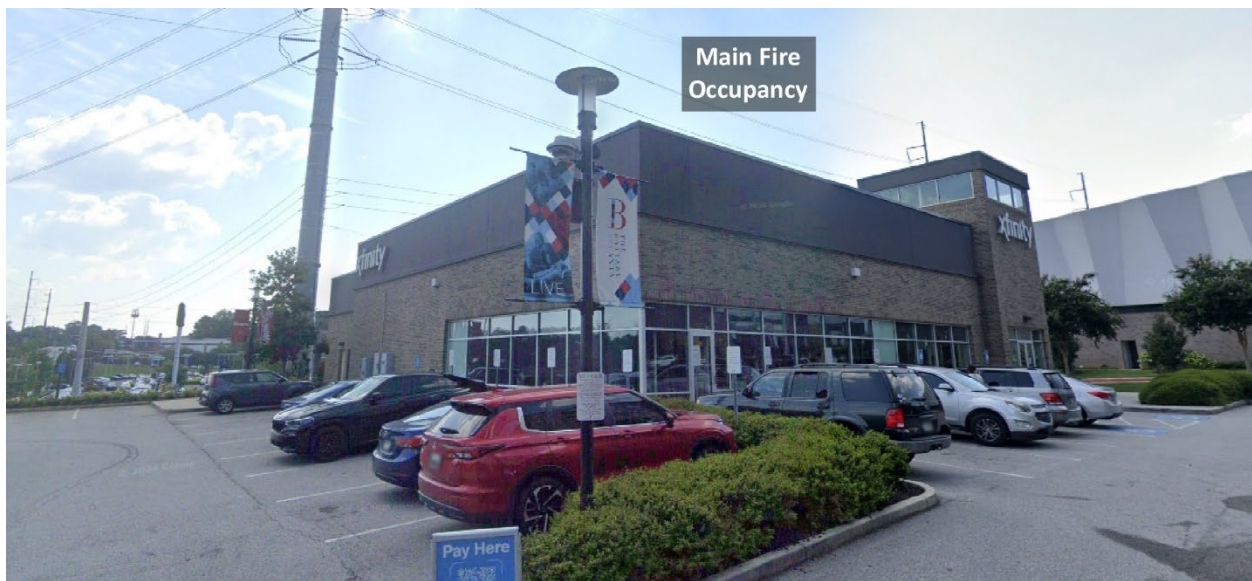
Note: Adapted from Google. (2024a). [Street view 945 Battery Ave SE, Atlanta, GA]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/44w6HAI>.

Figure 4. Alpha/Delta Corner (View from Relay Drive)



Note: Adapted from Google. (2024b). [Street view 945 Battery Ave SE, Atlanta, GA]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4fDHudG>.

Figure 5. Alpha/Bravo Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2024c). [Street view 945 Battery Ave SE, Atlanta, GA]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4wIX6SY>.

Figure 6. Side Bravo (Bravo/Charlie Corner)



Note: Adapted from Google. (2024d). [Street view 945 Battery Ave SE, Atlanta, GA]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4hfbApa>.

The incident is in The Battery, a modern mixed-use entertainment district adjacent to a major league ballpark outside the city in an urban area of the county. The immediate area includes commercial, entertainment, hotel, office, restaurant, and multifamily residential uses in planned high-density development. Most structures in the district were recently constructed associated with the ballpark-area redevelopment in the late 2010s. Nearby residential occupancies are primarily apartment buildings. English is the predominant language in the broader area, with some multilingual households reflecting the wider metro area population. (Open AI, 2026). Fire and emergency medical call volume in this area is typical of a mixed-use entertainment district in an urban area.

The temperature is currently 60° F (16° C) with wind from the south southwest at 8 mph (13 kph) (Weather Underground, 2024). It is Monday, December 29th and you are dispatched for a commercial fire at Xfinity, 945 Battery Ave SE at 10:28 along with four other engines, two ladder companies, medic unit, and two command officers. Your engine has four-person staffing¹. **You are the officer of the first arriving engine company.**



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

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

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

Dispatch advises that the caller reports that a lighted sign on the side of the building is on fire.

2. Based on the dispatch information and what you know about this occupancy and response area, what do you anticipate finding on arrival?



Important! Answer questions three through nine in the form of communication you would have with your crew, dispatch, other companies, and the first arriving command officer. State the communications exactly as you would say them face-to-face or over the radio. Save explanation or discussion until after you have completed these questions.

You will arrive from the southeast on Relay Drive. You anticipate the ladder company will arrive shortly after you, followed by the second arriving engine, and command officer. All other first alarm resources will arrive after the command officer. Examine Figure 7 and watch the first 00:10 of the [incident video](#) (On Scene Atlanta, 2025) illustrating conditions as you arrive.

Figure 7. Conditions on Arrival



Note: Adapted from On Scene Atlanta. (2025). *Firefighters quickly contain electrical fire at Xfinity store near Braves Stadium*. <https://bit.ly/4yoSCCM>

3. State your initial radio report (IRR) exactly as you would transmit it to dispatch.
4. 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?

Watch the [incident video](#) (On Scene Atlanta, 2025) from 00:10 to 00:18 to observe conditions on Side Bravo. Click the link or scan the QR code to access the video. No smoke or flames are visible from any area of the building other than those illustrated in the video.



5. Would you change the action you are taking or modify the assignments given to your crew? If so, what task orders would you provide?
6. State your follow up report exactly as you would transmit it to dispatch.
7. Ladder 1 arrives and reports that they are Level 1 on Relay Drive at Circle 75 Parkway. State the tactical assignment you would give them exactly as you would transmit it.
8. Engine 2 arrives and reports that they are Level 1 on a hydrant on Battery Ave Southeast. State the tactical assignment you would give them exactly as you would transmit it.
9. Based on 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 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 you, your crew, or other companies?
15. Was it reasonable to believe that the building 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 remainder of the [incident video](#) (On Scene Atlanta, 2025). Click the link or scan the QR code to access the video. Engine 19 stretched an attack line for fire control, Truck 19 checked for extension on the roof, and Engine 4 was tasked with checking for extension on the interior. No extension was found (CCFES).



18. Was your initial incident action plan in this 10-Minute Training like or different than the initial actions taken by Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services in this incident? What critical factors influenced your choice of strategy and initial tactics?
19. What action did you take (or would you have taken) to address the electrical hazard presented by the lighted sign? Would this be an issue of concern for water application, for overhaul, or both?

Additional Learning

It is important to understand electrical hazards that can be encountered on the fireground (and in other emergency response contexts). Water application, even if involving typical energized electrical equipment like the sign in this incident is unlikely to present an electrical shock hazard, particularly when using a narrow fog pattern as done by Engine 19. However, overhaul operations may present risk of contact with energized electrical equipment and likely will require that power to the involved area be shut off. With limited fire involvement such as in this incident, this may simply involve shutting off specific circuit breakers.

Watch the [Fire Engineering \(2019ab\) Video](#) of Vito Babrauskas discussing electrical hazards during firefighting and for a deeper dive into this topic read [Water Streams, Power Lines, and Shock: How Serious a Hazard?](#) (Fire Engineering, 2019). Note that a subscription to *Fire Engineering* is required to read the on-line article.



Discuss the following with your crew:

- Hazards presented by typical building electrical wiring during fire suppression operations.
- Your agency's procedures for electric utility control on the fireground.

References

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