



In-Station Training

TM 26-31 Residential Fire



Author

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Purpose

Fires involving means of egress require prompt action to control the “ways” stairways, hallways and other pathways of egress and entry (Bonnifield, 2026).

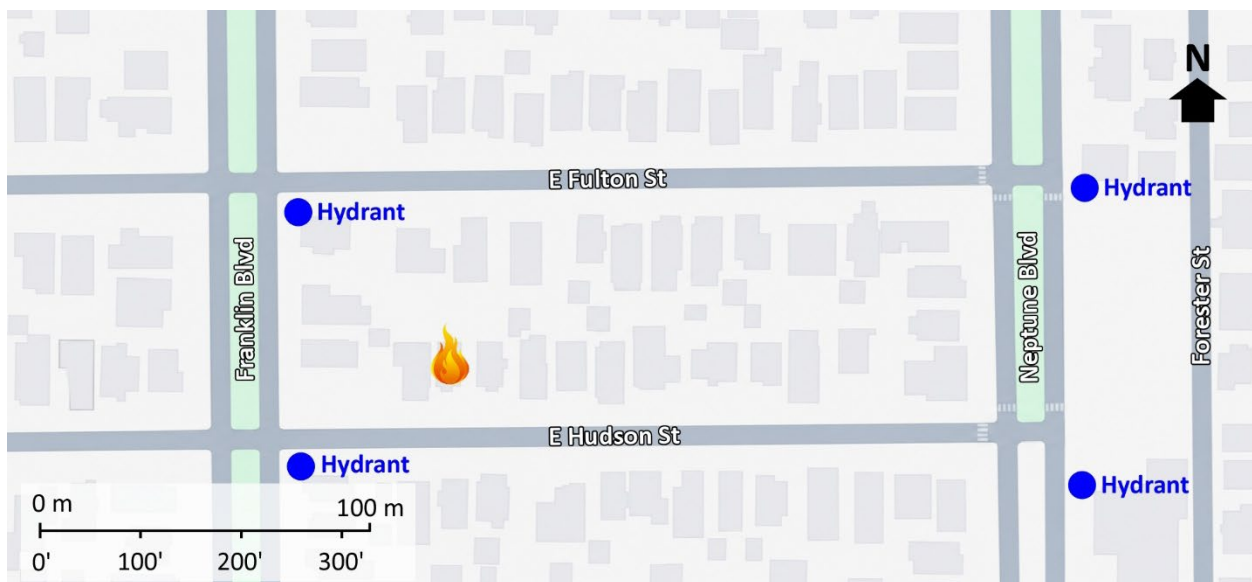
Learning Outcomes

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 residential fire at 517 E Hudson Street in Long Beach New York on Sunday, November 9, 2025, at 05:32 (Kayne, 2025a, 2025b & Warshavsky, 2025). 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, 517 E Hudson Street, Long Beach New York]. Map data ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4yFnv61>.

The closest hydrant is on East Hudson Street at Franklin Boulevard and there are other hydrants in the area as illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 2. Aerial View



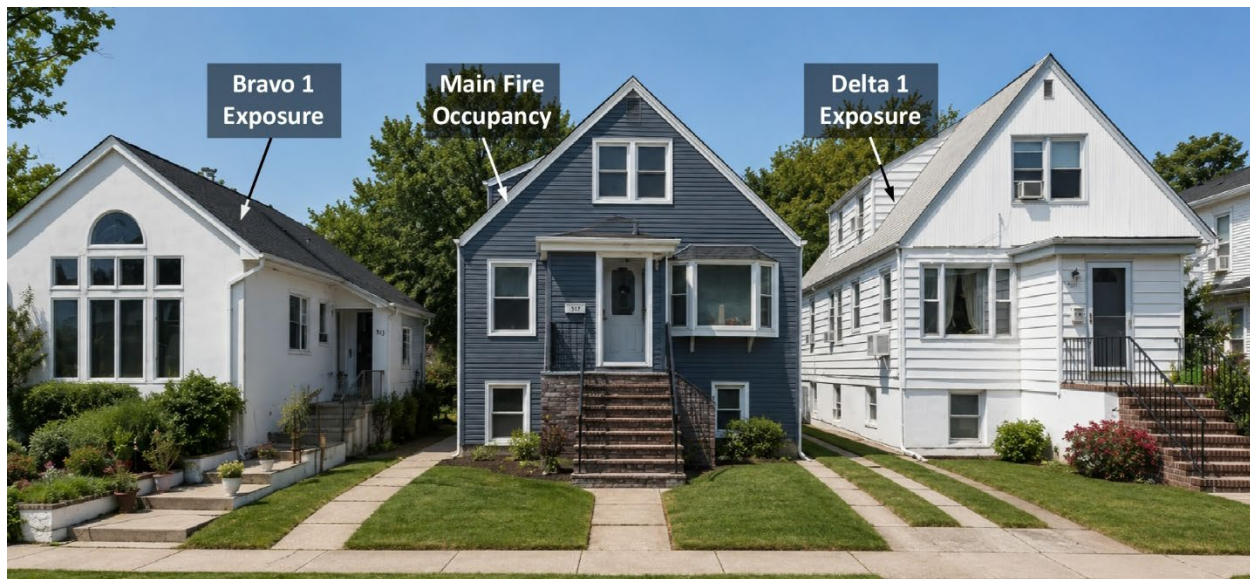
Note: Adapted from Google. (2026b). [Aerial view 517 E Hudson Street, Long Beach New York]. Imagery © Google, Imagery © Airbus Maxar Technologies, Map Data © 2026. <https://bit.ly/4hule6g>.

Figure 3. Alpha/Bravo Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026c). [3d aerial view 517 E Hudson Street, Long Beach New York]. ©2026 Google <https://bit.ly/4yLIFki>; Google. (2024a) [Street view 517 E Hudson Street, Long Beach New York]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/44OVmM9>; & Kayne. (2025a). *Pre arrival* working house fire Long Beach New York. Working fire for 517 E Hudson St. 05:35:50 [video screen capture]. <https://bit.ly/4wmVM8H>. Image created with ChatGPT 5.5, DALL-E. Open Ai, (2026).

Figure 4. Side Alpha



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026d). [3d aerial view 517 E Hudson Street, Long Beach New York]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4x0vSr9> & Kayne. (2025a). *Pre arrival* working house fire Long Beach New York. Working fire for 517 E Hudson St. 05:35:50 [video screen capture]. <https://bit.ly/4wmVM8H>. Image created with ChatGPT 5.5, DALL-E]. Open Ai, (2026).

Figure 5. Alpha/Delta Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026e). [3d aerial view 517 E Hudson Street, Long Beach New York]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4wgbcvk>. Google (2024b). [Street view 517 E Hudson Street, Long Beach New York]. <https://bit.ly/4x1mkfs> & Kayne. (2025a). *Pre arrival* working house fire Long Beach New York. Working fire for 517 E Hudson St. 05:35:50 [video screen capture]. <https://bit.ly/4wmVM8H>. Image created with ChatGPT 5.5, DALL-E]. Open Ai, (2026).

Figure 6. Charlie/Delta Corner



Note: Adapted from Google. (2026f). [3d aerial view 517 E Hudson Street, Long Beach New York]. ©2026 Google. <https://bit.ly/4bMjk9V>. Image edited for clarity with ChatGPT 5.5, DALL·E]. Open Ai, (2026).

The incident is in a compact suburban residential neighborhood. The area consists primarily of closely spaced single-family and two-family homes on small lots, with some multifamily housing nearby. Much of the housing in this part of the city reflects mid-20th-century residential development, along with later renovation and replacement. Residential occupancy is predominantly owner-occupied, with a smaller percentage of rental housing. English is the predominant language, with some households speaking languages other than English. (Open AI, 2026). Fire and emergency medical call volume in this area is typical of other areas of the community.

The temperature is currently 55° F (13° C) with wind from the south southwest at 8 mph (13 kph) (Weather Underground, 2025). It is Sunday, November 9th, at 05:32 and you are dispatched for a residential fire in the 500 block of East Hudson Street, along with two other engines, a ladder company, medic unit, and command officer. Your engine has four-person staffing¹. **You are the officer of the first arriving engine company.**

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 ten minutes. Save discussion until after you have answered these questions.

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

Dispatch provides an updated location as 517 E Hudson Street and advises that this occupancy is a duplex (two-family house).

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 west on East Hudson Street. 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 [incident video](#) (Kayne, 2025a) from 00:05 to 00:25 illustrating conditions as you arrive.

Figure 7. Conditions on Arrival



Note: Adapted from Kayne. (2025a). *Pre arrival* working house fire Long Beach New York. Working fire for 517 E Hudson St. 05:35:50 [video]. <https://bit.ly/4wmVM8H>

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?

Initially you are unable to access Side Bravo due to fire conditions, There is no appreciable smoke from the eaves on Side Delta and a small amount of smoke issuing from the gable vent on Side Charlie at low velocity. An occupant of the upstairs unit reported that he escaped through a window and that his father, who was the other occupant of the unit, is not home. The occupants of the lower unit report that they are all out of the house.

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 East Hudson Street at Franklin Boulevard. 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 Neptune Boulevard just south of East Hudson Street. 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 [incident video](#) (Kayne. 2025b) from 01:35 to 05:05 showing arrival and initial incident operations. Click the link or scan the QR code to access the video. The first arriving engine dropped a hose bundle and reverse laid from the Main Fire Occupancy to the Hydrant on Neptune Boulevard. The second arriving engine stopped at the hydrant on East Hudson Street at Franklin Boulevard and stretched a second attack line. A ladder company arriving from the west positioned on Side Alpha.



18. While the hose deployment by the first two engines kept Side Alpha open for the ladder company, what impact did these tactics have on the time taken to get effective water on the fire?

19. What is an alternative tactical approach that would still provide access to Side Alpha for the ladder company, but would reduce the time to get effective water on the fire?

Additional Learning

As previously discussed in 10-Minute Training 25-08 Residential Fire (Hartin, 2025), reverse lay by the first arriving engine is a tactic that is commonly used by the Fire Department of the City of New York (FDNY, 2021). The tactics used by FDNY are based on their operating environment. With closely spaced hydrants and the frequent need to stretch to upper floors of multi-story buildings, use of a reverse lay may not delay effective water on the fire. Use of a reverse lay also maximizes the space available for

positioning aerial apparatus in front of the building. In surrounding counties, many fire departments have adopted the same tactics, despite having a different operating environment.

Discuss the following water supply options with the members of your crew. Which are used by your agency, and which are not? Think about why. Because it's what we do is not a good answer. Think about why you do what you do. Which of these options support quick water on the fire? How does context impact on your water supply tactics?

- **Forward Lay:** First arriving engine forward lays from a hydrant, operates from tank supply, and changes over to the supply line once it is charged to establish a continuous water supply.
- **Dry Forward Lay:** First arriving engine lays a dry supply line from a hydrant, operates from tank supply, and a later arriving unit makes the hydrant connection or establishes a relay from the hydrant to establish a continuous water supply.
- **Dry Forward Lay from the Street:** First arriving engine lays a dry supply line from the street down a driveway or dead end road, operates from tank supply, and a later arriving engine reverse lays to a hydrant to establish a continuous water supply (split lay).
- **Reverse Lay (First Arriving Engine):** The first arriving engine drops a hose bundle and reverse lays to a hydrant, supplies the attack line from tank water and makes hydrant connections to establish a continuous water supply.
- **Reverse Lay (Later Arriving Engine):** The first arriving engine operates from tank supply and a later arriving engine reverse lays from the first arriving engine to a hydrant and make hydrant connection or establishes a relay from the hydrant to establish a continuous water supply.
- **Use of Tank Water:** The first arriving engine operates from tank supply, and the second arriving engine provides their tank water to the first arriving engine (aka "booster backup") and a later arriving engine establishes a continuous water supply from a hydrant.

These tactics are all framed in the context of working in a hydranted area. If you have areas without hydrants or your entire response area is without hydrants, consider which of these tactics integrate with the use of water tenders in tender shuttle or nurse tender operations.

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