



# Carroll County Department of Fire & EMS

## Standard Operating Procedure

### DOCUMENT DETAILS

<b>Standard Operating Procedure: 4.2.2</b>	<b>Effective Date: 9/22/2025</b>
<b>Subject: Hydrant Running Assignment</b>	<b>Section: Fire/ Rescue Operations</b>
<b>Authorized: Deputy Chief Paul Supko</b>	<b>Revision Date: N/A</b>

**Applicability:**      ☒ Volunteer      ☒ Career

### I. PURPOSE

To identify the unit responsibilities for units arriving on “Structure” or “Box” assignments in Hydranted areas in Carroll County, MD

Units responding late or not responding will change the running assignments – We must look at the running assignments listed below as a list of tasks which are guided by arrival order

### II. DEFINITIONS

Definitions for this procedure are covered in the IMS & Fireground Communications policies.

### III. PROCEDURES

**Unit assignments for the hydrant structure fire SOP are based on order of arrival which must be announced by radio when a unit arrives and assumes the responsibility's other than which they were dispatched.**

**IC and unit officers have the responsibility to communicate any deviations to this policy via radio**

#### **Response in a Hydrant Area:**

##### **A. First Due Engine Responsibilities - During Response**

1. **Identify water supply:** The first due engine shall identify a primary hydrant and relay the location to the second due engine. The second due engine shall acknowledge by using the order model. If the second due engine has not responded. Carroll ECC will ensure the second due engine is aware of the hydrant location.

- a. If the first due engine responds late this responsibility falls to the responding first due Command officer to ensure a water supply is identified.
2. Relay specific instructions to responding units
  - a. Layout instructions, The first due engine will give the layout instructions to the second engine company.
  - b. Running route, the first due engine may need to verbalize which direction they are approaching from and direct the later arriving units.

Ex. *"E123 to Tower 12 come in Becket Rd. to Tydings Rd we will be stopping short"*.

- c. Identify if the Medic unit will be used for suppression staffing if so, replace the unit. This should happen as early as possible in the incident.

## **B. First Arriving Engine**

1. **Unit** – Begins the water supply process by laying a supply line from the closest fire hydrant or split laying to side Alpha or most appropriate location for fire attack. Reserve adequate space for the first aerial. Connect to the Fire Department Connection and/or standpipe, if closest to this side. (Advise the **IC** when FDC and/or standpipe is charged.)
2. **Unit Officer** – If positioning is not on side Alpha advise other units via the radio, transmit a **BIR**, establish or pass command if not in place, conduct a **360**, advise if the structure has a basement and report initial conditions of the basement and the location of any exterior basement entrance if indicated, request additional resources, identify a **"2-out" team**. The unit officer will then identify the **strategic mode** and transmit an entry report.

**Basement Fires: Whenever fire is determined to be below the primary entry grade Ex.: a basement fire the initial attack should be made from the exterior basement entrance if there is one and access to it is reasonable Refer to SOP 4.2.4 Basement Fires.**

3. **Crew** – Advance the appropriate size primary attack line to the fire floor/entry point, force entry, and control the door. No crew will make entry until a 360 report has been completed. Begin fire attack/confinement, rescue victims, protect exposures as appropriate.

4. **Equipment** – All personnel must wear full **PPE**. Equipment should include portable radios, tools, hand lights, hose, **TIC**, and other equipment appropriate for the construction of the structure and the tactics being deployed.

### C. Second Arriving Engine

1. **Unit** – Ensure the completion of, and expand, the water supply for the first arriving engine. Position the unit at the first engine's water supply.
2. **Unit Officer** - Establish command if not in place or assume command if indicated by first due engine.
3. **Crew**- Immediately establish a “**2-out**” team. If a “**2-out**” team is already in place, assist the first engine with deploying the primary attack line if needed, advance a second attack line unless directed otherwise by command. Prepare to perform a primary search/rescue of victims if no aerial or rescue squad is on the scene and occupants are known to be trapped. Begin checking for extension once bulk of fire is knocked down.
4. **Equipment** – All personnel must wear full **PPE**. Equipment should include portable radios, tools, hand lights, hose, **TIC**, and other equipment appropriate for the construction of the structure and the tactics being deployed.

### D. Third Arriving Engine

1. **Unit** – Communicate and secure a second water supply by laying a supply line from the next closest fire hydrant or split laying to side Charlie or most appropriate location opposite the first due engine, leaving room for the second aerial device. Connect to the Fire Department Connection and/or standpipe, if closest to this side. (Advise the **IC** when FDC/ standpipe is charged.)
2. **Officer** - Give a **BIR** for Side Charlie or side opposite first due engine if possible. Deploy additional attack line to side Charlie or the exposure. Complete a **360** of the structure if not completed by the first arriving officer.
3. **Crew** – Deploy the appropriate size/length attack line to side Charlie, the floor above the fire or the next appropriate exposure and begin fire attack/confinement, rescue victims, protect exposures as appropriate.

4. **Equipment** – All personnel must wear full **PPE**. Equipment should include portable radios, tools, hand lights, **TIC**, hose, and other hand tools appropriate for the construction of the structure and the tactics being deployed.

#### **E. Fourth Arriving Engine**

1. **Unit** – Park away from the scene, Assume **RIT**. When the fifth due engine fails to respond, ensure the completion of, or expand, if necessary, the water supply for the third arriving engine.
2. **Unit Officer** – Become the **RIT** and perform a RIT 360 size-up of the structure to rescue downed firefighters if needed. (Unit officer will be **RIT** officer, will advise the **IC** when **RIT** is in place.)
3. **Crew** –Position at the best access for potential rescue. Appropriate RIT equipment and a hose line. (If possible the hose line should be from secondary unit. Not primary attack engine.) The RIT crew will maintain crew integrity and work to soften the structure in preparation for a rescue. Relieve the initial **Two-Out**. (Apparatus drivers will dress and support crew with **RIT** duties if not needed for water supply.)
4. **Equipment** – All personnel must wear full **PPE**. Equipment should include portable radios, **TIC**, tools, hand lights, hose, saws, search rope, ladders and designated RIT Tools, Spare RIT air, and other equipment appropriate for the construction of the structure and the tactics being deployed.

#### **F. Fifth Arriving Engine**

1. **Unit** - Ensure the completion of, or expand, if necessary, the water supply for the third arriving engine. Assist with or complete any water supply issues as necessary, otherwise remain in an uncommitted location.
2. **Crew** – Will be prepared to stretch a long line to the opposite side of where the first due engine crew made entry. Report to the command post and stand by for assignment. (Apparatus drivers will dress and support crew if not needed for water supply).
3. **Equipment** - All personnel must wear full PPE. Equipment should include portable radios, tools, hand lights, hose, TIC, and other equipment appropriate for the construction of the structure and the tactics being deployed.

#### **G. First Arriving Aerial**

1. **Unit** – Position on side Alpha or on side of the first engine
2. **Crew** – Provide forced entry, provide secondary/emergency means of egress with ground ladders, primary search, and rescue of occupants, provide coordinated ventilation with the attack crew, secure utilities, assist with salvage, overhaul, and lighting, utilize the aerial to gain access to the roof or most appropriate floor and communicate their conditions to the IC.
3. **Equipment** – All personnel must wear full PPE. Equipment should include, portable radios, ladders, tools, hand lights, TIC and other equipment appropriate for the construction of the structure and the tactics being deployed.

#### **H. Second Arriving Aerial (if dispatched)**

1. **Unit** – Position on side Charlie or opposite first arriving truck if accessible
2. **Crew** – Support forced entry and coordinated ventilation, if necessary, provide secondary/emergency means of egress with ground ladders, utilize the aerial to gain access to the roof or most appropriate floor and communicate their conditions to the IC, assist with primary search of occupants, if necessary, utilities, and perform secondary search.
3. **Equipment** – All personnel must wear full PPE. Equipment should include portable radios, ladders, tools, hand lights, TIC and other equipment appropriate for the construction of the structure and the tactics being deployed.

#### **I. First Arriving Rescue Squad (if dispatched)**

1. **Unit** – Position on side Alpha, if possible, but out of the way. Provide scene lighting if necessary. Will position as the second arriving Special Service if the first due aerial is already on scene.
2. **Crew** – Perform duties of the first arriving aerial when the rescue squad is first on scene. When not first on scene, report to the command post for assignment.

3. **Equipment** – All personnel must wear full **PPE**. Equipment should include portable radios, tools, hand lights, **TIC** and other equipment appropriate for the construction of the structure and the tactics being deployed.

**J. First Arriving EMS Transport Unit**

1. The first due medic unit shall be fully prepared to supplement the first due engine as staffing.
2. **Unit** – Shall be parked out of the way and in a position to transport patients.
3. **Crew** – Identify and assess the welfare of any occupants and provide aid and shelter if needed. Prepare to transport injured firefighters and/or civilians if needed. Establish an Aid and or Rehab Station if directed by the **IC**. Support the **IC** as required. If the crew is assigned as the “**2-out**” team, they must dress in full PPE and be positioned at the entry point. Once the second due engine arrives and is in place the EMS crew should transition back to the first arriving EMS duties.
4. **Equipment** – Litter, oxygen equipment, **AED**, Aid-Bag, towels, ice packs, water cooler and cups, appropriate level of **PPE**.

**K. EMS Chase Cars, Medic Units & POV responses**

1. **Unit** – Position out of the way not to impede responding apparatus.
2. **Crew** – If arriving first, provide a BIR and 360 Report. If assuming command members will be held to the same expectations as other command officers.
3. **Cancelling Units** – If cancelling or downgrading units prior to the arrival of an officer, a situation report must be provided to the responding command officer, along with a request for approval.
4. Additional arriving duty officers, utilities and POV's will not engage in incident operations without being included in an entry report or reporting to the command post for assignment.

**L. First Arriving Command Officer (with command vehicle)**

1. **Stationary Command Post** - Must attempt to position in a way that allows a view of at least two sides of the structure from the command post.
2. Chief Officers will not assume command until a transfer of command has been conducted. The transfer of command shall include confirming where companies are operating and the number of personnel in the crew. This can be accomplished through CAN reports.
3. Must use a tactical worksheet to track the incident objectives, resource allocation, number of personnel in the structure and progress towards established objectives.
4. Must ensure that the changes in strategy are deliberate and communicated.
5. When assuming command announce the location of the command post and provide a verbal transfer of command radio report listing the current incident operations.

**M. Rapid Intervention Dispatch Assignment**

**1. Engine and Special Service**

- a. **Units** - Position out of the way and report to the **RIT** officer and fill out the **RIG**. The fourth arriving engine officer shall be the **RIG** officer.
- b. **Crew** - Report to the **RIT** and assist with filling out as the **RIG**. (All personnel arriving on the **RID** will be used for the **RIG**).
- c. **Equipment** - All personnel must wear full **PPE**. Equipment should include portable radios, **TIC**, tools, hand lights, hose, RIT pack for emergency air, tools for RIT, stokes basket, saws, and other equipment appropriate tools for the construction of the structure and the tactics being deployed.

**2. Rapid Intervention ALS Unit**

- a. **Unit** - Position out of the way in a location where the crew can transport an injured firefighter if necessary.

- b. **Crew** -Report to the **RIG** officer (Fourth arriving Engine)
- c. **Equipment** – Full **PPE** as needed, Litter (Stretcher), oxygen, ALS equipment, **AED**, Aid Bag, and other appropriate equipment.

#### IV. RECISION

This Standard Operating Procedure rescinds all directives regarding Hydrant Running Assignments or similar content previously issued for personnel of the Carroll County Department of Fire & EMS.

#### V. RELATED STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES / DOCUMENTS

- A. Policy 4.1.1 Incident Management System
- B. Policy 4.1.2 Communications
- C. Policy 4.2.1 Structural Fire Fighting

#### VI. ATTACHMENTS

**Hydrant SOP Q Card**