

# Springdale Fire Department

## Policy & Procedures Manual

### Volume 2 – Operations

#### Section 203 – Fire Operations

##### 203.3 – Pre-Assigned Tasks at Residential Structure Fires

The following procedure identifies pre-assigned tasks for personnel and units based on general circumstances at residential structure fires and residential structure fire automatic alarm responses. This procedure includes pre-assigned tasks through a Level III Alarm.

Personnel have the option to deviate from these pre-assigned tasks, on a case by case basis, provided there is justification for such deviation. It is the responsibility of all personnel to clearly communicate their intentions to deviate from normal pre-assigned tasks and to communicate what task(s) personnel deviating from normal pre-assignments are taking.

The Incident Commander or, in the case of units responding but not yet arrived on scene the ranking officer responding, has the authority to modify these pre-assignments and to make task assignments in the manner that best suits the needs of the particular incident.

Regardless of whether pre-assigned tasks are followed or if changes are made, it is extremely vital that all personnel maintain crew integrity. Freelancing by personnel is strictly prohibited.

##### **First Arriving Engine Company (First Due)**

The first arriving engine company will function as the Fire Attack Engine and therefore shall position to best advance attack lines while still providing aerial access. At most incidents, all initial attack lines will operate from this engine.

If the Incident Command is not already established by an officer on scene, the first arriving company officer shall assume Command, usually in the “Fast Attack” or “Investigative” mode. The company officer will retain Command unless properly relieved by another officer who establishes a command post to operate in the “Command” mode for the remainder of the incident.

Responsibilities of the first arriving officer on scene include communicating an initial size up of the situation found, developing a more thorough evaluation of the incident’s current conditions by performing a three or four sided “walk around” of the structure, evaluating potential need for rescue, considering threat to exposures, evaluating whether the situation is such that additional units may be needed or if the current response may be reduced, and establishing an Initial Incident Action Plan. The company officer shall then communicate a more detailed report of the situation and announce the Initial Incident Action Plan.

##### **Second Arriving Engine Company (Second Due)**

The second arriving engine company will establish a water supply for the attack engine for working fires. This engine shall place a supply hose in service as indicated by the situation. Considerations should include location and availability of hydrants, distance from the hydrant to the attack engine, and whether the water supply should be “laid in” or “reversed out”.

Upon completion of establishing the water supply, this company should immediately report to Command, “water supply established” and unless given another assignment, the company will

proceed to establish an additional attack line or a safety line to backup an attack line unless otherwise directed by Command. If the supply hose is “reversed out” and this company is staffed with three personnel, the company officer and firefighter should establish the additional attack line or safety line while the driver completes the lay out and connects the supply line to the hydrant.

On working fires where a Truck Company was the First Arriving Company and has taken the role of Attack Engine, the second arriving engine company (not the water supply engine) should group together with the Rescue 1 crew and assume the responsibilities of a truck company as stated below.

On “nothing showing” incidents, the second arriving engine company should preposition the apparatus to either “reverse out” to the appropriate hydrant or stage the engine at an appropriate hydrant to “lay in” if the need for a supply line develops. In this case (where the engine is staged, the entire crew will remain with the apparatus. The company shall communicate their status for example as: “on scene, staged at the hydrant” or “on scene, staged for a reverse lay out.”

### **Third Arriving Engine Company (Third Due)**

On Level III working fires, the third arriving engine company is to stage the apparatus in a safe location near the scene unless ordered by Command to position and utilize the engine otherwise. This company’s personnel are to advise Command of their apparatus staging location and unless otherwise directed, report to the personnel staging area.

On Level III alarms with “nothing showing”, the third arriving engine company should stage the apparatus a block or two away from the incident scene and advise Command of their availability and their apparatus staging location (personnel remain with the apparatus).

### **Truck Company**

In the event a Truck Company arrives on scene well ahead of an engine company, it should assume the responsibilities of the first arriving engine company and as such, will follow the procedure identified above for first arriving engine company. The truck should position appropriately for usage of the aerial, ladders, tools, lights, etc.

On “nothing showing” incidents, the truck company should assist the first arriving engine company with investigation, if needed.

**TRUCK 1:** For working fires, Truck 1 personnel will merge with the crew from Rescue 1 and form into two separate crews. The Truck 1 captain, Truck 1 firefighter(s) and the Rescue 1 passenger will assemble as an interior crew. The Truck 1 driver/operator and the Rescue 1 driver will form an exterior crew.

**TRUCK 6:** For working fires, Truck 6 personnel will merge with the crew from Rescue 1 and form into two separate crews. The Truck 6 captain and Truck 6 firefighter(s) will assemble as an interior crew. The Truck 6 driver/operator and the Rescue 1 crew will form an exterior crew.

Truck company interior crew responsibilities include performing forcible entry, performing search & rescue, assessing, limiting, and if necessary controlling the fire’s extension, and performing salvage and overhaul.

Truck company exterior crew responsibilities include establishing ventilation (vertical or horizontal as indicated), laddering, control of utilities, placing lights in service, and other support activities as indicated.

**First Arriving Squad (First Due Squad)**

The first arriving squad will group together with the first arriving engine company and work as directed under the supervision of the company officer.

**Second Arriving Squad (Second Due Squad)**

On Level III Incidents the second arriving squad will stage the squad with the third arriving engine and advise Command of their availability.

If the incident is a working fire, the squad crew shall proceed to the personnel staging area.