

First Due Incident Command

Discussion

The Incident Commander (IC) is responsible for all facets of an emergency operation. Some departments will have the first arriving company assume IC role while others have a dedicated or assigned IC (Battalion Chief) as part of every response. Regardless of who the IC is, the responsibility for the entire operation lies with them. The determination of initial incident actions and strategy are one of the first duties to be performed. Crew safety and integrity are the key determining factors in each decision that is made. IC will have 3 typical Command Modes; Nothing Showing, Fast Attack or Command Mode, each which has distinct locations of IC as well as functions that are performed. Using this sample incident, review the IC responsibility questions according to your department procedures and incorporate any mutual aid level procedures that will apply to this incident.

Incident Location: (Insert location for sample incident)

Fire Attack Strategy: Offensive, Unknown Occupants, No initial exposures

Fire Line - Do Not Cross - Fire Line - Do Not Cross - Fire Line - Do Not Cross - Fire Line - Do Not Cross -

Incident Commander Responsibilities

- List the entire Full Still Alarm response assignment to this incident
- Where would you position upon arrival
- What will your radio report be based upon
 - ◇ You being the first on the scene
- What is your strategy for this incident
 - ◇ How do you declare this strategy
- What are your first actions
- What assignment do you have for the ambulance due to the incident
- What resources do you need
- What radio channel will this incident run on?
- What other channels must you monitor during this incident
- How is accountability handled for this incident
 - ◇ How is it maintained
- What command structure will you put in place for this incident
- What assignments may you have for the mutual aid companies due to this incident
- What ICS positions must be filled
- How will you monitor the effectiveness of this operation
 - ◇ What are some key indicators for this
 - ◇ What benchmarks do you need to establish
- Describe your risk vs. benefit analysis of this incident
- What time benchmarks will you utilize at this incident

Command Modes

- **Nothing Showing**
 - ◇ Investigate situation
 - ◇ Hold/Slow other companies
- **Fast Attack**
 - ◇ Command on the move with crews
 - ◇ Pass Command to next in after their arrival
- **Command Mode**
 - ◇ Assume Command position at vantage point



Assume that this incident is within your district and you are the Incident Commander for the duration of the incident.