

Primary and Secondary Search

Review procedures for conducting search and rescue operations.

- What factors are considered when determining the location(s) of a primary search
 - What areas of a building are searched first
- What incident factors may help you determine a direction or location to begin your search
 - Explain the role of Thermal Imaging in primary and secondary search

Primary Search: Quick attempt to locate victims who are in danger

- Time is critical.
- Check all areas where victims might be.
- Rely on sight, sound, and touch.
- Use hand tools to extend your reach.
- Check probable areas that are tenable and safe for you to search quickly



Secondary Search: Thorough search conducted after the situation is under control.

- Locates victims not discovered in primary search
- Completed when conditions improve but may still present hazards; IDLH?
- Slow and methodical covering all areas
- Use several teams of firefighters
- Include all areas of the building

