

Tactical Developments

The following are examples of developments that will occur during the course of an incident. They are designed to measure a candidate's ability to recognize situational awareness. It is important that the candidate not only recognize the development, but have an appropriate action plan to handle them.

The development is identified in bold lettering and the expectation of the candidate follows.

Initial unit on scene gives incomplete size up and does not assume command.

Poor initial actions

- Give updated/accurate size up
- Name and claim command
- Order appropriate resources
- Identify any significant hazards and make overhead broadcast to incoming units
- Develop action plan
- Declare strategy
 - BC candidates need to consider the following AFTER the incident:
 - Develop a training program
 - Coaching and mentoring
 - Have him or her conduct drill on initial report (size ups) and initial actions
 - Document poor performance

Engine 1 reports that their supply line from the hydrant has been run over by a vehicle.

Supply line run over

- Notify anyone who is on a hoseline that is being pumped by Engine 1
- Have another engine lay a line to E1
- Engineer hand jacks a supply line to hydrant with help
- Request PD for street closure

The school to the North states they have smoke on the playground.

Smoke on playground

- Direct dispatch to tell the school there is a structure fire in the area and to shelter the children in the classroom.
- No immediate danger.
- Send a PD unit to the school for PR.

Crews operating in the rear state they have wires down.

Wires down

- Request power company
- Overhead broadcast to all on incident
- Direct that the area be cordoned off to all personnel
- Designate a safety officer (if not already done)
- Considering closing off the area to ALL firefighters if the area cannot be made “safe”

The interior crews state the heat is increasing and they are having trouble locating the seat of the fire.

Difficulty locating fire

- Add an additional attack line (equal or larger diameter)
- Inquire as to the status of ventilation
- Evaluate the time in the structure (consider going defensive)

The crews operating on the roof state there is heavy black smoke coming from the ventilators.

Smoke coming from ventilators

- Clarify the location of the ventilators
- Relay information to the interior crews
- Direct Roof Division (Ventilation Group) to make their cuts.

The Truck crew operating on the roof has completed their ventilation cut and they report light smoke coming from their hole.

Light smoke form vent hole

- Clarify the location of their hole

- Ask if they punched through the ceiling
- Check with Interior crews to see if the conditions have changed (if heavy smoke interior and small amount of smoke out of the ventilation hole, it's in the wrong place)
- Hole is in the wrong spot (possibly over the wrong room, or on the wrong side of a fire wall)
- Direct Roof Division to coordinate location of their cut with interior crew

Truck crew reports that they have a spongy roof.

Spongy roof

- Direct crews to get off the roof
- Direct interior crews to get out of the building
- Overhead broadcast declaring a change of strategy to defensive
- Conduct a PAR (personnel accountability)
- Set up ladder pipe(s) and engine deck guns for defensive operations
- Ensure water supply(s) for elevates stream
- Assign safety officer to ensure clearance from the collapse zone

Engine 4 calls dispatch and says they have been involved in a traffic accident while responding to your fire.

Traffic accident

- Request engine company to replace E4
- Request resources to be dispatched to E4's location
- Request BC, PD and city attorney to E4
- Notify Fire Chief, or on call

Engine 2 states they are unable to start their rig while responding to your fire.

Unable to start rig

- Request another rig
- Respond mechanic to their location

The crews operating in the rear state they have located a victim.

Plan to remove a victim

- Assign company to remove the victim to the Medical Group

- Request a company to go to location and remove victim to Medical Group
- Advise Medical Group victim is coming
- Staff Medical Group if not already done (must be done with engine company and a paramedic unit)
- Request additional resources as needed
- Command to inquire as to the status of the Primary Search

The crews operating on the top floor state they have located a victim.

Plan to remove a victim

- Assign company to remove the victim to the Medical Group
- Request a company to go to location and remove victim to Medical Group
- Advise Medical Group victim is coming
- Staff Medical Group if not already done (must be done with engine company and a paramedic unit)
- Request additional resources as needed
- Command to inquire as to the status of the Primary Search

The interior crews state they have a firefighter down.

Firefighter down

- Direct all units to hold their transmissions for “Emergency Traffic”
- Deploy RIC
- Augment (support with additional companies)
- Request “Emergency Tones” (IC may elect to withhold as you already know the location of the downed firefighter)
- Assign RIC tactical frequency
- Assign BC as RIC supervisor
- Request additional alarm
- Gather pertinent information (who, where assigned, last seen, amount of air)
- Notify and staff Medical group (advise that they will have a firefighter victim)
- Backfill RIC
- Reassign Division or group where missing firefighter originated from

The interior crews state they are missing a firefighter.

Missing Firefighter

- Direct all units to hold their transmissions for “Emergency Traffic”
- Deploy RIC
- Augment (support with additional companies)
- Request “Emergency Tones”
- Assign RIC tactical frequency
- Assign BC as RIC supervisor
- Request additional alarm
- Gather pertinent information (who, where assigned, last seen, amount of air)
- Notify and staff Medical group (advise that they will have a firefighter victim)
- Backfill RIC
- Reassign Division or group where missing firefighter originated from

Engine 3 reports a firefighter has a fractured ankle.

Minor firefighter injury

- RIC deployment (?)
- Establish medical group (if not already done)
- Notify medical group of injured firefighter
- Notify in call chief of firefighter injury (no names on radio)
- Make arrangements for staffing
- OSHA paperwork
- Station log
- Notify family
- Provide a ride home for firefighter

Interior crews report they have a knockdown.

Knockdown

- Overhead broadcast to dispatch
- Conduct PAR (personnel accountability reporting)
- All clear no Primary Search
- All clear on Secondary search
- Begin Salvage and overhaul
- Bring crews out to change bottles/rehab
- Consider:
 - Arson

- Health department
- Public service for board up
- Notifying building owner
- Getting companies back into service

The police department reports they have a suspect in custody who they believe started the fire.

- Request arson investigator (if not already done)