

After Action Review: 1800 S. Cook Street



Date: 12/22/2016 Time: 1645 Incident Number: 16-0136431

Address: 1800S. Cook Street

Overview

On December 22, 2016, at 1645 hrs., Denver Fire responded to a reported structure fire to the address 1800 South Cook Street. D03 and Engine 24 were first to arrive on scene and D03 gave the report of smoke showing from the Alpha-side of a one-story, single family dwelling with visible fire showing from the Charlie-side of the building, D03 assumed Command. Engine 24 secured a hydrant at Jewell and Cook and laid a single 3" line, approximately 600 feet, to the front of the house next door to (south of) 1800 S. Cook Street, allowing ample room for the first arriving truck. Engine 24 was assigned Fire Attack and made entry through Alpha-side of the building with a 1 3/4" line with a 175 GPM Fog Nozzle. Engine 5 was the second arriving engine, securing a second hydrant at Adams Street and Colorado Avenue, laying a single 3" supply line to the rear of the building. This decision was at the direction of D03, who on completion of his 360, noted that the building had several additions to the house and confirmed fire showing from the Charlie-side of the building. Engine 5, stretched a 1 3/4" line over a chain link fence that was secured with a lock and took a protective position at the back door of the house. Engine 21 was

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the third engine to arrive, pulled down close to 1800 Cook Street and was instructed to stretch a back-up line off Engine 24 and enter through the Alpha-Side of the building. Engine 21 also completed the Primary Search. Tower 22 arrived on scene and were assigned to open-up walls and ceiling to expose any hidden fire with assistance from Rescue 1. Engine 11 maintained RIT throughout the incident. Ops-2 assumed Safety and Truck 19 was staged and not utilized.

Engine 24 had difficulty in finding the seat of the fire, primarily because of the odd configuration of the home. The house had multiple additions added to the house and presented multiple paths that had to be checked to efficiently confine and extinguish the fire. Ultimately, Engine 5 had the best access to the seat of the fire, communicated that to Command and was given permission to extinguish the fire, entering from the Charlie-side. There was no concern for opposing lines because Engine 5 had a good visual on the fire and could see that no one was in their direct line of attack to the fire. Fire was rapidly brought under control and no additional resources were required.

Risk vs Benefit: One-story

Units Initially Dispatched: One-story, light weight wood construction, single family home with multiple additions and modifications to the original structure

First Arriving Unit(s): E24, E05, E21, Tr22, T19, E11, R01, D03, D07, OPS-2 and AL16

Additional Units Requested: None

Initial Assignments:

IC: D03 **RIT:** E11 **Safety Officer:** OPS-2

E24: Fire attack on the first floor of the building **E05:** Charlie Side with a hose line

E21: Back-up line for E24 on the main floor of the building

Tr22: Pre-Control Overhaul, coordinated with E24 fire attack

R01: Pre-Control Overhaul, coordinated with E24 fire attack

D07: Red Cross support and coordination for D03 and family

T19: Staged

Initial Strategy: Offensive interior attack

Initial Supply Line: Two, separate, single, 3-inch supply lines, one from E24 at Jewell Ave. and Cook and one from Engine 5 from Adams and Colorado Ave.

Attack Line(s): 1 3/4"

Back-up Line: 1 3/4"

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Was the building laddered: No **2 Means of egress:** Yes

Building Size, Type, Number of Stories, and Occupancy: 1500 square foot, one-story, single family dwelling with multiple additions. Home was being used as a permanent residence and as a Beauty Salon.

Involvement Upon Arrival and Initial Location of Fire: Smoke showing from the Alpha side of the building and pushing from the eaves, with visible fire from the Charlie-side.

Communications: TAC 3 Alpha

Special Challenges, Hazards, and Safety Issues:

Snow and ice on both concrete and grass surfaces

Light weight wood construction

Multiple renovations and additions to the original construction and design of the home

Length of supply line laid out from E24, as only a single 3-inch line

Command Structure:

IC: D03

Safety Officer: OPS-2

RIT: E11

Other assignments:

- Fire attack
- Search
- Back-up line
- Charlie-side

Evaluation and Summary

- 1. Tactical Priorities**
- 2. Positive Outcomes**
- 3. Additional Considerations**
- 4. Recommendations**
- 5. Safety considerations**

Tactical Priorities: Offensive interior attack, primary and secondary search of building, extinguishment of fire

Positive Outcomes:

- Engine 24 and D03 on scene 3 minutes from initial dispatch
- Initial and secondary water supply quickly established
- Aggressive interior attack by Engine 24, E05 and E21

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- Aggressive Primary Search
- Confined fire to room of origin
- Family could house occupants instead of Red Cross

Additional Considerations:

- Engine 24 Bravo, called for support from another engine to boost water supply. Engine 21 missed the request, resulting in D03 having to adjust his tactics. D03, had a quick face-to-face with Engine 24 Bravo and Engine 24 Bravo stated that if he would have had a third line operating off Engine 24, he wouldn't have had enough water.
- Engine 24 laid out a single, 3-inch line form the hydrant at Jewell and Cook with the Humat. Due the length of the lay out (600 feet), Engine 24 should have laid two, 3-inch lines and told the next engine to supply the Humat upon arrival.
- Rescue 1 is testing a new integrated Thermal Imager and had some issues with using the device. Rescue 1 officer and Rescue 1 Charlie, both had difficulty in identifying defined characteristics of the contents such as couches, beds, chairs etc.... The officer of Rescue 1 is confident that with more training and experience with the new technology they will overcome these issues.
- Tablet Command was also an issue. The connectivity of that area made it hard to accurately keep the Command Board accurate. The cold wind also made it so the touch screen feature was ineffective and updates were made inside of the Chief's Car. OPS-2 will follow-up to identify possible solutions.

Recommendations:

- Training on Hydraulics and Water Supply, specifically the intended use of the Humat and its effectiveness when utilized with a Supply engine, with extended distance supply lines.

Safety considerations:

- Always take the time to maintain an acute awareness of the weather and the slip, trip and fall hazards that snow and ice present. Snow and ice were on grass, concrete and asphalt and posed a significant obstacle to the fluidity of the fire ground.
- Renovated houses pose a risk, in that what you see, is not what you get from looking at one side of the structure. D03 did a great job in quickly identifying the renovation during his 360 and quickly communicated his findings to arriving units and adjusted his tactics to meet the hazard.

Summary:

Overall, the fire attack was successful in the fact that the fire was rapidly extinguished and there were no injuries to civilians or firefighters. The initial decision to go offensive was indicated with the fire conditions present on arrival and D03 did a great job in communicating his strategy and tactics to units on scene. Consideration should be given to reviewing the defined Denver Fire Department Company Standards by all member of Suppression and in turn, train, and drill on them. Great Job!

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