

4672 N. Eureka Ct.



Date: 1/21/2018 **Time:** 19:34 **Incident Number:** 18-007848

Address: 4672 N. Eureka Ct.

Overview:

Companies responded to a report of a single-family residence fire. Fire and smoke were showing upon arrival. Engine 27 and Tower 27 were the first companies to arrive with Tower 27 taking command. The house was situated at the end of a long cul-de-sac which limited access and rig placement. Engine 27 laid in with a single 3-inch supply line and deployed the Humat Valve. Engine 29 was the second arriving engine, they laid another 3-inch line to Engine 27 and went to work on the plug. Chief 5 arrived, assumed command, and reported a large volume of fire from the Alpha and Delta sides, declared this a transitional attack and advised all companies that this could go defensive. Engine 27 pulled an 1 ¾ inch attack line and Engine 29 pulled an 1 ¾ inch back-up line. Truck 26 and Truck 2 were assigned to coordinate a search. Engine 26 was ordered to secure another water supply upon arrival. All parties were reported out, but the occupant stated the family cat was still inside. The fire was coming from the lower floor windows and extended to the roof. Auto exposure to the upper floors, the attic and the delta exposure were all concerns of the incident commander. The initial offensive attack utilizing the quick knock tactic was successful negating the need to transition to defensive tactics. Nine minutes after the arrival of the first companies it was declared that the main body of fire was

Commented [DC-D1]: Bob, I do not like the terminology of a transitional attack while also stating the quick knock technique was utilized. The quick knock is an offensive strategy. I would rather you say something to the effect of "while the incident commander was preparing the companies to employ a transitional attack, the quick knock technique was utilized with success allowing an offensive fire attack strategy to continue"

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knocked. The fire was contained to the room of origin and charring on the outside of the structure however the family cat was found deceased on the primary search.

Risk vs Benefit: Fire showing from the Alpha and Delta sides of a tri-level single family residence threatening the Delta exposure.

Risk-Fire auto-exposing from the lower level to the upper levels, attic and Delta exposure.

Benefit-Property conservation.

Units Initially Dispatched:

Engines: 27, 26, 29

Trucks/Towers: 27, 26, 2

Rescue 2

Chiefs: 5, 4 Ops-2

First Arriving Unit(s): Engines 27, 29 and Tower 27

Additional Units Requested: None

Initial Assignments:

IC: Tower 27 (initially), D05

RIT: T26/R02

Safety Officer: Ops-2

Fire Suppression:

- E27 Fire Attack 1-3/4 quick knock and interior attack through A side of the structure
- E29 Back-up 1-3/4 handline
- TR27, T02 Search

Initial Strategy:

Transitional attack

Initial Supply Line:

Number and Size of Lines: Engine 27 with one 3" supply line **Supply Engine:** Engine 29 working at the plug with one 3" supply back to E27, E26 secondary water supply

Humat: Yes

Attack Line(s):

1-3/4 Engine 27

Back-up Line:

1-3/4 Engine 29

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Was the building laddered: During overhaul **2 Means of egress:** N/A

Building Size, Type, Number of Stories, and Occupancy:

Approx. 1200 sq. ft. Tri-level, ordinary construction, single family residence

Involvement Upon Arrival and Initial Location of Fire:

Fire was showing from the lower level of the Alpha and Delta sides extending the height of the structure.

Communications:

Tac 5

Special Challenges, Hazards, and Safety Issues:

Auto exposure to the Delta exposure was a concern from the initial reports. Ammunition discharging inside the structure.

Command Structure:

IC: Chief 5

Safety Officer: Ops 2

RIT: T26/R02

Other assignments:

- T26 re-assigned with E26 to overhaul, R02 then assigned to RIT

Evaluation and Summary

Tactical Priorities:

Life safety: The occupant reported both he and the other occupant were out. Occupant did report one pet inside which was found during the search deceased.

Incident stabilization: Initial consideration was given to containing the fire to the original building and then stopping the spread of fire to the rest of the structure.

Property conservation: An aggressive interior attack utilizing the quick knock tactic kept this fire from extending to another structure and contained the fire to the room involved upon arrival.

Positive Outcomes:

All parties were accounted for and there were no firefighter injuries. The main body of fire was knocked within 15 minutes from the time dispatch started the incident.

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Safety considerations:

Engine 27 reported ammunition going off inside the structure. The streets were snow covered and slick. The amount of fire showing upon arrival prompted the IC to prepare units for a transition to a defensive strategy if the initial attack was not successful and conditions deteriorated.

Summary:

Property loss for the citizen was minimized by a quick response and the strategies/tactics used by responding companies. The strategy was declared transitional and the initial offensive tactics were successful negating the need to transition to defensive tactics. The companies on fire attack stated that the quick knock tactic aided in protecting the exposure and attic and “bought them some time” to complete an aggressive interior attack. This was a fire that, from the initial size-up, had IC preparing to go defensive if conditions deteriorated however crews were able to contain this fire and bring it under control quickly.

Offensive and defensive strategies are the most common strategies used by the Denver Fire Department, but all members should be familiar with the transitional strategy also. A transitional attack refers to a situation in which the operation is changing or preparing to change based on the success of initial tactics. This can start with an interior attack and transition to defensive or start with master streams and transition to an interior attack.

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Alpha/Delta room, picture taken from the Delta window