

Enchanted Circle Regional Fire Association

Model Operating Procedures

Apparatus Placement

Purpose

This procedure is intended to guide placement of apparatus on the fireground for maximum advantage, depending on company function. *Safety is always the first priority when considering where to place apparatus.*

First Arriving Engine Company

The first arriving apparatus on the fireground will typically be assigned Engine Company function, and should normally position just past the front of the structure, leaving room for the Truck Company. This placement will usually allow the Engine Company Officer a three sided look at the fire building and exposures for size-up. Other criteria to consider are:

- Best deployment of initial attack line(s)
- Avoid blocking access for other apparatus if possible
- Maintain a safe distance from the fire building (*avoid making the apparatus an exposure*).
- If laying in a supply line, place hose at the edge of the road/street.

First Arriving Truck Company

The next arriving apparatus will typically be assigned Truck Company function, and should normally position directly in front of the structure to allow for good access to tools, power cords from generators, and scene lighting. Also, consider the following:

- Do not position in a way to hinder water supply needs of the Engine Company.
- Avoid blocking access for other apparatus..

Additional Arriving Units

The third arriving apparatus will usually function as an Engine Company with responsibility for assuring a secure water supply and assuming RIC function. Additional apparatus will be given assignments by the IC. Additional units should:

- Remain uncommitted (staged) several hundred yards from the scene until give a clear assignment.
- Once assigned, do not position too close to another company, to allow room to deploy hose, ladders and equipment.
- Avoid blocking access for other apparatus or water supply.

Safety Considerations for all Apparatus Placement

- Avoid parking under overhead power lines.
- Always park in a way that provides a means of egress.
- Watch for unstable ground, septic tanks, etc.
- When positioning in driveways try to back in.
- Staff, support, and command vehicles should position outside the perimeter of working apparatus.
- Always consider the collapse zone.