

Operating Guideline # 509

Positioning

October 9, 2019



PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Operating Guideline (OG) is to establish guidelines to provide the safest and most efficient positioning of apparatus at fire scenes.

GUIDELINE:

1. Apparatus operators when responding to a SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING STRUCTURAL INCIDENT should position the first-in apparatus just past the building. This will give a view of three sides of the structure on the way in, as well as properly positioning the hose bed for hose removal. This procedure will leave room at the front of the building for fire operations and other emergency vehicles.

2. Apparatus operators when responding to a LARGE STRUCTURE, MULTI-STORY, and INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL INCIDENT should position the first-in apparatus just past the building on the opposite side of the street. This will give a view of three sides of the structure on the way in, position the hose bed for hose removal, provide space for an aerial device and prevent the apparatus from becoming an exposure.

NOTE: Consideration must also be given to sprinkler/standpipe system connection support where this is applicable.

3. When responding to vehicle fires or accidents, the first-in apparatus shall generally take a position approximately 100' short of the incident. SEE OG's 901 – Vehicle Fires, 902 – Highway Traffic Control, 903 – Vehicle Extrication Scene Safety, and 904 – Vehicle Extrication Scene Operations for more information.

4. Apparatus approaching an incident scene should do so at a slow (“walking”) speed.

RESPONSIBILITY:

It is the responsibility of all Emergency Operations Division staff to comply with the provisions of this Operating Guideline.