Command 1A: Structure Fire Command Operations for the Company Officer

Course Plan

Course Details

Certification: Company Officer

CTS Guide: Fire Officer, January 2010

Description: This course provides an introduction to the principles of command, an overview of the concepts of command safety and the risk management process, preincident planning considerations, command considerations at structure fire incidents, Company Officer initial actions at an incident including the development of incident priorities, strategy, and tactics, information on the roles and responsibilities of a Company Officer for post-incident actions. Each student will have the opportunity to gain experience in a controlled environment through structure fire incident simulations.

Designed For: First-in incident commander and company officers

Prerequisites: Fire Fighter I training
I 200: Basic ICS

Standard: Complete all activities and formative tests
Complete all summative tests with a minimum score of 80%

Hours:
 Lecture: 19:00
 Activities: 17:00
 Testing: 4:00

Hours (Total): 40:00

Class Size: 25

Instructor Level: None

Instructor/Student Ratio: 1:25

Restrictions: None

SFT Designation: CFSTES
Required Resources

Instructor Resources
To teach this course, instructors need:
- *Command 1A: Structure Fire Command Operations for the Company Officer* – California Edition
  Delmar Thomson Learning, 2011 Edition

Online Instructor Resources
The following instructor resources are available online at
http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/SFTCurriculum.php
- Command 1A Course Plan
- Activity 2-2: Michele Drive Line-of-duty Deaths Case Study
- Activity 2-5: Initial Actions of the First-in Company Officer
- Activity 5-1: Size-up and Report on Conditions
- Activity 5-2: Documenting your Plan of Action Using a Tactical Worksheet
- Activity 5-4: First-in Company Officer to a One- or Two-family Dwelling Fire
- Activity 5-5: First-in Company Officer to a Multi-family Dwelling Fire
- Activity 5-6: First-in Company Officer to a Commercial Building Fire
- Activity 5-7: First-in Company Officer to a Place of Assembly Fire

Student Resources
To participate in this course, students need:
  Delmar Cengage Learning Students – to purchase individual books:
  www.cengagebrain.com or 800-347-7707, Option 3

Unit 1: Introduction

Topic 1-1: Orientation and Administration

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given information on the requirements for attendance, prerequisites, textbooks, and the evaluation process, will be able to define course requirements and evaluation process so that are completed in accordance with the SFT course guidelines.
Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Identify facility requirements.
   - Restroom locations
   - Food locations
   - Smoking locations
   - Emergency procedures
2. Identify classroom requirements.
   - Start and end times
   - Breaks
   - Electronic device policies
   - Special needs and accommodations
   - Other requirements as applicable
3. Review course syllabus.
   - Course objectives
   - Calendar of events
   - Class attendance
   - Student evaluation process
   - Assignments
   - Activities
   - Required student resources
   - Class participation requirements

Discussion Questions
1. What is a formative test?
2. What is a summative test?

Activities
1. Activity 1-1: Complete all required registration and enrollment forms (required).

Topic 1-2: Fire Officer Certification Process

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given information on the certification requirements for Fire Officer will be able to identify the levels within the Fire Officer track, describe required courses and the evaluation process, needed to meet the requirements for certification.

Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Identify the different levels of certification in the Fire Officer Certification track.
   - Company Officer
   - Chief Fire Officer
   - Executive Fire Officer
2. Identify the courses required for Company Officer.
   - Command 1A: Structure Fire Command Operations for the Company Officer
   - Command 1B: All-risk Command Operations for the Company Officer
   - Command 1C: WUI Command Operations for the Company Officer
Command 1A

- Fire Investigation 1A: Origin and Cause Determination
- Management 1: Management Skills for the Company Officer
- Prevention 1: Fire and Life Safety Inspections for the Company Officer
- Training Instructor 1A: Cognitive Lesson Delivery
- Training Instructor 1B: Psychomotor Lesson Delivery
- I-300: Intermediate ICS

3. Identify any other requirements for Company Officer.
   - Complete experience requirements

4. Describe the Capstone Task Book process.
   - Complete all prerequisites and course work
   - Submit fees and request Capstone Task Book
   - Complete all job performance requirements included in the task book
   - Must have identified evaluator verify individual task completion via signature
   - Must have Fire Chief or authorized representative verify task book completion via signature
   - Must be employed by a California Fire Agency in the position prior to submitting completed task book to State Fire Training

Discussion Questions
1. How many levels are there in the Fire Officer Certification track? What are they?

Activities
1. To be determined by the instructor.

Unit 2: Introduction to Command

Topic 2-1: Incident Management Systems Review

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given a summary of information on incident management systems will be able to describe system components and the responsibilities of an Incident Commander so that they can organize and manage an emergency incident.

Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Identify the origin of the incident management system.
2. Define the benefits of an incident management system.
3. Describe the bases of incident management systems.
4. Describe the components of an incident management system.
5. Describe the role and responsibilities of the IMS Incident Commander.

Discussion Questions
1. Why must only one person be in command of an incident?
2. Define span of control and explain how it is applied?

Activities
1. Complete a diagnostic test on incident management systems given at the beginning of this session.
Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-1: Implementing the Incident Command System (ICS 300)

Topic 2-2: Fireground Safety Concepts

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given incident safety concepts and a risk management process will be able to apply strategy and tactics so that firefighter safety is practiced on the fireground.

Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Compare the relationship of firefighter safety to strategy and tactics.
2. Review fireground injuries and death.
3. Describe common incident scene safety concepts.
4. Analyze risk analysis at a structure fire.
5. Describe the risk management process.
6. Illustrate properly refusing risk (turn down).

Discussion Questions
1. What is a PAR and what is its purpose?
2. What influences your decision to risk your crew?
3. What is a life hazard?

Activities
1. Activity 2-2: Michele Drive Line-of-duty Deaths Case Study (required).

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-2: The Principles of Command Safety

Topic 2-3: Concepts of Decision Making

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given decision-making models and methods will be able to make proper decisions so that safe and effective actions are taken on the fireground.

Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Apply the Recognition-primed Decision Making model (RPD).
   • Implication on fireground decisions
   • Importance to the post-incident analysis
2. Apply the Naturalistic Decision Making model (NDM).
   • Descriptive decision theory framework and how real or ideal decision makers make decisions
3. Apply the Classical Decision Making model (CDM).
   • Basis
   • When it is used
   • How it is used
4. Evaluate the decision making process.
   • Identifying the problem
• Evaluating alternatives and their possible impacts
• Determining and prioritizing objectives
• Evaluating results
5. Identify decision models

Discussion Questions
1. What does the Recognition-Primed-Decision model imply?
2. What is a major concern when making decisions at an emergency scene?

Activities
1. To be determined by the instructor.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-2: The Principles of Command Safety

Topic 2-4: Ethics/Command Presence on the Fireground

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given the concept of ethical responsibility and command presence will be able to describe appropriate behavior on the fireground and how command presence impacts performance.

Enabling Learning Objectives
6. Analyze ethical responsibility of the leader:
   • Determining what ethics are
   • The impact ethics have on our personal ethical value system
   • The ethical decision-making process
7. Evaluate command presence:
   • What it includes
   • How to acquire it
   • How to display it

Discussion Questions
1. How do you define ethics?
2. What do your personal ethical values determine?
3. Who do you believe has command presence and why?
4. How do you acquire “command presence?”

Activities
1. Evaluate ethical dilemmas in the workplace.
2. Identify and discuss unethical fireground conduct.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Topic 2-5: Principles of Command

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given the elements of command will be able to develop goals and objectives so that incident priorities are met.
Enabling Learning Objectives

8. Identify factors involved in command considerations for scene coordination and control.
9. Illustrate a good communication system.
   - Six-step communication model
10. Apply size-up.
    - Three required informational areas
11. Analyze incident priorities.
    - Order of importance
12. Describe goals and objectives.
    - Nine generally accepted firefighting strategic goals
    - Tactical objectives and methods to meet the strategic goals
13. Identify and use the command options for the Company Officer.
    - Investigative
    - Fast attack
    - Command
14. Prepare a plan of action that should occur at every incident.
15. Apply the transfer of command process.

Discussion Questions

1. How you can improve communication on the fireground?
2. From a previous experience, what made you switch from the offensive mode to the defensive mode?

Activities

1. Activity 2-5: Initial Actions of the First-In Company Officer (required).

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Unit 3: Preincident Considerations

Topic 3-1: Building Construction and its Effect on Fire Development

Terminal Learning Objective

At the end of this topic, a student given an occupancy type will be able to identify construction features that contribute or prevent the spread of fire, heat, and smoke throughout the building so that appropriate fire suppression can be taken.

Enabling Learning Objectives

1. Identify the five standard NFPA building construction types.
2. Describe the chemistry of fire and the combustion process.
3. Describe the physics of fire.
   - Characteristics of fire growth
   - Heat transfer
   - Flashover
   - Backdraft
   - Fire ventilation
Command 1A

- Smoke behavior
- Reading smoke
- Avenues of fire spread

Discussion Questions
1. Why is it important to know how a building is constructed?
2. Why is the use of lightweight wood-frame construction a concern for firefighters?
3. Explain the danger of a bowstring truss roof building.

Activities
1. To be determined by the instructor.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 4-9: The Relationship of Fire Protection and Life Safety to Building Construction

Topic 3-2: Fire Department Support of Built-in Fire Protection Systems

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given the operating principles of built-in suppression systems will be able to describe the benefits of the various systems so that the systems are properly used in fire suppression activities.

Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Describe the need for built-in fire protection systems and why they are beneficial to building occupants and firefighters.
2. Identify the differences between sprinkler, standpipe, and special extinguishing systems.
3. Compare sprinkler systems.
   - Wet pipe
   - Dry pipe
   - Deluge
   - Preaction
4. Compare standpipe systems.
   - Different types
   - Classes
5. Compare special extinguishing systems.
   - Carbon dioxide
   - Halogenated
   - Dry chemical
   - Wet chemical
   - Clean agent systems
6. Evaluate fire department support of built-in fire protection systems.

Discussion Questions
1. What are your organization’s procedures for buildings with built-in fire protection systems?

Activities
1. To be determined by the instructor.
Command 1A

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Topic 3-3: Structure Fire Preincident Considerations

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given a list of preincident considerations will be able to develop a preincident plan so that standard operating guidelines are developed for emergency service delivery.

Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Describe the value of preincident planning.
2. Describe the benefits of using a preincident plan.
3. Analyze the importance of a preincident plan as it relates to structural firefighting.
4. Identify the essential data used to determine initial actions.
5. Define building information gathered from a preincident plan including building protection systems.
6. Describe target hazard considerations.
7. Identify the information the preincident plan should provide.
8. Describe preincident planning standard operating guidelines.
   • What companies do upon arrival
   • Predetermined course of actions for a given situation
   • Formulating alternative response plans
9. Describe the development of standard operating guidelines for implementing and utilizing an incident management system.

Discussion Questions
1. What are some advantages of preincident planning?
2. How does preincident planning impact SOPs/SOGs?

Activities
1. Using a plot plan and a quick access prefire plan, identify the benefits of using a preincident plan during initial actions.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 4-2: Developing Preincident Plans for Occupancies within the Authority Having Jurisdiction

Topic 3-4: Local, State, and Federal Mutual Aid Resource Availability

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given descriptions of mutual aid resources, response agreements, and various support agencies will be able to determine the best resources needed to mitigate an emergency incident.

Enabling Learning Objectives
10. Identify and define fire department resources.
   • Apparatus and personnel
   • Additional alarms
   - Initiation
   - Response times
   - Interagency compatibility

12. Identify the various agencies that support the fire service and describe their roles.
   - Cooperating agencies
   - Private entities
   - State agencies
   - Federal agencies

Discussion Questions
   1. How does automatic aid and mutual aid function in your jurisdiction?

Activities
   1. Identify local, state, and federal mutual aid resources.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
   CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Unit 4: Company Operations

Topic 4-1: Engine and Truck Company Operations

Terminal Learning Objective
   At the end of this topic, a student given the functions and capabilities of engine and truck companies will be able to match the correct resources to the job function needed at a structure fire so that incident can be properly attacked.

Enabling Learning Objectives
   1. Define the purpose of engine company operations.
   2. Describe the responsibilities of engine company operations.
   3. Describe the three-step fire control process.
   4. Define the purpose of truck company operations.
   5. Describe the responsibilities of truck company operations.
   6. Compare the four types of ventilation.
   7. Describe the support functions provided by a truck company.
   8. Describe the guidelines for initial attack.
   9. Describe considerations for specific occupancies during initial attack.
      - Residential
      - Places of assembly
      - Small or large shopping centers or malls
      - Office buildings
      - Institutions
      - Industrial occupancies
      - Fuel facilities
      - Construction sites
Discussion Questions
1. What are three considerations when choosing your size of hose line?
2. What are the major roles of a truck company?

Activities
1. To be determined by the instructor.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Topic 4-2: Apparatus Placement Considerations

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, at student given guidelines for placing engines and trucks at a structure fire will be able to choose the correct placement of apparatus so that the resource can be used safely and effectively.

Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Analyze the factors that affect apparatus placement.
2. Describe the guidelines for placing the first-in-engine, second-in engine, and first-in truck.
3. Identify the six faces of a fire.
4. Identify on-scene hazards when positioning apparatus.
5. Describe the strategic goals and tactical priorities for apparatus placement.

Discussion Questions
1. What are some considerations in apparatus placement decisions?
2. What are some on-scene hazards when positioning apparatus?

Activities
1. Using a sketch of a fire scenario, correctly place apparatus according to the incident.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Topic 4-3: Determining Fire Flow Requirements

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given field formulas for determining fire flow will be able to calculate and deliver needed fire flow so that adequate water can be applied to a structure fire.

Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Describe the quick field formula for determining needed fire flow.
2. Describe the National Fire Academy fire flow formula.
3. Describe the resources required to deliver the needed fire flow.
4. Calculate needed fire flow for a given scenario.

Discussion Questions
1. What is the purpose of determining needed fire flow?
2. What are some considerations for determining resources for delivering fire flow?
Activities
1. To be determine by the instructor.

**Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:**
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

### Unit 5: Command Considerations

#### Topic 5-1: Size-up and Report on Conditions

**Terminal Learning Objective**
At the end of this topic, a student given a fire scenario, size-up factors, and report on conditions format will be able to make a size-up of the scene and give an initial report on conditions so that a plan can be formulated and communicated to incoming resources.

**Enabling Learning Objectives**
1. Identify the command sequence.
2. Define size-up.
3. Describe the information sources for size-up.
4. Describe the concerns associated with size-up.
5. Track size-up information.
6. Describe ongoing size-up.
7. Develop an action plan based on size-up information.
8. Describe the size-up triangle.
9. Describe specific fireground factors that affect size-up.
10. Describe the application of size-up.
11. Apply the acronyms, abbreviations, and mnemonics commonly used for size-up.
12. Define a report on conditions.
13. Describe the components of a report on conditions.
14. Describe radio procedures used to deliver a report on conditions.

**Discussion Questions**
1. How do you accomplish size-up?
2. What three broad areas must you consider during size-up?
3. What is the purpose of a report on conditions?

**Activities**
1. Activity 5-1: Size-up and Report on Conditions (required).

**Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:**
CO 6-3: The Process of Size-up and Report on Conditions

#### Topic 5-2: Determining and Implementing the Initial Incident Actions

**Terminal Learning Objective**
At the end of this topic, a student given an action plan development process and a tactical worksheet will be able to determine resource needs, develop, and implement a plan of action so that appropriate strategy and tactics are used to manage the incident.
Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Determine resource requirements for a structure fire.
2. Develop and implement a plan of action.
3. Initiate incident documentation.
4. Evaluate the ongoing incident.
5. Transfer command at a structure fire.

Discussion Questions
1. When should an incident action plan be created?
2. What is the first step in developing a plan of action?
3. What are the considerations for evaluating the ongoing incident?
4. What are some key items to address during a transfer of command?

Activities
1. Activity 5-2: Documenting your Plan of Action Using a Tactical Worksheet (required).

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-4: Developing an Initial Action Plan for an Emergency Incident

Topic 5-3: Conducting Fire Incident Scenarios

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given the purpose and criteria for participating in a fire scenario will be able to apply fireground command concepts at a simulated structure fire so that incident priorities, strategic goals, and tactical objectives are met.

Enabling Learning Objectives
6. Describe the purpose of the fire scenario activity.
7. Define the four types of structures used in the scenarios.
   • Single-family
   • Multi-family
   • Assembly
   • Commercial
8. Describe the student procedure for commanding a structure fire scenario including time limitations.
9. Describe the instructor review procedure.
10. Describe the scenario pass/fail criteria.

Discussion Questions
1. None

Activities
1. To be determined by the instructor.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
None
Topic 5-4: Tactical Considerations Specific to One- and Two-family Dwellings

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given a simulated structure fire specific to one- and two-family dwellings will be able to identify strategic goals, tactical objectives, and associated hazards so that the emergency can be mitigated.

Enabling Learning Objectives
1. Evaluate life safety impact of fire in one- and two-family dwellings.
2. Describe one- and two-family dwelling construction.
3. Define hazards encountered in one- and two-family dwellings.
4. Analyze strategic goals and tactical objectives for a fire in one- and two-family dwellings.
5. Compare the hazards associated with fires in a basement, on the fire-floor, on an upper-floor, in an attic, in an attached garage, and in a manufactured mobile home.

Discussion Questions
1. What is the need for a walk around the fire building during initial size-up?
2. In balloon-frame construction, what is the inherent construction feature you must consider during a basement fire?
3. What hazards are associated with upper flow fires?

Activities
1. Activity 5-4: First-in Company Officer to a One- or Two-family Dwelling Fire (required).
2. Evaluate the report of conditions, plan of action, and transfer of command as presented by the student Company Officer.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Topic 5-5: Tactical Considerations Specific to Multi-family Dwellings

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given a simulated structure fire specific to multi-family dwelling will be able to identify strategic goals, tactical objectives, and associated hazards so that the emergency can be mitigated.

Enabling Learning Objectives
17. Identify the life safety risks associated with a multi-family dwelling.
   a. Firefighter safety
   b. Search and rescue elements
18. Describe hazards encountered in multi-family dwellings.
19. Describe strategic goals and tactical objectives for a fire in multi-family dwellings.
20. Describe the hazards associated with fires in an older apartment houses, newer apartment houses, fire-resistive dwellings, row-frame dwellings, brownstone dwellings, and garden apartments.

Discussion Questions
1. What search and rescue elements are involved in a multi-family dwelling?
2. What unique problems and considerations may you encounter in a multi-family dwelling fire?
3. What are some shafts that you might encounter in a multi-family dwelling?

Activities
1. Activity 5-5: First-in Company Officer to a Multi-family Dwelling Fire (required).
2. Evaluate the report of conditions, plan of action, and transfer of command as presented by the student Company Officer.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Topic 5-6: Tactical Considerations Specific to Commercial Buildings

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given a simulated structure fire specific to commercial buildings will be able to identify strategic goals, tactical objectives, and associated hazards so that the emergency can be mitigated.

Enabling Learning Objectives
21. Identify the life safety risks associated with a commercial building.
   • Firefighter safety
   • Search and rescue elements
22. Describe hazards encountered in commercial buildings.
23. Describe strategic goals and tactical objectives for a fire in a commercial building.
24. Describe the hazards associated with fires in a strip mall, large commercial building, two- or three-story commercial structure, and stand-alone commercial building.

Discussion Questions
1. Why might a commercial building require more than one RIC?
2. What are some hazards associated with fires in a strip center?
3. What roof hazards are associated with large commercial structures?

Activities
1. Activity 5-6: First-in Company Officer to a Commercial Building Fire (required).
2. Evaluate the report of conditions, plan of action, and transfer of command as presented by the student Company Officer.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Topic 5-7: Tactical Considerations Specific to Places of Assembly

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given a simulated structure fire specific to places of assembly will be able to identify strategic goals, tactical objectives, and associated hazards so that the emergency can be mitigated.

Enabling Learning Objectives
25. Define a place of assembly.
26. Identify the life safety risks associated with a place of assembly.
   - Firefighter safety
   - Search and rescue elements
27. Describe hazards encountered in a place of assembly.
28. Describe strategic goals and tactical objectives for a fire in a place of assembly.
29. Describe the hazards associated with fires in a church, exhibit hall, sports arena, nightclub, and showplace.

Discussion Questions
1. What are some hazards to consider in a fire involving a public assembly building?
2. Why would you consider a church a target hazard?
3. How can you use the HVAC system to assist in fire operations?

Activities
1. Activity 5-7: First-in Company Officer to a Place of Assembly Fire (required).

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-5: Controlling, Confining, and Suppressing a Structure Fire

Topic 5-8: Post-incident Actions

Terminal Learning Objective
At the end of this topic, a student given post-incident analysis policies, procedures, and forms will be able to develop and conduct a post-incident analysis so that all required critical elements are identified and communicated.

Enabling Learning Objectives
30. Describe incident termination including demobilization and returning to quarters.
31. Describe the purpose of a post-incident analysis (PIA).
32. Compare an informal PIA with a formal PIA.
33. Illustrate conducting a successful PIA.
34. Identify the types of critical incident stress management (CISM).
35. Describe how an incident involving critical events can affect a firefighter.

Discussion Questions
1. Why do we conduct a post-incident analysis?
2. What incidents warrant a post-incident analysis?

Activities
1. To be determined by the instructor.

Fire Officer CTS Guide Reference:
CO 6-10: Conducting a Post Incident Analysis (After Action Report)
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**Course Totals**

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