



# Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

<b>S.O.G. Number: 600</b>	<b>Effective Date: October 1, 2010</b>
<b>Section: 605</b>	
<b>Subject: One and Two Story Residential Dwelling Fires</b>	
<b>By Order of the Fire Chief: Steven Paine</b>	

## Section 605: One and Two Story Residential Dwelling Fires

### Purpose

To provide a Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) for response and operations at fires in residential structures generally housing one to four families in dwellings of two stories (Divisions) or less. Personnel must be thoroughly familiar with basic fire ground procedures since this SOP only covers occupancy-specific information and shall serve as a guideline.

### Scope

Residential fires in one and two family dwellings comprise the vast majority of structure fires. One and two family dwellings can vary from mobile homes, detached single-family homes, to town homes, duplexes, etc. Furthermore, many differences exist in these occupancies such as construction, square footage, and design features. Among all fires for which Lauderdale by the Sea Fire Rescue (LBTS VFD) responds, these account for the largest loss of civilian life and injury.

### Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the Fire Chief, or designee, to review and update this procedure as needed. It is the responsibility of all Officers to ensure that this procedure is adhered to. All personnel are responsible for the basic knowledge and understanding of this procedure.

### I. I. SIGNIFICANT CONSTRUCTION FEATURES

- A. Residential units are primarily constructed of Concrete Block and Stucco (CBS), wood frame, composite materials, or combination. It is not always possible to determine the construction type on visual inspection since exteriors are commonly covered with stucco or other outer finish. Two story homes commonly have CBS on first floor and wood frame on upper floors.
- B. South Florida residential structure roofs are, with few exceptions constructed of lightweight wood trusses with plywood or composite decking covered by a finish of ceramic/clay/concrete tile, asphalt, fiberglass shingles, or built up tar and gravel



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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1. Wood trusses are engineered support structures made of 2" X 4" lumber gusset plates (a.k.a. gang nails) together to form a "system" designed to support the weight of the roof under normal conditions. As a system, if one member fails, it is expected that other parts may fail and the loss of the roofs structural integrity MUST be anticipated.
  2. Trusses are generally constructed of 2" X 4" lumber joined by gusset plates which have multiple nail "stubs" of approximately 1/8" penetrating the wood. Due to these construction features, early structural failure must be anticipated.
- C. Upper floors are generally supported by lightweight parallel-cord, wood trusses with the same limitations and weaknesses of all truss systems.
1. Truss floor systems of steel bar joists supporting lightweight concrete are becoming more common in modern two-story, single-family residential construction. Steel systems are susceptible to failure under fire conditions.
- D. Electrical shutoffs are required on exterior of residences constructed since the 1990's and usually located in a box near the electric meter. The shutoff allows the power to be disconnected safely by LBTS VFD personnel and should be turned off anytime there is significant fire involvement. The shutoff may be located and turned off by the crew performing the 360 / walk-around or the Rapid Intervention Team (RIT).
- \*In the absence of an exterior electrical shutoff, interior electrical circuits can sometimes be turned off by switching the main circuit breaker to the off position by interior crews.**
- \*FPL should be utilized to ensure that power is secured adequately for personnel safety as directed by the Incident Commander.**
- E. Illegal additions are common in LBTS VFD's response area. Frequently, single-family homes are converted to house multiple families with no indication from the exterior. This poses several problems for LBTS VFD fire crews.
1. Since these additions are built illegally, there is no inspection process to ensure that the structure met any building code; it must be assumed that "shortcuts" were taken in the construction process. This greatly increases the danger to firefighters because building component failure may occur much sooner than on legally converted structures.
  2. Egress of occupants may be complicated under fire conditions. The likelihood of victims trapped increases, as required exits may not be present in illegal additions.
  3. Illegally converted structures may have multiple "occupancies" with entry points accessible from a common interior area; others may have entry points only accessible from the exterior. A combination of both designs is possible.



# Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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4. All potential "occupancies" must be identified and searched.

## **II. PERSONNEL HAZARDS**

### **A. Hazards at these incidents generally involve:**

1. Downed power lines and potentially electrified fences. Boiling liquid expanding vapor explosion (BLEVE) of containers in a garage, storage room, or other unconventional area and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinder hazards.
2. Partial collapse of structure in well-involved fires. Complete collapse is a rare occurrence.
3. Fall-through hazards created by weakened floors.
4. Dogs and other dangerous animals.
5. Drowning from swimming pools.
6. Clandestine drug labs.
7. Intentionally set hazards to prevent unwanted entry.
8. Vacant or abandoned structures.
9. Trip or fall hazards.
10. Alterations to structures leading to increased fire spread potential.

- ### **B. Identification of hazards to personnel must be transmitted over the radio and action taken to mitigate them. An example might be posting a firefighter near a downed power line to prevent others from getting near it.**

## **III. APPARATUS ARRIVAL ORDER, PLACEMENT, TASKS, AND FUNCTIONS**

- ### **A. Regardless of apparatus type, the first arriving company must conduct a thorough size up and provide an initial radio report. The first arriving officer shall establish command per the Incident Command System. Command presence should be known. At a minimum, the initial size-up should include the following:**
- Command name identification
  - Height and dimensions
  - Type of construction
  - Occupancy type



# Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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- Exposures
- Method of attack (offensive / defensive)

Attention should be given to the following (if warranted):

- PD for traffic and crowd control
- Designation of a working fire
- Call out of an investigator
- Ensure RIC is assigned
- Ensure SQUAD (air light) is assigned
- Contact utility provider
- Special call apparatus or striking additional alarms
- Administrative page notification is completed

1. Any personnel hazard(s) must be identified and mitigated.

## B. Arriving Engine: (Attack)

1. Stretch initial attack line of the appropriate size.
2. Force entry as needed.
3. Search en route to seat of fire.
4. If no other companies are on scene, remove victims if found. (Must maintain focus on fire attack as indicated above.)
5. Extinguish all visible fire.
6. Vent fire room as needed in coordination with other companies.

**\*Use caution with the application of assisted ventilation (PPV fans, hydraulic vent) prior to assessing for potential fire extension.**

7. Assist with search for and extinguishment of fire extension.

### Tool Assignments:

**Officer:** Thermal Imager, 6' Hook, Hand Light.

**Driver Engineer:** Apparatus

**Firefighter:** Irons, Hand Light

### Responsibilities:

**Officer:** Assess scene, give size up, confirm initial assignments, assist with forcible entry, back-up nozzle person as needed, search en route to fire, direct interior fire attack, vent fire room if not performed by OV.



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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**\*Water application to the fire is usually the most critical action taken on the fire ground. Expeditious application of the correct fire flow, in the proper form, to the correct location during initial fire ground operations will have the greatest impact upon the outcome of a fire.**

**Driver Engineer:** Position apparatus with consideration of additional arriving companies, assist with stretch of initial hose line to point of entry, pressurize initial attack line as directed, check for and remove kinks in hose line, prepare for additional assignments as needed such as backup line, fan, supplemental lighting, ground ladders, etc.

**Firefighter:** Stretch or assist with stretch of initial hose line to point of entry, assess for forcible entry / force entry with Officer as needed, ensure water to nozzle -correct pattern, air bled, and adequate pressure, advance hose line from entry position toward seat of fire as directed by Company Officer and apply water to fire compartment in appropriate fashion. Stand by to extinguish flare-ups and hidden fire as needed.

### C. **2nd Arriving Engine: (Water Supply)**

1. Establish sustainable water supply. Notify command once established.
2. Initiate search if not already under way.
3. Stretch back-up hose line if not completed or assist with attack line if needed. Back up line should be stretched in position to protect initial attack line as first priority. Second priority is protection of interior stairwell of multiple story dwelling.
4. Vent fire room or structure if not already initiated.
5. Once water supply is established, stand fast if all other assignments above have been performed. Perform assignments as directed by Incident Commander. May be assigned as initial rapid intervention crew at discretion of IC.

#### **Tool Assignments:**

**Officer:** Thermal Imager, 6' Hook, Hand Light.

**Driver Engineer:** Apparatus

**Firefighter:** Irons, Hand Light

#### **Responsibilities:**

**Officer:** Direct Company in laying out supply hose line to supply initial attack engine with sustainable water supply. Assure that apparatus is not impeding ingress or egress for arriving suppression apparatus. Perform assignments as outlined above if not already under way, and complete necessary assignments as directed by the Incident Commander. Communicate/confirm all assignments with command.



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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**\* Prior to any other assignment being initiated, must visualize establishment of sustainable water supply to engine making initial fire attack unless otherwise directed by IC.**

**Driver Engineer:** Operate apparatus while laying supply hose as directed by Officer to supply initial attack engine with sustainable water supply. Position apparatus where it will not interfere with the Ladder Company or other arriving suppression apparatus. Assist Company in establishment of sustainable water supply. Once a sustainable water supply has been established, assist the Driver Engineer of the initial attack engine with necessary assignments.

**Firefighter:** Proceed with hose layout as directed by the Officer to establish a sustainable water supply. Ensure proper radio monitoring and notifications prior to charging of any supply line. Report back to Officer and perform tasks as assigned.

### B. **Arriving Ladder: (Ventilation / Searches / RIT)**

1. Position apparatus to fire building where access and use of the aerial device will be maximized if at all possible.
2. Establish Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) operations
3. Initiate aggressive ventilation of structure. Utilize all possible avenues of smoke and heat removal to improve interior conditions, visibility and facilitate fire location and attack. Adequate ventilation will greatly improve the tenability and operating conditions within a commercial occupancy. Ventilation shall include all swinging doors, overhead doors and vertical ventilation.
4. Driver Engineer shall set up aerial apparatus and position aerial ladder to the appropriate position based on conditions and / or direction from Company Officer or IC.
  - a. Position ground ladders for access and egress if appropriate.
5. Initiate primary/secondary search as appropriate.
6. Upon completion of search, following knock down of visible fire, immediately check for fire extension and continue to do so until complete extinguishment is confirmed.
7. Initiate salvage and overhaul / property conservation efforts as soon as practical. Consider fire investigation needs when conducting overhaul and do what is prudent and necessary to confirm fire control while maintaining scene integrity when possible.
8. Perform additional assignments as directed by Incident Commander.

### **Tool Assignments:**



# Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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**Officer:** Thermal Imager, Hand Light.

**Driver Engineer:** Apparatus, 6' Hook, Halligan, Hand Light

**Firefighter:** RIT KIT, K-12 (if needed)

**Firefighter:** Irons, Saw (if needed)

## **Responsibilities:**

**Officer:** Direct Driver Engineer in positioning of apparatus; perform vent size up, along with the firefighter, Established RIT Operations and initiate ventilation and searches.

**Driver Engineer:** Position apparatus as directed by Officer, set up Aerial device, don PPE. Assist with assigned duties and tasks. Consider deployment of ground ladders for additional means of access / egress.

**Firefighter:** Establish and stage RIT operations

**Firefighter:** Force entry, ventilates, and search for fire extension along with the Officer. Once primary tasks are completed, assist with salvage and overhaul as directed by the Company Officer.

## C. **Arriving Aerial: (Rear of Building/Special Call)**

1. The fourth arriving suppression should respond to the rear of the structure for the following:
  - a. Perform a size-up of the rear of the structure and report to Command.
    - i. Access problems.
    - ii. Fire conditions.
    - iii. Other information deemed relevant.

### **NOTE:**

If the apparatus is unable to gain access to the rear of the structure, it is imperative that all possible forcible entry tools are taken with the crew (i.e., Irons, K-12,).

This will eliminate the need to return to the apparatus, which may cause a significant delay in accomplishing assigned tasks.

- b. Establish a water supply and supply the FDC, when applicable.
- c. Open up the rear to provide ventilation, secondary means of egress, and additional vantage point for fire attack.

**\* If fire attack is initiated, Officer must coordinate operations with command and other companies committed to interior operations in order to ensure operational safety.**



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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- d. Secure utilities, if not already completed.
- e. Ladder the structure for roof operations and:
  - i. Determine the type of roof construction. It may be necessary to make an inspection (Kerf Cut) hole with the K-12.
  - ii. Locate natural ventilation points.
  - iii. Look for signs of fire underneath the roof, use of thermal imager may be helpful (i.e., sagging roof, bubbling tar, spongy deck, leaking smoke, heat signature indications, etc.)
  - iv. Determine dead loads such as HVAC units, heavy antennas, and standing water.
  - v. Determine if front façade is attached to the front wall or part of the cockloft. If a parapet wall exists, the facade is not continuous with the cockloft.
  - vi. In order to avoid fall through hazards, companies must use a tool to sound the roof in front of them as they walk on it. This is necessary even under light fire conditions.

**\*Companies assigned to the rear must request additional resources as necessary to carry out all critical functions at their location.**

### **Tool Assignments:**

**Officer:** Thermal Imager, 6' Hook, Hand Light, Rope Bag (if needed)

**Driver Engineer:** Apparatus, 6' Hook, Halligan, Hand Light

**Firefighter:** Irons, Hand Light, K-12 (if needed)

### **Responsibilities:**

**Officer:** Direct Company in completing priorities as listed above.

**Driver Engineer:** Position apparatus where it will not interfere with the Ladder Company or other, arriving, suppression apparatus. Don full PPE and remain with Company Officer to complete assigned tasks.

**Firefighter:** Assist Company with assignments as directed.

## **D. Support Unit/Utility Vehicle**

- 1. Responsibilities



# Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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Support Unit/ Utility vehicle Shall respond and establish a rehab area in coordination with medical sector. If unavailable, contact fire communication and request mutual aid canteen unit.

## **I. Arriving Medical Rescue:**

1. Position apparatus where it will not interfere with other arriving apparatus while maintaining ability to depart the scene for rapid transport if needed.
2. Provide medical assistance for any victims in need upon arrival.
3. If medical transport is required prior to the arrival of another Medical Rescue, provide the transportation as needed.
  - a. If no immediate need for medical treatment or transport exists, command should be contacted for orders. Preparations should be made for providing fire assistance.
  - b. Establishment of medical sector for firefighter rehab should be considered
  - c. Medical sector must request additional medical units to assist transport requirements.

**\*NOTE: upon declaration of a working fire and the filling out of the working fire assignment, a second rescue will be requested immediately and utilized for medical rehab duties and/or treatment as needed. Single rescue units will be assigned medical rehab. Additional rescues will be assigned as designated by command.**



# Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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## I. Chief Officer Roles / Responsibilities

**1st Due Battalion Chief** – IC - Assume command upon conferring with initial arriving officer following size up of building and conditions. Makes assignments, requests additional resources as needed.

**Tools** - Helmet, Coat, Hand Light if needed.

**2nd Due BC** - Incident Safety Officer - Conducts 360 of fire building if possible and reports pertinent info to command, May be assigned interior safety / operations sector depending upon building and fire conditions as determined by IC.

**\*Assumes role of RIT OIC in event of a RIT deployment.**

**Tools** - Full PPE w/ SCBA and Hand Light. Other hand tools as deemed appropriate.

**Accountability / Medical Group** - reports all pertinent info or alarms to IC. Also coordinates medical treatment and transports as needed. It is imperative that rehab be conducted and monitored at all applicable incidents.

**Deputy Chief** – Assist IC with command functions as needed. Once an incident escalates to a alarm or greater, Division Chief on duty shall assume command of incident. Initial IC ( due BC) moves into the Operations position upon transfer of command to Division Chief.

**\*On duty Division Chief must maintain awareness and responsibility for all emergency activities and situations taking place within the Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea and ensure that adequate resources to respond to incidents are maintained.**

**Tools** - Helmet, Coat, Hand Light if needed.

**Staff Chiefs** – All Staff Chief Officers and other additional personnel responding to an incident shall report in to the command post for assignment upon arrival at the scene of an incident.

## J. TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

### A. Strategy

1. An offensive strategy is generally the mode of operation, unless the fire has already progressed to a point of structural instability and/or unsurvivability for the occupant(s). In this case, or faced with significant hazard(s) to personnel, a defensive strategy will be employed.



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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2. Due to inherent dangers of vacant/abandoned structures, a defensive strategy will be considered based on risk vs. benefit analysis.
3. The need for a rapid intervention crew is paramount for the safety of firefighters. Special consideration should be emphasized with regards to the following:
  - Effective rehabilitation is established and monitored
  - Personnel accountability reports are completed
  - Determine the location, profile, and assignment of missing personnel
  - RIC's are dedicated and assembled with equipment
  - Additional alarms are struck when RIC is activated
  - There is consideration to switch operations to a separate tactical channel
  - Ensure there is an appropriate number of crews and staged/deployed locations are effective

### **B. Rescue**

1. Endangered occupants are the main concern at these fires. Emphasis must be placed on determining the potential for occupants and taking necessary steps to protect them. Some factors pointing to a reasonable expectation of occupancy are:
  - a. Nighttime hours.
  - b. Weekends and holidays.
  - c. Vehicles in driveway.
  - d. Bicycles, toys, and other play equipment in front yard or porch.
  - e. Unlocked doors, windows, security bars, etc.
  - f. Reliable report of people inside.
  - g. Structure utilized as an assisted living facility (ALF).
2. After beginning attack on the fire, an aggressive primary search will target the bedrooms and means of egress to give any trapped occupants the greatest chance of survival. Thermal imaging will greatly enhance the search effort.
3. Multilevel structures, multiple victims, large victims, and security bars present challenges in removing occupants, and additional personnel and equipment must be employed.
4. Vacant or abandoned structures are by definition uninhabited; however, they can potentially contain vagrants or homeless individuals. A search must still be conducted, but with extra caution due to hazards presented by these occupancies.

### **C. Fire Control**

1. Locating the seat of the fire and applying the appropriate amount of water to achieve knockdown is of the utmost importance. By reading smoke conditions, utilizing a



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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thermal imager, and looking for visible flame through exterior windows and / or other structural openings, an attack line must be quickly stretched to the room(s) of origin for extinguishment. Crewmembers conducting the 360-walk-around may assist with locating the fire.

2. Locating and accessing the fire can be complicated by any of the following:
  - a. Illegal additions and structural alterations.
  - b. Smoldering fires producing large amounts of smoke and little flame.
  - c. Closed shutters, boards, or other windows and structural openings.
  - d. Floor plans and interior layouts that vary from the norm for the particular structure.
3. Once located, confining the fire will be accomplished by stretching the initial hose line via the most direct route that separates the fire from any potentially trapped occupants. At these fires, this generally means the front door. This entrance will usually place the hose team in a position that allows easy advance to all areas of the home. The decision to stretch to side or rear entry points will be reserved for times when it does provide the most expedient route for extinguishment, is needed for occupant protection at that location and/or entry via the front door causes unnecessary delays. Whenever possible, fires should be attacked from the unburned side as not to spread fire to uninvolved areas.
4. In the case of fires on upper floors, the hose team proceeding to the upper floor must first rule out the possibility of fire present on the floor(s) below the one to which they are proceeding. Unless a separate hose team is successfully extinguishing the lower floor fire, no crew will proceed to an upper floor without first extinguishing fire on the lower floor.
5. These fires are seldom beyond the control of one to three 1-3/4" attack lines each flowing at least 150gpm. The required attack hose lengths seldom exceed 200'. However, there are times that 200' may not be enough. Any of the following factors alone, or in combination, should prompt the hose team to stretch additional hose.
  - a. Long setbacks from street.
  - b. Very large square footage homes.
  - c. Multiple story homes.
  - d. Entry point into the structure is remote from the apparatus.



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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6. To protect detached exposures, a water application to the exterior of the exposed structure(s) is generally sufficient. Any indications of fire inside the exposure, warrants entering the occupancy with a charged hose line.
7. Attached exposures must be entered and searched for extension of fire, and hose lines stretched as required. Particular attention will be paid to the following areas:
  - a. Attics and other overhead spaces.
  - b. Electrical, plumbing, and other utility chases and voids.
  - c. Area along party walls, firewalls, or other shared structural members.
  - d. Shared, combustible exterior surfaces.

### **NOTE:**

The presence of a firewall does not eliminate the need to check adjoining structures for smoke and fire extension. Often times poor workmanship, illegal alterations, and shared combustible surfaces will allow fire to travel from one occupancy to another. In all cases, the severity and location of the fire should guide the IC in the decision to check adjacent areas.

### **D. Ladders**

1. Aside from accessing the attic, or occasionally the roof, ladders are seldom required at one-story house fires. However, when the structure is two or three stories the need for ladder placement will not be overlooked. In these multi-level structures, ladders will be placed for:
  - a. Access to identified or potential victims, or victim locations on upper floors.
  - b. Providing a secondary means of egress for companies working on upper floors.
  - c. As vantage points for fire streams, or advancing hose lines to upper floors.
  - d. Providing access for ventilation of upper floor windows.

### **E. Ventilation**

1. Unless venting for life, all ventilation must be coordinated with the fire attack.
2. Horizontal ventilation by opening or breaking windows and doors is generally quickest and most effective means for ventilation. When safe to do so, horizontal ventilation can be enhanced through the use of positive pressure ventilation (PPV) fans. Hose teams



# Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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may also assist in the ventilation effort by employing hydraulic ventilation. Ventilation will be prioritized as follows:

- a. Room(s) with a known life hazard.
  - b. The fire room(s).
  - c. General smoke removal from the entire structure.
3. For small fires with a limited amount of smoke production, consideration will be given to utilizing natural ventilation or electric fans. Favoring these means over gas-powered fans will limit the Carbon Monoxide (CO) content of the structure.
  4. Vertical ventilation is rarely required.

## F. Overhaul

1. Cellulose insulation may be present in the attic. Its burning characteristics are such that it may hide smoldering fire with little or no evidence. Care must be taken to remove this insulation in all directions showing signs of charring. Additionally, fire may have spread to areas remote from the charred area. Hidden fires have the potential to rekindle and may require subsequent re-inspections.

## IV. SPECIFIC FIRE SITUATIONS

### A. Attic Fires

1. Attic fires are best attacked by aggressively pulling ceiling and extinguishing from underneath.
2. Other options are the use of piercing nozzles, and/or opening the gabled ends when possible.

**NOTE:** The construction of the gabled ends of homes varies, and will dictate the difficulty in breaching them.

3. The prolific use of lightweight wood trusses makes roof ventilation dangerous when an attic fire is present. Therefore, unless deemed safe and essential to the operation, it will not be undertaken.
4. When time allows, removal of valuables and placement of salvage covers will take place prior to pulling the ceiling and commencing with extinguishment.

### B. Attached Garage Fires



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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1. By design garages are compartmentalized by use of fire rated dry wall and doors to prevent the spread of fire into the living areas and attic. As such, efforts will be directed toward rapid fire control to prevent extension and contamination of the adjacent areas.
2. If there is evidence of potential fire extension into the living areas, a hose line must be stretched through the front door to protect the interior of the home.
3. If it is confirmed that the fire is confined to the garage and the interior door is closed, the first hose line may be stretched for an attack through the overhead door. If the overhead door cannot be rapidly opened or breached, then other points of attack are as follows:
  - a. A small hole created in the overhead door itself.
  - b. A side garage entry door.
  - c. A side garage window.
4. Caution should be taken so as to avoid spreading fire to unburned areas.

### **NOTE:**

When extinguishment is initiated prior to opening the overhead door, efforts must continue to open the door.

5. Extreme care will be taken in anticipation of numerous hazards that may be present in garages.
  - a. Garage door springs may become weakened by heat; care should be taken to secure doors to prevent accidental closure.
  - b. Potential for hazardous and unknown materials.
  - c. Sloping driveway may cause flowing fuel fires to endanger personnel and apparatus.
  - d. Hazards associated with auto fires.
  - e. Container BLEVEs.

### **C. Basement Fires**

1. While basements are rare in South Florida, some neighborhoods have them. They are more like half-basements, as they are only partially underground.
2. Homes with these basements can usually be identified by living room windows that are much higher than normal. There are usually some steps to the front door and porch level and often times there are basement windows very close to the ground, which allows light



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Volunteer Fire Department

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into the basement. Generally, the only way into the basement is through one interior staircase that is located near the front door.

3. Attacking these fires involves getting a hose line through the front door to the interior door leading to the basement. The purpose of this line is to keep the fire from spreading into the home, while the main body of fire is extinguished with an exterior line directed through the basement windows. Once the fire is under control, or if it is a small fire, final extinguishment can be made by advancing the interior line down the stairs and into the basement. Care must be taken to coordinate this attack and avoid opposing hose streams.
4. A direct attack on an extensively involved basement fire through the interior stairs is extremely punishing, and will be reserved for those cases where the easier approach described are not possible or practical. Alternate extinguishing methods include the utilization of cellar and/or piercing nozzles. High expansion foam is also an option, if available.
5. For advanced basement fires, the structural stability of the wood floor and stairs leading into the basement must be determined before committing personnel to the inside.
6. Companies must be alert and check for vertical extension in the walls.

***\*\* These Standard Operations Procedures should be considered guidelines for use at specific emergencies. Different situations may dictate alteration of the procedures, however, the safety of personnel and the public shall remain the highest priority. \*\****