

Five Minutes in the Street

**Building Construction,
Command Risk Management and
Firefighter Safety for Field Operations**

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A Structural Anatomy™ Building Construction Series

Produced By: Christopher J. Naum, SFPE

Box 2752..Reported Fire in an Occupied Apartment Above Sammy's Liquors

Sammy's Liquors is a Two Story Brick & Joist Business Occupancy. The structure was built in 1879 and is the only remaining building standing, in what was once a block of similar buildings. (Note the open parking lot area surrounding the building). (Special Note; This is an important consideration..)

The structure is occupied by a Liquor store on the number one floor and has four (4) apartments located on the number two floor. The building is approximately 60 feet wide x 85 feet in depth. It is located on a sloping lot, with the street side (Alpha) the high point. You have a walk-in access to the basement on the Charlie side, which is used as an office and storage for the store and for the tenants.

Both the Bravo and Delta sides have pilasters and an integrated retaining wall built out along the wall perimeters. Look over the photos, as there is a lot of mission critical information present for your size-up and IAP.

A fire is reported in Apartment #2. The alarm of fire is reported by civilian who observes smoke coming from the window after he drove into the parking lot. He reports the situation to the store clerk.

Time and Situ Status: 14:30 hours, Saturday afternoon

Weather: Cool, Clear. 70 degrees F. with a slight breeze coming from the bravo side.

*Apartment #1. Two bedroom, is leased by a young couple w/ a baby
 Apartment #2 Two bedroom, is leased by an elderly male
 Apartment #3 One bedroom Studio, is leased by a couple
 Apartment #4 One Bedroom Studio, is leased by a single female*

Box 2752 is dispatched for a reported fire in the apartment occupancy.

First Alarm Assignment: 3 Engine Companies, Two Truck Companies, The Rescue Company and the Battalion Chief and Duty Deputy.

The 100 ft tiller ladder Truck Arrives and reports a working fire with heavy smoke on the Delta side. The First Due Engine Company arrives and has picked up a hydrant across the street. The Rescue Company has arrived and its Four (4) person crew is walking to the building from the Delta side. The store clerk meets the RSQ Co. Officer and reports that there are apartments upstairs and he's not sure who is home and who is not. He tells the officer the number of possible tenants in the apartments.

The balance of the alarm assignment is still responding, as is the BC and Deputy.

You're the Rescue Company Officer....

What are you going to do?

What assignments need to be carried out, and in what order by the on-scene companies?

Following the arrival of the balance of the alarm assignment and the transfer of command, the BC and Deputy establish command. The fire is well involved in apartment #2 with possible extension.

What's the building profile and structural integrity factors?

Anything special about the building that you may be concerned about?

Now get those masks on and check you gear and get to work...

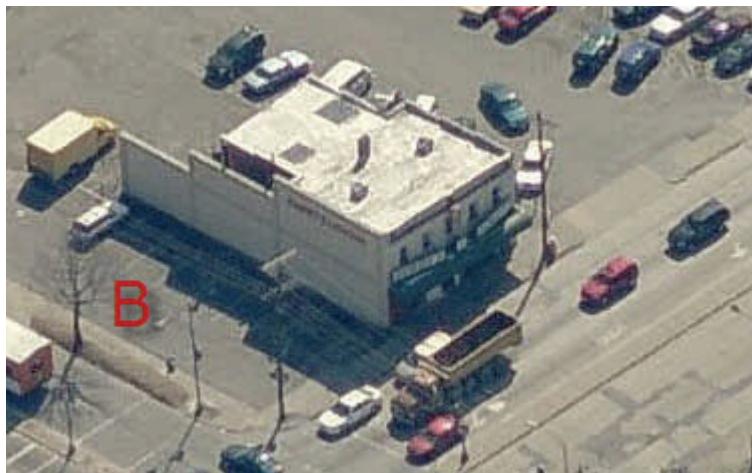
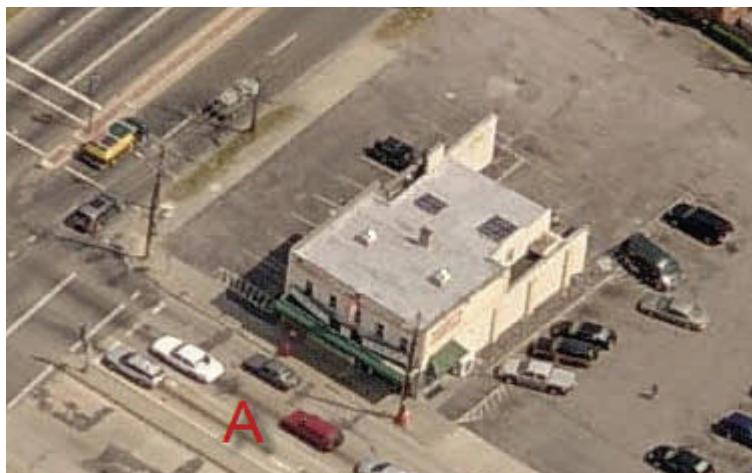


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Notes





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Christopher J. Naum, SFPE

Chief of Training, Command Institute, Washington, DC
Second Vice President, ISFSI and Board Member IAFC SH&S Section

A 34-year fire service veteran and former Fire Chief/ Coordinator at a United States nuclear power plant, he is a nationally recognized authority on building construction, structural collapse and command management, and has traveled throughout the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and Asia delivering training programs on building construction, command risk assessment and firefighter safety.

An Adjunct Instructor with the National Fire Academy, and Firefighter Safety Advocate, he is a member of the Board of Directors, IAFC Safety, Health & Survival Section, the Open Fire Academy International and the ISFSI. A former architect and fire protection engineer he was the 1987 ISFSI George D. Post National Fire Instructor of the Year. He authors the periodic column on Firehouse.com entitled Structural Anatomy focusing on building construction, command management and firefighter safety and also advocates and writes extensively within various fire service internet training forums and groups including Fire Engineering and Firefighter Nation where he authors The Command Safety and Building Construction & Firefighter Safety Groups. He is the Second Vice President with the International Society of Fire Service Instructors [ISFSI] and a Contributing Editor with Firehouse Magazine and Firehouse.com. He previously served as a commanding company officer for over twenty years in field operations with a volunteer fire department in New York.

He continues to present his popular structural anatomy building construction & firefighter safety training series throughout the United States and internationally and is the developer of the informational portal www.buildingsonfire.com dedicated to building construction, command risk management and firefighter safety, launching early in 2009. Mr. Naum has delivered training to over 75,000 personnel throughout his career and is authoring a new text book integrating building construction, risk management and firefighter safety, for the fire service.

Building Knowledge = Firefighter Safety