

# Salt River Fire Department Operating Guidelines

## Fire Control

April 2000

202.04

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It is standard operating procedure to attempt to stabilize fire conditions by extending WHEREVER POSSIBLE an aggressive well placed and adequate offensive interior fire attack effort and to support that aggressive attack with whatever resource and action is required to reduce fire extension and to bring the fire under control.

A critical Command decision (both initial and ongoing) relates to the offensive/defensive mode of the situation:

Offensive Strategy--interior attack and related support directed toward quickly bringing the fire under control.

Defensive Strategy--Exterior attack directed to first reduce fire extension and then bring the fire under control.

Command must declare which strategy is being used, as part of the on-scene report and at each notification of elapsed time.

Command must define offensive/defensive mode based upon:

- Fire extent
- Structural conditions
- Entry capability
- Ventilation profile
- Viable potential for rescue
- Resources

### BASIC OFFENSIVE PLAN

- Take Command
- First line--fast, aggressive interior attack
- Provide support activities (i.e., ventilation)

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- Do primary search
- Second line--backup first/cover opposite side/escape routes
- Pump water
- Quickly evaluate progress and react

### BASIC DEFENSIVE PLAN

- Take Command
- Evaluate fire spread/write-off lost property
- Identify key tactical positions
- Prioritize fire streams
- Provide big, well placed streams
- Pump water
- Quick determination on additional resource
- Surround and drown
- Practice safe operating procedures