



Tactical Consideration 8: Impact of Removal Pathway

Continuing the Conversation:
*Search and Rescue Tactics in Single-Family,
Single-Story Residential Structures*

Explore the main findings from this study and then use the reflection questions on the reverse side to continue the conversation with your crew.

SUMMARY OF MAIN FINDINGS

When you're attempting an occupant rescue before suppression has started, consider a removal path that does not pass the fire compartment.

Toxic and thermal exposures to an occupant are higher along removal pathways that pass the fire compartment. By choosing alternate paths, you can lessen the toxic and thermal hazard to the victim you're rescuing.

Keep in mind that these alternate paths may be different from how you entered the structure. For example, during a front door-initiated search of a bedroom fire, you might want to consider removing an occupant through a window instead of back through structure and out the front door.

It is also important to remember to balance this tactical consideration with keeping your victim's head low and removing them as quickly as possible. Ultimately, you need to choose the removal tactic that you know how to do as quickly and effectively as possible with the resources available to you.



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Scan the QR codes to hear commentary from this project's fire service technical panel members. Then, use the reflection questions to continue the conversation with your crew.

HEAR FROM THE TECHNICAL PANEL

Scan the QR code to watch commentary from Technician Chris Finelli of the DC Fire and EMS Department on this tactical consideration.



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Once you have found a victim, what factors do you consider when choosing a removal pathway?
2. Technician Finelli mentioned that "When we find an occupant, we should remain disciplined." In what ways should discipline play a role when processing a plan for victim removal?