

**Supplement Name: Vasquez, Mark**

Date/Name: Tue Jan 05 09:51:06 PST 2016; Vasquez

Conditions found: Upon arrival Engine 4 (E4) personnel observed a single story commercial building with heavy fire emitting out of multiple windows at 295 Higuera. The flames coming out of the windows were burning with great intensity and extended above the roof line. Additionally heavy flames were running laterally and involved the facade. The fire was well established and involving a large portion of the front of the building due to the floor to ceiling flames observed inside the fire area.

Actions taken: Upon arrival E4 personnel stopped to lay a supply line into the fire from approximately 75' south on Higuera St. E4 personnel proceeded to stretch a 2 1/2" attack line to the front of the structure to knock down the heavy fire showing. Once the 2 1/2" line was deployed I removed the stacked smooth bore tips allowing to flow 325 gpm from the hose line due to the amount of fire that was observed. The hose stream extinguished the exterior fire but had no suppressive impact on the deeper interior fire still burning. During this time Engineer Mason and Firefighter Reiss connected the hydrant and supplied E4 with hydrant water. After connecting the initial supply line to the hydrant, Engineer Mason connected an additional supply line from a nearby second hydrant. Once Firefighter Reiss completed the supply line assignment he took over my position on the hose line. After witnessing additional heavy fire deeper in the structure with minimal impact from the heavy hand line (2 1/2" ) the decision was made to utilize the monitor off E4 for deeper penetration and additional GPM needed. While Firefighter Reiss was staffing the 2 1/2" attack line; I opened the unlocked door to the front of the structure (at 295 Higuera) and observed heavy fire rolling the entire ceiling of the interior room adjacent to the fire room. I also observed thick black smoke that was down to the floor and felt hot. I was concerned that the facade was weakened from fire involvement and could collapse trapping firefighters had we made an interior attack.

Therefore my decision was to maintain in a defensive mode of attack.

After my observation of the heavy fire throughout the interior through the open door, I requested Firefighter Reiss to direct his hose stream into the open door. By this stage of the fire my company had been on scene approximately 20 minutes with thousands of gallons being utilized to attempt to extinguish the fire or stop its advance with no success. Upon seeing that amount of fire I requested an additional heavy ground monitor to be deployed to the front of the building. While Engineer Mason was operating the monitor from E4 he observed personnel still on the roof of the structure and informed me of his concern. Therefore I made contact with IC to request all personnel to be ordered off the roof due to heavy fire involvement and the use of master streams posing a hazard. IC Berryman concurred, at which point I climbed the ground ladder to inform T1 personnel to cease roof operations.

At this stage in the fire the 2 1/2" hose line was staffed by a Cal Fire company and Firefighter Reiss deployed and staffed the ground monitor. I took over the monitor from E4 and continued to direct the stream to the heavy fire emitting through the roof of the structure. My crew and I staffed our positions for hours attempting to control the fire. Approximately 3-4 hours into the operation Engineer Mason informed me that our fuel level for E4 was at 1/4 tank and we would need fuel. I made contact with the IC to request a fuel tender for extended operations. Engineer Mason made contact with a local business owner to assist him with acquiring fuel, in which he provided.

Further into the operations I provided my crew with rehab, and the fuel tender provided additional fuel. E4 personnel remained on scene until the fire

was controlled and we were released back to district.

Captain Vasquez