Training Bulletin

ISSUED 4/11/2023 TB 2023-15

Building Construction – Balloon frame – Strategy & Tactics



- Fires in balloon frame construction spread very rapidly, thus Incident Commanders should ensure sufficient resources are on scene or request additional resources <u>immediately</u> to get ahead of the fire. This includes RIT companies as well as companies available in staging at the fire scene.
- Exterior TIC survey may help to determine the fire location within the bays.
- Do not delay running multiple lines.
- The first hand line advanced into the building should operate on the fire on the lowest floor.
- Subsequent hand lines should be advanced to back up the first hand line or to the floors above the fire (in ascending order).
- Ensure that the fire has not dropped down to a lower floor or cellar.

Photo courtesy of the Texas Fire Academy



