



F2025-10

**Career Firefighter Sustains
Serious Burns and Another
Injured in Carport Collapse at
Residential Structure Fire – Texas**



Summary

- On September 3, 2025, a career firefighter from Engine 11 was seriously injured and his officer received minor injuries while operating at a residential structure fire.
- At 10:51 hours, the public safety answering point (PSAP) received a 911 call from a neighbor reporting a fire at the house across the street.
- At 10:53 hours, the PSAP dispatched Engines 14, 11, 5, 1, Towers 1 and 2, and Battalion 1 and 2.



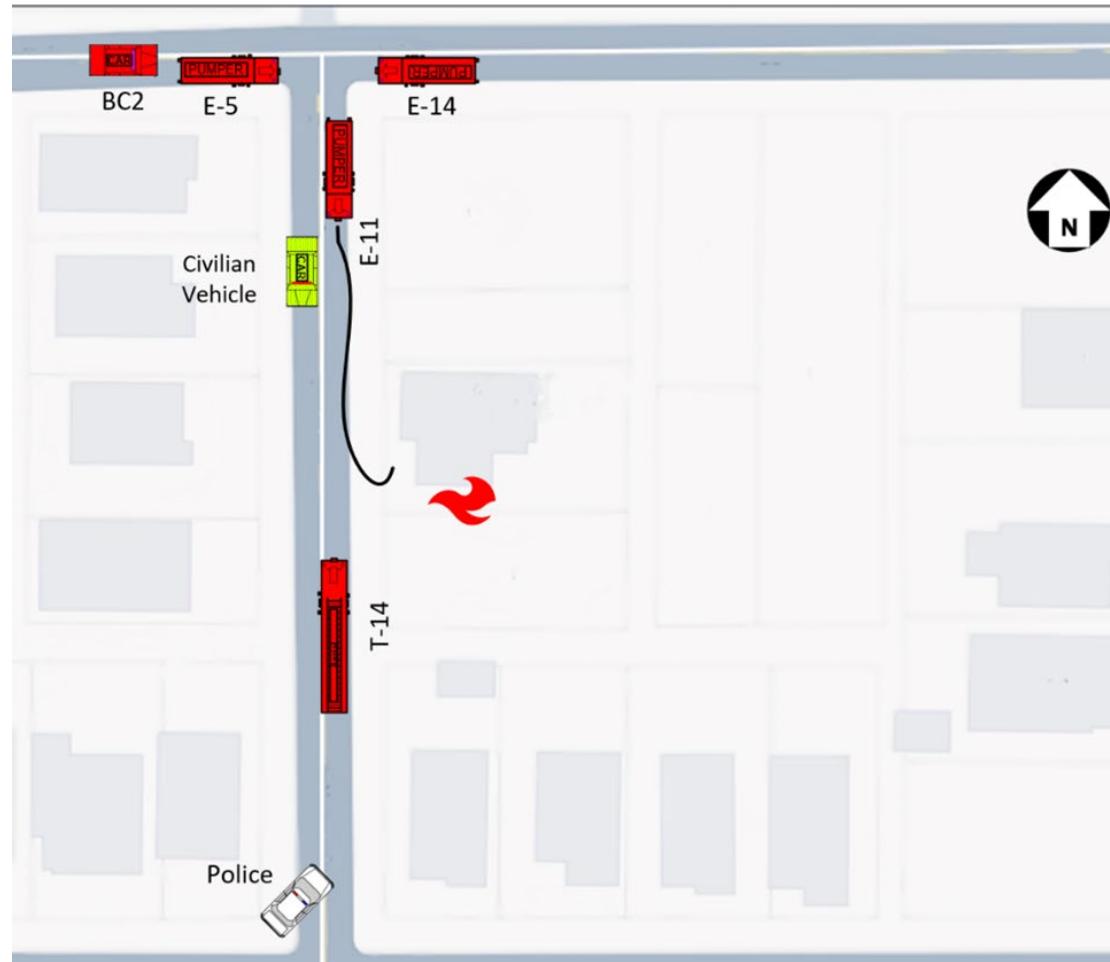
Arrival conditions on Side Alpha.
(Courtesy of the fire department)



Summary

- Engine 3 and Truck 14 self-dispatched.
- At 10:56 hours, Engine 11 arrived on scene.
- Engine 11 officer gave a size-up of a one-story residence showing heavy fire.
- He reported that his crew would deploy a hoseline.
- At 10:57 hours, Engine 5, Battalion 2, and Engine 14 arrived on scene.

SERIOUS INJURY REPORT REPORT SLIDES



Apparatus placement on scene.
(Courtesy of NIOSH)



Summary

- Engine 11 firefighter deployed a 200 ft 1 3/4-inch pre-connect and began to extinguish fire under the carport by starting on the left side and moving right.
- Engine 11 officer directed him to the Side Alpha/Delta corner to extinguish a burning car under the carport.
- Engine 11 firefighter took one step under the carport at the corner and started extinguishing the wood support beam.



Engine 11 firefighter stepping under carport.
(Courtesy of the fire department)



Summary

- Seconds later at 10:59 hours, the carport experienced a lean-to-style collapse with the roof remaining attached to the residence.
- This collapse trapped Engine 11 firefighter under the burning roof.
- Battalion 2 directed Engine 14 to send their crew to the scene immediately, then called a Mayday stating a firefighter was trapped under the partial collapse of the building on Side Alpha.



View of Side Alpha, post-collapse.
(Courtesy of the fire department)



Summary

- Battalion 2 requested Truck 14 bring rescue tools and called for the PSAP to dispatch a second alarm.
- Engine 5 officer and firefighters from other units tried to extricate Engine 11 firefighter from the collapse.
- They used hand tools and manually lifted the roof enough to pull the firefighter out.



Extrication operation.
(Courtesy of the fire department)



Summary

- At 11:01 hours, Engine 11 firefighter was extricated and put onto a stretcher for treatment and transport.
- He was airlifted to a medical facility for treatment.
- Engine 11 officer was also transported for smoke inhalation injuries.
- After the extrication, multiple hoselines and a defensive strategy were used to bring the fire under control at 11:54 hours.



Contributing Factors

- Structural collapse
- Scene size-up and risk assessment
- Incident command
- Scene access



Recommendations

- Fire departments should ensure firefighters extinguish fires from a relative area of safety when performing exterior fire control as part of a transitional attack.
- Fire departments should educate fire officers and firefighters in building performance under fire conditions and the potential for structural collapse.
- Fire departments should complete an initial scene size-up and risk assessment to inform a risk-benefit analysis.
- Fire departments should train incident commanders how to spot and correct task saturation to quickly refocus emergency response operations.
- Fire departments should coordinate with law enforcement agencies to overcome challenges of scene access for responding fire apparatus.



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