

Santa Barbara City Fire Department - Standard Operating Procedures Emergency Operations	Code: E-I-5
Tactical Priorities	
Chpt: I Command Procedures	Revised: 5/2018 Pages: 2

I. PURPOSE

A. There are 5 Tactical priorities that must be completed to stabilize any fire situation.

II. PROCEDURE

A. These functions should be regarded as separate, yet inter-related activities which must be dealt with in order. Command cannot proceed on to the next priority until the current objective has been completed.

B. Basic tactical priorities are as follows:

1. Firefighter safety (See [S-V-1](#) Fire ground safety)
 - a) Accomplished through training, equipment usage, and PPE.
 - b) Creating a safe work environment through training, lighting, proper use of tools, etc.
2. Search and Rescue (See [E-III-10](#) Rescue)
 - a) The activities required to protect occupants, remove those who are threatened and to treat the injured
3. Environmental Protection
 - a) The activities required to stop or reduce damage to the environment.
4. Fire Control
 - a) The activities required to stop the forward progress of the fire and to bring the fire under control.
5. Property conservation (See [E-III-11](#) Property conservation)
 - a) The activities required to stop or reduce additional loss to property.

C. The objectives of each priority are reflected in the following bench marks of completion

1. Rescue-primary search (all clear)
2. Fire Control-under control

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3. Environmental Protection-control and mitigate
4. Property Conservation-loss stopped

D. While Command must satisfy the objective of each function in its priority order, the IC must, in many cases, overlap and "mix" the activities of each to achieve the current benchmark.

E. Notable examples are the frequent need to achieve interior tenability with active/extensive fire control efforts before getting on with primary search, or the need to initiate salvage operations while active fire control efforts are being extended.