The first arriving units to any incident set the stage for the remainder of the incident. Good initial placement will contribute to the successful outcome of the incident.

There is no one rule that applies to positioning of apparatus on the fireground. Rescue situations, water availability, apparatus exposure, method of attack, weather, terrain, positioning requirements of other apparatus, Department SOG’s and tactical judgment are all deciding factors.

Maintain access on the roadway for hose lines and later arriving vehicles. Where possible, place apparatus on the same side of the road to maximize vehicle access. Park at least 25’ from other apparatus to allow enough room to remove ground ladders and equipment from rear compartments. Relocation potential must be considered.

Conditions may change for the worse and your apparatus may need to be moved. Collapse zone is 1 ½ times the height of the building. Apparatus that are not being used should be kept in the staging area out of the way so as to not interfere with fire ground operations. Stay clear of power lines that may fall and contact apparatus. Power lines should be given adequate clearance.