Four (4) Phases To Managing An Incident

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When preparing for and responding to an emergency incident, consider breaking down the incident into four (4) separate phases. Doing so may make it a little easier to manage, and remember what needs to be done and when.

1. Pre-Incident
2. Enroute to arrival
3. Arrival to under control
4. Under control to post incident

1. Pre-Incident:
   - Preplanning
   - Area familiarization
   - Training & Physical fitness
   - Establishing expectations
   - Personnel, apparatus & equipment readiness

2. Enroute to Arrival:
   - Verifying map page
   - Evaluating pre plan
   - Hydrants / Fire Department Connection locations / availability
   - Apparatus responding
   - Knowledge of area
   - Direction to crew
   - Radio frequencies
   - Personal Protective Equipment
   - Size-up (Facts, Probabilities, Own situation, Decision, Plan)
   - Critical Fireground Factors (Wallace was hot)

   Critical Fireground Factors:

   W  (Water supply)   W  (Weather)
   A  (Area)          A  (Auxiliary appliances)
   L  (Life safety)   S  (Special matters)
   L  (Location/Extent of fire)
   A  (Apparatus responding)
   C  (Construction/Collapse)
   E  (Exposures)
   H  (Height)
   O  (Occupancy)
   T  (Time of day)
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3. **Arrival to Under Control:**

- Initial radio report
- Follow-up radio report
- Size-up / 360 hot lap
- Additional resource requests
- Incident priorities
- Command options / Command mode
- Strategic mode
- Incident Action Plan
- Incident / Strategic objectives
- Apparatus placement
- Hose line placement and selection
- Tactical objectives
- Sufficient units & personnel
- Incident benchmarks
- Notifications
- Logistical support for personnel
- Transfer of command briefing

4. **Under Control to Post Incident**

- Overhaul plan with investigator
- Determine cause / origin
- Demobilization plan
- Responder / Occupant wellness
- Transfer of command briefing
- Tailboard session
- Reports, paperwork
- Notifications
- Post Incident Analysis (start thinking about)
- Lessons learned
- Email blurb to send out to all personnel providing a synopsis of what occurred