

Building Construction for the Truck Company

Jimm Walsh



Very few things are going to influence our tactics more than building construction. Like Frank Brannigan taught us: "*The building is your enemy, know your enemy!*" It is absolutely essential that we learn how different structures are built. The way a building is constructed will tell us a lot about how it will burn, respond to our tactics, and even collapse. The truck company cannot make sound fire ground decisions without a strong working knowledge of building construction. The jobs of venting, entering and searching the structure can be made safer and easier with some basic building construction knowledge. During this series of articles we will focus on building construction and its fire ground implications, specifically:

- The 5 different types of building construction
- How to "read" the building
- Roof assemblies
- Forcible entry related to building construction