

Dragon, Karen E. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)

From: FFUS-Comments
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2009 11:11 AM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Cc: Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR)
Subject: 141 - FFUS Comments

Name

Organization

Email

Address

Comments

The report does have some valid points, but one must make a line between unoccupied and vacant. Each and every situation needs to be looked at by the factors that are present. To say one should not have an aggressive interior attack on a structure that is "unoccupied" with the family in the front yard, is a rash decision. If it were your home with a one or two room fire that could be extinguished quickly and for the most part safely, and the fire department stood on the street and went defensive, you would not like the outcome. These methods do not contain a fire they just stop it from burning down the block. Your home would be a total loss. This is a common scenerio, along with many others that could be made up. We need to consider safety at all times, but common sense must prevail. We must use all factors that are presented to us and sometimes these factors are not seen until after the emergency is contain. It is obvious that we should risk lives of firefighters for abandoned, delapidated structures but defensive is not always a good choice.

We as firefighters chose this profession aware of the risk and dangers but did so knowing we can make a difference in many peoples lives.

Sometimes that difference may be stopping their home from being totally destroyed, or an adjacent apartment, neighboring house and on and on.

Please understand and consider that broad reaching decisions on operations will affect more than just our safety. Thank you though for continuing to try to make of lives safer