



Multi-Fatality Kennel Fire

Fire Investigation and Code Review Update



GEORGETOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT



PRIDE - PASSION - RESPECT



Our Focus

1. Identify area(s) of fire origin
2. Identify probable ignition sources
3. Evaluate intentional vs. unintentional actions
4. Evaluate timeline and fire spread
5. Determine causal factors that can be improved to prevent this from happening again
6. Educate, Enforce, and Collaborate

September 18

59

families

75

fatalities

0

survivors

In loving memory of...

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------|--------|------------|
| Ace | Dana | Hunter | Ozzie | Shadow |
| Ace | Dash | Kona | Parker | Sherlock |
| Ace | Dean | Leon | Penny | Shoes |
| Angus | Dempsey | Lilly | Piper | Snoop Dogg |
| Artemis | Drexel | Lola | Piper | Sunny |
| Aurelius | Duchess | Louie | Ricky | Teddy |
| Bearzy | Duke | Luna | Rocco | Tino |
| Bluey | Earl | Mack | Rooney | Titan |
| Buddy | Fiona | Maia | Roxie | Tobey |
| Bunnie | Gizmo | Margo | Rudy | Toby |
| Cali | Goose | Maverick | Sadie | Walker |
| Canelo | Granger | Molly | Sailor | Xander |
| Chipper | Graycie | Motley | Sammy | Zane |
| Clyde | Gunny | Mozart | Sammy | Zeke |
| Coaster | Hope | Nash | Scout | Zeke |

Timeline

22:55:47 - Call received

22:56:17 - Call routed

22:56:47 – Call Dispatch

23:01:35 – 1st FD unit on-scene

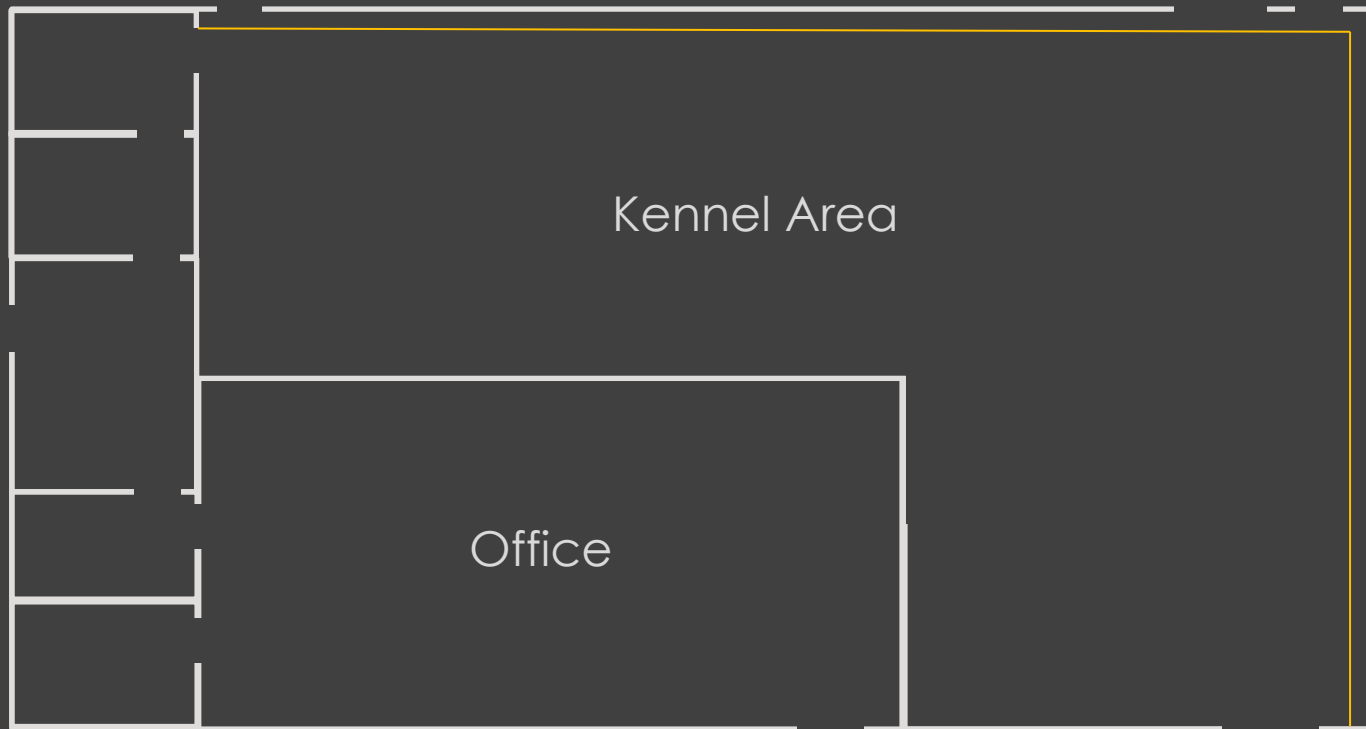
04:48 - 1st Dispatch to Arrive

05:48 – 1st Call Recvd to Arrive

Construction

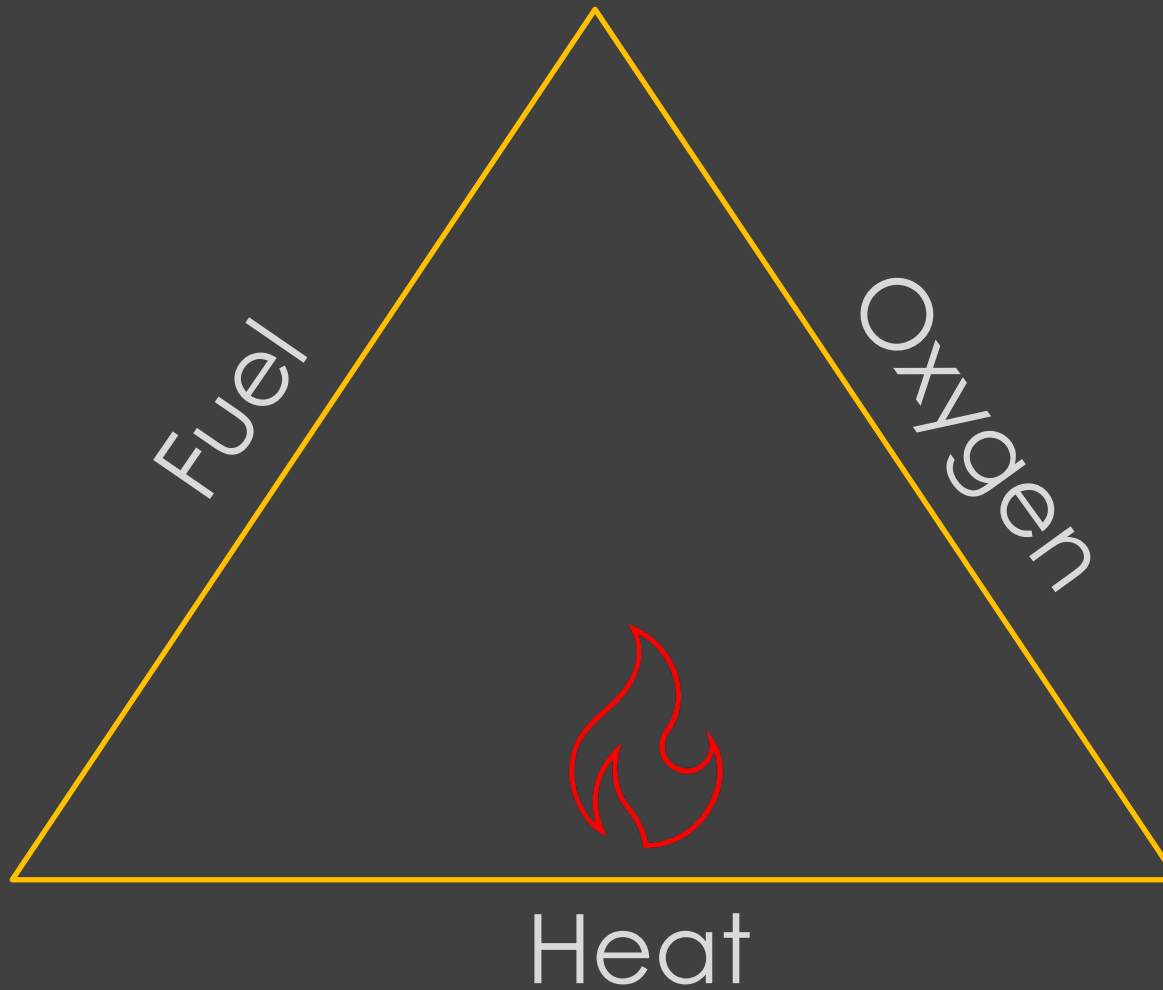
Type 5

- Metal Exterior (FR)
- Interior (Wood/Drywall/Insulation)
- Open Ceiling in kennel area

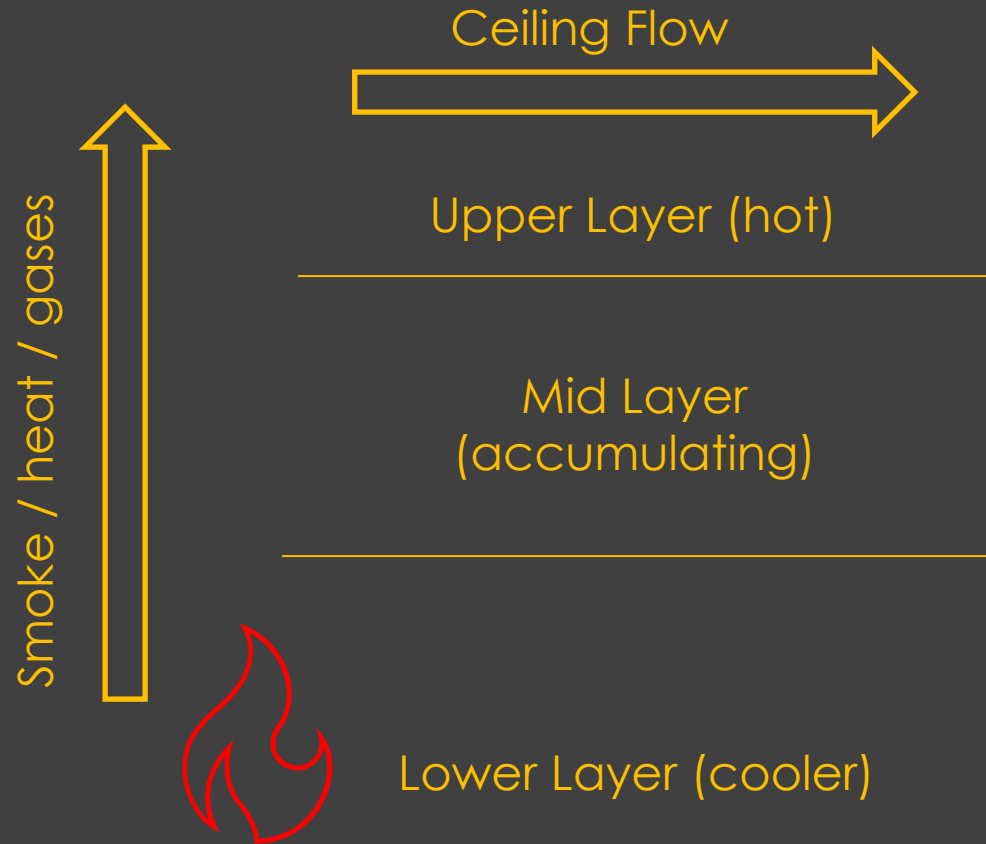


* Approximate layout & not to scale

Fire Behavior

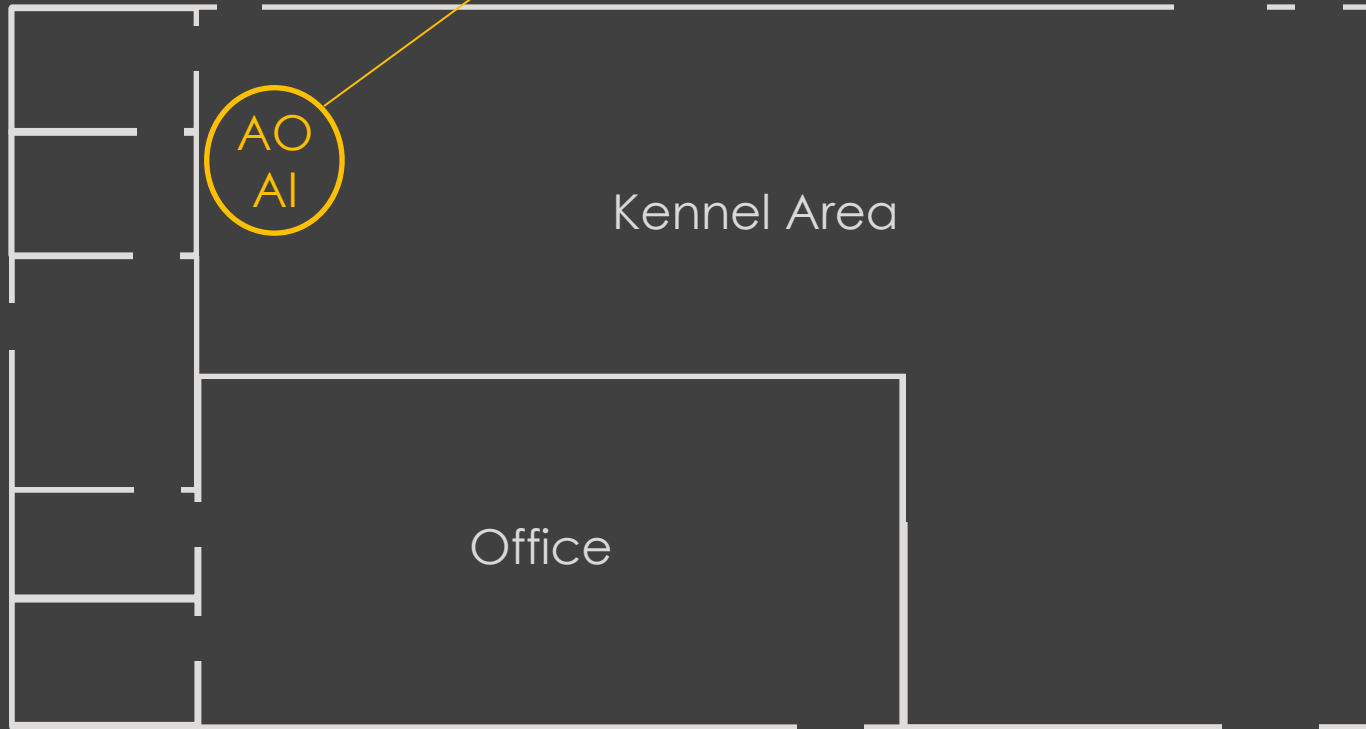


Smoke



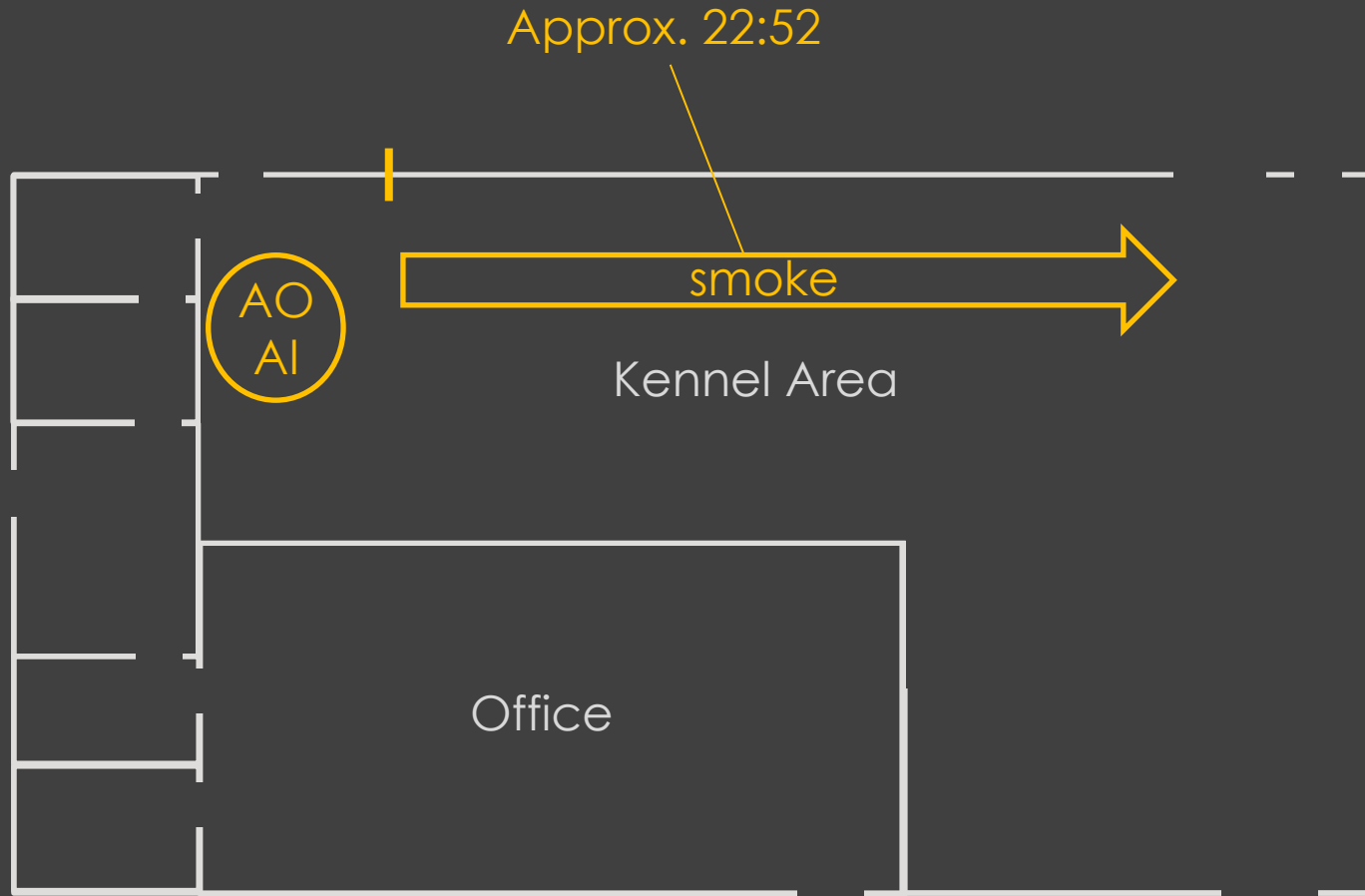
Findings

Approx. 22:40



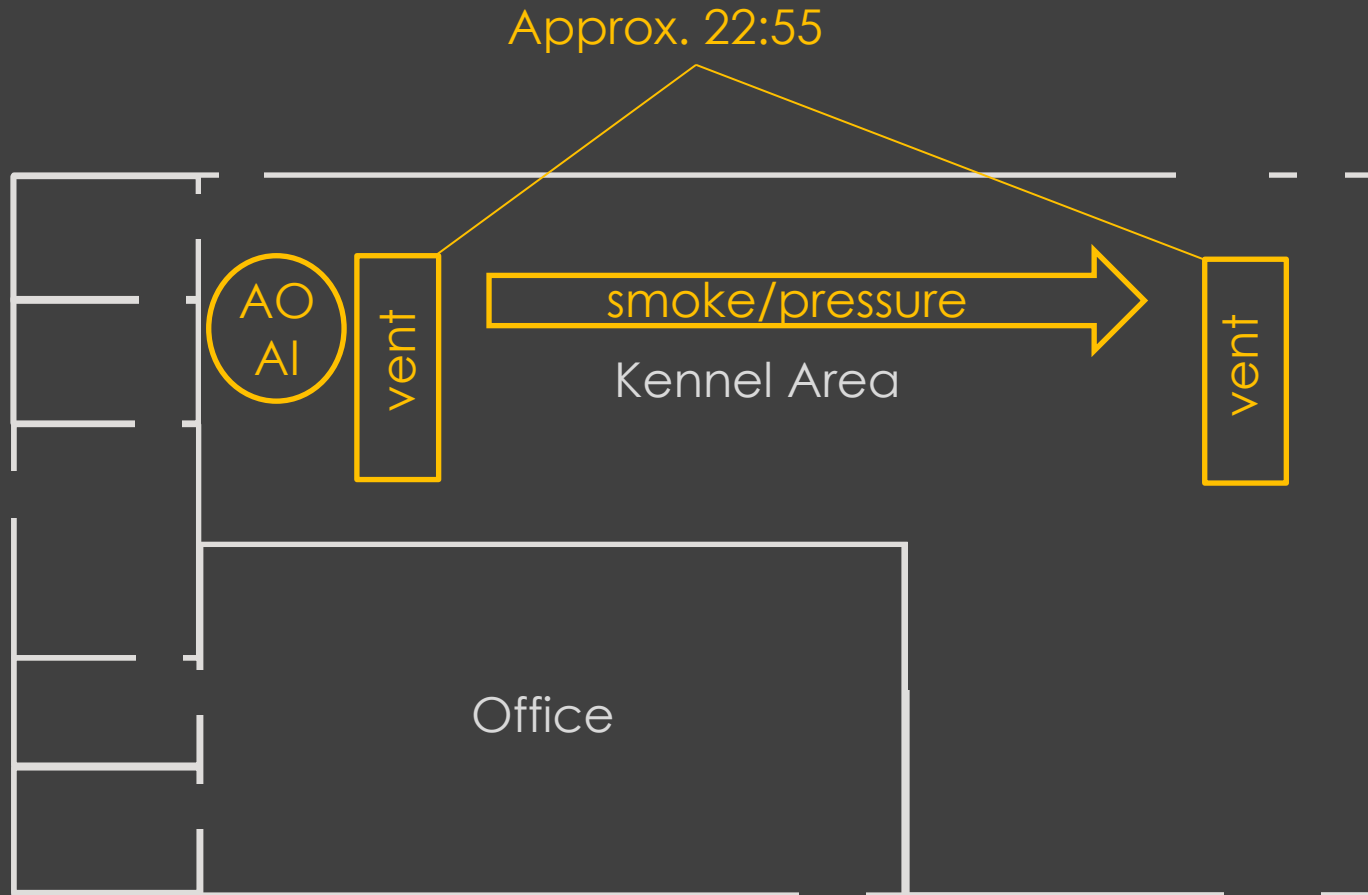
* Approximate layout & not to scale

Findings



* Approximate layout & not to scale

Findings



* Approximate layout & not to scale

22:54:45



VIDEOINSIGHT

9/18/2021 10:54:45 PM

City of Georgetown
FIRE DEPARTMENT



22:55:10



VIDEOINSIGHT

9/18/2021 10:55:10 PM

City of Georgetown
FIRE DEPARTMENT



Known Facts

- Area of origin identified inside main kennel/boarding area
- Probable ignition occurred at approx. 22:40 pm
- Probable ignition sources still being evaluated
- Building material may have contributed to smoke spread
- No supervised smoke or heat detection devices
- No fire suppression system

Current Actions

- Created definition for “*Animal Housing or Care Facilities*” with priority inspections to be conducted on annual basis
- Audit and inspection on all animal care facilities (26)
- Coordinated investigation w/ third-parties to evaluate findings
- Basic burn evaluation of construction material (panel and insulation)
- Attended ICC Code Hearings in Pittsburgh – Item pulled
- Solicited community input for code revisions

Draft Definition

- Facilities used for temporary or permanent housing of animals for the purpose of providing a service, participating in a sport, or for providing general board and care. Animal housing or care facilities do not include animal or pet care by pet owners caring for their own animals at their owned or rented property, and these facilities do not include Group U agricultural uses for the care and feeding of the agricultural business owner's livestock.

Draft Language

- Early notification
 - Supervised smoke detection and/or heat detection
- Reduced smoke/fire growth
 - Building material / interior finish
- 24-hour care and/or fire suppression systems
- Exterior areas of safety (credit/alternative)

Next Steps

- Review proposed changes w/ Building Standards Commission on October 14, 2021
- Coordinated investigation on possible ignition sources
- Review proposed changes w/ City Council in November/December
- Final investigation report after all info received
- Share info with other jurisdictions

Thank you for your support.

City of Georgetown

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