



TRAINING NOTES

DIVISION OF TRAINING

High Mechanism MVA

When/Where:

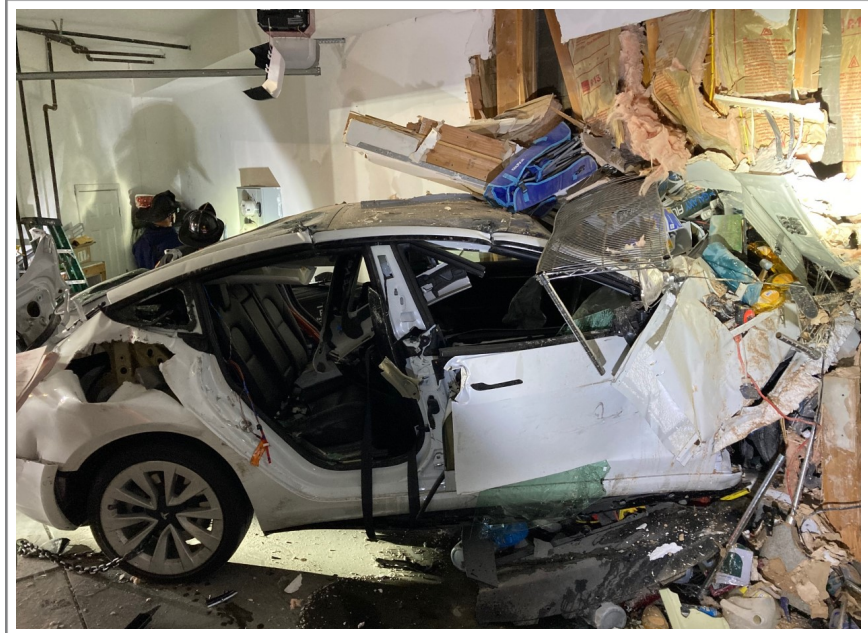
November 10, 2022 at 1626 hours
3217 San Bruno Ave

Responding Units:

E44, T17, RS1, RS2, RC4, KM101,
M59, B09, PG&E, SFPD, DBI,
Red Cross, PIO

Resources:

Tesla Emergency
Response Guide



Tesla Into Building Causes Multiple Hazards

At 16:28 on November 11th, 2022, units were dispatched to an MVA vehicle into a residence. Engine 44 arrived on scene to find two vehicles involved in a high mechanism accident. Two occupants in a Tesla Model 3 were heading East Bound on Mansell towards San Bruno at a high rate of speed. The vehicle lost control, struck a parked vehicle with one occupant inside and careened into the garage of multi-family dwelling. The front half of the Tesla went through the rear wall of the garage and into an adjacent building.

Engine 44 updated the situation on Control Channel A3 that there were trapped occupants in a vehicle inside of a structure. Battalion 9 was in the area monitoring the radio and attached themselves to the incident. Upon arrival, Battalion 9 received a patient count from Rescue Captain 4. There were 3 total patients, 2 were serious and required extrication from a Tesla located inside of the garage area. One patient was stable and sitting inside of her parked vehicle, which was struck by the Tesla.

Battalion 9 requested another medic unit code 3. Engine 44 was providing patient care for the occupants of the Tesla and had 50' of their 1 3/4" bumper line laid out and ready for use in the event of a car fire.

Truck 17 and Rescue Squad 1 utilized the Genesis Cutters and Spreaders to extricate the trapped occupants inside the Tesla. The front doors of the Tesla were not able to be accessed due to the vehicle being lodged into the rear wall. The rear doors of the Tesla were removed, and the occupants were extricated, one at a time. Each passenger was loaded onto a gurney and immediately transported to SFGH ER for treatment.

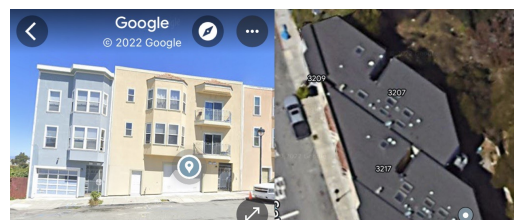
During the extrication operation, Department of Building Inspection (DBI) was requested. All occupants of the building involved were evacuated from the structure due to the accident damaging load bearing walls and knocking over a steel I-Beam used for an earthquake retrofit.

An occupant from the Bravo exposure at 3209 San Bruno Ave alerted crews that there was the smell of natural gas in the building and that there was water flowing on the 2nd floor. PG&E Gas and Electric were called to the scene. All occupants of the Bravo Exposure were evacuated, and members of Truck 17 were directed to shut off gas and water to the building involved and the Bravo Exposure.

Members of Truck 17 and Engine 44 were directed to complete a primary search of the buildings involved to locate any trapped or injured occupants and to survey the damaged areas in the structure. Battalion 9A performed air monitoring in the structures to confirm hazards from natural gas leak had dissipated.

The unique design of the buildings involved were identified during the search of the buildings. The layout of the buildings was at a 45-degree angle. When the Tesla crashed into the garage, the front half of the vehicle went through the rear wall and into an apartment unit in the Bravo Exposure.

SFPD was on scene for traffic control, investigation and coordinating the tow removal of the car from the structure.



The Tesla needed to have all electrical hazards shut off prior to moving the vehicle from the structure. The primary electrical shutoff for this model Tesla was in the main engine area at the front of the vehicle. This area was not accessible due to the location of the hood in the Bravo Exposure. Rescue Squad 1 was able to locate and disconnect the secondary electrical shutoff in the C Post of the Passenger side of the vehicle.

DBI arrived on scene to inspect the buildings for structural damages and any other apparent hazards. DBI red tagged the apartment unit which was severely damaged when the Tesla drove through the wall. They directed PG&E to put locked shutoffs on utility lines to ensure no power or gas lines were able to be activated in either building. DBI requested shoring to take place in garage to reduce collapse hazard in area where I-Beam was severed. A coordinated effort was performed to remove the Tesla from the garage. Once the vehicle was removed from the structure, Rescue Squad 2 performed a spot shore of the garage area, reducing the risk of collapse.

Red Cross was on scene to assist with 14 displaced individuals who could no longer stay in either building due to the possible collapse hazards and all the utilities being shut off. The owners of each building were also on scene and coordinated with restoration companies to repair all damage to the building and secure the buildings to prevent any theft to property.

PIO arrived to speak to media who were gathered on scene and advise the public of traffic delay and MUNI disruption in the area.

In conclusion, this was a significant event which posed various challenges to the responding units. This incident included collapse hazards, utility hazards, electric vehicle hazards as well as multiple patients and buildings involved. From a Chief Officer standpoint there were multiple agencies and resources which needed to be coordinated with and a dynamic scene which evolved from a rescue to a mitigation of building and utility emergencies.

The decisive actions of all members on scene played an instrumental role in the successful rescue of multiple victims and the safe stabilization of this significant event.

Tactical Considerations:

The Tactical Considerations of this event were based on the Incident Priorities identified upon arrival.

Life Safety

1. Extrication of Trapped Occupants

Identifying the location of trapped occupants and removing them from hazardous environment was the top priority upon arrival. The Squad, Engine and Truck worked together in a coordinated effort to remove the victims. Engine 44 had a ready-line in place and ready for use to mitigate fire hazards in the garage area. Both rear doors were removed from the vehicle to allow access to both passengers located in the front seat. While the doors were being removed, the victims were being assessed by members of Engine 44. The victims were placed on backboards and immediately transferred to ambulances on scene.

2. Bystander safety

When a collapse hazard was identified with the smell of natural gas, all occupants of buildings involved were escorted out of the building to a place of safe refuge. SFPD was on scene for crowd and traffic control.

3. Fire Personnel Safety

Rig placement and SFPD for traffic control was utilized for scene safety. All members were in PPE and when there was notification of a gas leak, members entering the building donned SCBA's. The electrical hazard on the Tesla was mitigated by cutting the electrical shutoff line in the rear of the passenger side of the vehicle.

Incident Stabilization

1. Collapse Hazard

Collapse hazard was identified and communicated immediately by members working in the garage area. There was a severed I-Beam and damage to load bearing walls. DBI was called to scene to advise, and Rescue Squad 2 was on scene to spot shore upon removal of vehicle. The building was evacuated prevent injury.

2. Utility Hazard

Once a gas leak was identified by occupants in the Bravo Exposure building, it became a priority to mitigate this hazard. The occupants were evacuated from the building immediately. The utilities were shut off to the buildings involved, and PG&E was requested to ensure utilities secured. Ventilation and air monitoring occurred to ensure dissipation of gas leak.

3. Assisting the Public

When the incident was stabilized, the consideration shifted to individuals involved. Red Cross was called to scene to assist displaced occupants who did not have housing resources following incident.