Fire Service Use of Thermal Imaging Cameras
Thermal Imaging Cameras

- From Military Technology
- Law Enforcement – 1980s
- Widespread Fire Service Use – Late 1990s
Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs)

• Sensitive To Infrared Energy
• They “See” Heat
Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs)

- Warmer Appears Lighter
TICs Make It Possible To...

- “See” Heat
  - Find Fire
  - Find Victims
TICs Make It Possible To...

- See In Complete Darkness
TICs Make It Possible To...

• See Through Smoke
Benefits For The Fire Service

• Faster, More Efficient Search
  (Life Safety Is Our #1 Priority)
Benefits For The Fire Service

- Locating The Fire
Benefits For The Fire Service

• Firefighter Safety
  – Situational Awareness
  – Structural Size-Up
  – Lost / Trapped Firefighters
Dallas Fire-Rescue
Thermal Imaging Cameras
Deployment

• 1999
  – First 15 Purchased
  – On Command Vehicles

• 2005
  – Added 10
  – Redeployed To Truck Companies

• 2007
  – Added 30: Funding for 5 was donated
  – All trucks + 9 engines + Back On Command Vehicles

• 2008
  – Add 45
  – All Trucks, All Engines, All Command Vehicles
Cost

- Initial Cost ≈ $14,000
- Current Cost ≈ $10,000
- Funding – 2008 Urban Area Security Initiative Grant
Fire Service Use of Thermal Imaging Cameras

Questions?