

LORENZO CUENCO-Crew 136, Safety 037, Duties-hotel repairman-plumber, working on leaks, broken pipes, plugged toilets. He reports to the engine department. He has been doing this since 1987. He has always worked on the Norway. Cabin B-1163, His work starts at 0800, so he was asleep, he heard the sound, he didn't believe that it was an explosion, the thought it was the gangway colliding with the vessel, the power went out, so he thought something wrong, then he heard the alarm, Code Alpha, then Code Bravo which meant for him, as a firefighter, to go to his station, Station 3. There he is an assistant team leader and the team leader when the leader is absent. This is on the Fjord deck so he had to go all the way down, then all the way up.

When he left his cabin he went left, down the hallway on the starboard side to his station. He is alone in his cabin. He has a porthole.

He donned his firefighting gear, he went to Biscayne Deck, as instructed by the Bridge, then the Chief Engineer, the on-scene Commander, Magnus, was instructing him and told him to go the Biscayne Deck, nearest to where the fire was.

He went to the Biscayne Deck to wait for the assignment, in front of Engine Office. Because of the distance from his emergency station to the fire, he was among the last to get there. He was then told to go to C deck, and open all of the cabins on starboard side. To check to determine whether anyone was inside. No one was inside the cabins, only in one of the cabins, he is not sure the exact number.

The smoke was gotten rid of because he was there ½ hour after the event. The first who were there were the ones who actually went to the location of the event. During firefighting drills they are usually the last ones to get to the scene-because of the location of their firefighting station.

They stayed on Biscayne Deck, by this point there was no fire, the stretchers were called for, but they stayed on Biscayne Deck

When he went up the staircase he only saw a few people. He knew that he had to respond to the alarm. As he went down the Biscayne Deck the door to the engine room was open, he could see that steam was not coming out and the sprinklers were operating.

His equipment includes fire suit and breathing apparatus. There are five people in his team. He passed the gangway on the starboard side. He saw that security was telling people to go out. He himself, he was tempted to go out, but because he has the duty to respond to the alarm he did not. He did not use his air mask since there was no more steam or smoke.

First announcement that he heard was the Code Alpha over the PA, then the Code Bravo, there may have been others, but once he heard code Bravo he knew that he had to get to his station so that is what he did. He thinks that there may be 7 or 8 fire teams. His fire station was the highest deck.

They waited at their station for other members to come, it takes time. It took about 5 or 10 minutes. He has a drill to put on his fire fighting gear every week. He thinks that his team leader is a Polish guy.

If the leader didn't show up he would act as the team leader, to lead the team, he would have his walkie-talkie and follow the instructions of where to go. They practice this all the time in his drills.

There have been other fires that he responded to, a long time ago there was a small fire. This was a long ago, a fire in the engine room in Barcelona, a long ago. The response was all the same, they practice this every week so the response is always the same, they go to the stations, put on their gear as quickly as possible.

He assigned to the firefighting team when they put in the card swipe system, around that time. The security guard was a ship security card, he was allowing people to go off, not really encouraging them. He was scared and wanted to get off, but his firefighting duties called for him to go to his station. This was the stores gangway for the gift shop.

He gets a medical exam whenever he returns to the ship on a new contract, but that changed and it has been a few years. It used to be in Manila. He has had firefighting training on board the ship, but he also had it in Manila. The other team members are Filipino, one Polish, but one of the Filipinos was going home that day so he did not show up. The team leader is an engine repairman. He only has basic firefighting training, not advanced training.

They have to make sure that facemasks work well, the air tanks are OK. Other people checked the fire main.

All fire teams were told to go to Biscayne Deck during the announcement.