

RADIO TRAFFIC AND USE

A. High Call Volume

NORMAL:

This term is used for normal radio traffic usage. The only time this term should be used is when returning to this mode of traffic from Priority traffic.

PRIORITY:

This term will be used when there is an influx in call volume to the center and the normal radio traffic will interfere with normal operations. All units should be made aware that the Commcenter has gone into Priority radio traffic, and that all “non-essential” radio transmissions should be ceased.

EMERGENCY:

This term should only be used when a dispatcher hears a “MAYDAY” or another life threatening radio transmission on a channel that is not assigned to a fire ground scene.

Most of the time the term Emergency should only be transmitted from the fire ground when a member at the scene witnesses a life threatening event. If you do hear a call for “MAYDAY” or another emergency transmission contact the IC that the firefighter is on and advise them that there is a firefighter calling a “MAYDAY.”

Radio Traffic	Comments	Does This affect Response?	Acknowledgement Required?
Chief Officers responding to incident	Chiefs are always our friends!	Yes	Yes Priority 1
Apparatus En Route	Apparatus w/ MDT's on Box Alarms should voice for members but don't have to have acknowledgement	Yes	Yes Priority 1
First apparatus on scene	Additional apparatus with MDT's could update and don't have to be acknowledged	Yes	Yes Priority 1
Apparatus In Service	All accept last unit could update with MDT's and don't have to be acknowledged	Yes, may affect future response	Yes Priority 1
Chief Officers going in/out of district	Primarily for membership info	No	Yes Priority 2
Apparatus 10-10	Comm Center knows the call was heard and the truck will be responding shortly. Re-page timers are cancelled	Yes	Yes Priority 2

Non Fire Officer's responding to scene / station	A firefighter first on scene to give size up would be acknowledged	Maybe- CommCenter knows the call was heard and someone is responding	No Yes on size up
First station officer responding to station	Comm Center is not required to acknowledge	Maybe	Yes Priority 2
Station Officers going in/out of district	Primarily for membership info	No	No
Apparatus clearing the scene (different from available)	No such status; however last unit should advise call may be cleared after all address changes are made and notes entered in CAD.	No	No
Apparatus on the air for PR/Fuel/Training/Etc.	Primarily for membership info. MDT equipped apparatus should use appropriate status switch	No	No

B. Members are to avoid unnecessary telephone calls and radio transmissions to the ComCenter. In the event the individual misunderstands an emergency dispatch the individual shall not telephone the ComCenter.

C. Important Considerations

Just because you have a radio does not mean you have to talk.
 Assure your message will add value to the incident
 Listen before speaking to assure clear air
 Push the push-to-talk button **1 second prior to speaking** to activate the repeater
 Assure your message content prior to keying up
 Use short phrases
 Assure others understand what you are saying – confirm if necessary

D. Consider Priorities

Command staff has highest priority
 Responding to the station – consider how many are enough??!!!!
 Apparatus enroute – each one
 POV to scene – **MAXIMUM** of **two** staging enroute
 Rehab Team – enroute only statement
 On scene –

Common Sense Makes Good Sense

E. Fire Department Designators

10- Champions VFD	60- Ponderosa VFD
20- Cypress Creek VFD	70- Spring VFD
30- Klein VFD	80- Little York VFD
40- Northwest VFD	90- Northeast VFD
50- Cypress Creek EMS	40 – Westlake VFD

F. Radio Numbers

<u>Title</u>	<u>Number</u>
<u>Command Staff</u>	
Chief	6001
Asst. Chief	6002
Deputy Chief	6003
Captain St. 61	6111
Captain St. 62	6211
Captain St. 63	6311
Fire Marshal	6024
<u>Appointed Officers</u>	
Junior Captain	6112
Lieutenant Sta. 61	6113
Lieutenant Sta. 61	6114
Lieutenant Sta. 62	6213
Lieutenant Sta. 62	6214
Lieutenant Sta. 63	6313
Dept. Safety Officer	6021
Dept. Medical Officer	6027