

14. Communication

14.1 General Communications

14.1.1 The use of suggestive and foul language shall not be used under any circumstances. There will be no use of first names on the radio unless requested by the IC. The radios are to be used for official business only.

14.1.2 All transmissions should be made concise and clear. When compressing the transmission button, the operator must wait at least two (2) seconds for the repeater to pick up the transmission. Failure to do this will cause the transmission to be cut-off.

14.1.3 All personnel will use "clear text" when using the radios. Due to the wide range used of the Incident Command System, 10 codes have become outdated and will no longer be used by this company. The following are the only commands that should be transmitted when responding to incidents:

"Responding"-apparatus has a full crew and will be leaving the station.

"Arriving, what's the assignment"-apparatus is in the area of the scene and awaiting further instructions.

"On scene"-apparatus is on scene and beginning operations.

"Standing by"- will only be used when there is a light staff at the fire station. It will then be the decision of the IC for that unit to respond. No longer will **"Responding with a light crew"** or **"Just a driver"** be transmitted on the radio.

14.1.4 When responding to an incident, the apparatus will transmit "Responding" and await acknowledgment by the IC prior to leaving the fire station parking lot. If acknowledgment is not received, check the radio to see if its on and on proper channel and repeat transmission. This is done because the IC may give the apparatus different directions for response due to congested traffic or scene location.

14.1.5 If a normal period of time has gone by and there are not enough firefighters to make a complete crew, the IC may be contacted on the radio to advise him/her of the manpower situation. No first names will be used. The proper response will be: "Engine 379 is Standing by." The IC will then make the determination for that apparatus to respond or remain at the station.

14.1.6 Units shall be identified as listed below:

Unit		County Number	Local Number
Chief		52-3-66	3-66
Deputy Chief		52-3-67	3-67
Captain		52-3-68	3-68
First Lieutenant		52-3-69	3-69
Second Lieutenant		52-3-70	3-70
Chief Fire Police		52-3-98	3-98
Pierce Engine	1500gpm	52-3-78	3-78
Pierce Engine	2000gpm	52-3-79	3-79
Heavy Rescue		52-3-86	3-86
Ford Utility Truck		52-3-87	3-87
Pierce Platform	2000gpm	52-3-91	3-91
Brush Unit		52-3-93	3-93
Utility Unit		52-3-99	3-99

14.2 Apparatus Radio Use

14.2.1 Each piece of apparatus is equipped with a mobile unit capable of transmitting on specific channels.

14.2.2 While enroute to the scene of an incident, the apparatus officer will use the mobile radio for communicating responding, arriving and any other pertinent information. The local apparatus number will be the number used when responding to incidents within Wall Township and using Wall Fire 1.

14.2.3 Once the apparatus is on scene, that unit may switch over and operate on Wall Fire 6, unless advised otherwise by "Command", the OIC or deemed otherwise by the apparatus officer. Operating on Wall Fire 6 allows this company to operate without the entire Township listening to operations.

14.2.4 The following is a list of channels which Wall Township Fire Department has available. These channels can be used by any fire company while operating at an incident. The only channel which transmits directly to Central Dispatch is Wall Fire 1.

Wall Fire 1
Wall Fire 2
Wall Fire 3
Wall Fire 4
Wall Fire 5
Wall Fire 6
Wall Fire 7
Wall Fire 8
Wall Fire 9

Wall Fire 10

At no time shall mobile radios be switched from Wall Fire 1 or Wall Fire 2 unless instructed to do so by the IC. On mutual aid responses, only the IC is to transmit directly to the command post of the department requesting mutual aid.

14.3 Portable Radio Use

14.3.1 Currently portable radios are assigned to members in goods standings. These radios are not permitted to leave the firehouse except for an emergency call for service. The radio identifiers for these radios are "3 and the member's line number". Each Line Officer is assigned a portable radio. These assigned portable radios will be used by that officer only unless exigent circumstances exist. Wall Fire 6 will be the fire ground operation channel for every incident unless otherwise stated by the IC.

14.3.2 When transmitting from the portable radios, the call sign will be the apparatus riding assignment task. This is the tag that you passed up to the apparatus officer enroute to the incident.

Example: "Command from 379 Irons"

"Fire has extended into the roof area and consumed truss construction, the roof is beginning to collapse."

14.3.3 The following is a partial list of channels available on four different portables.

16 Channel Portable

01 Wall Fire 1
02 Wall Fire 2
03 Wall Fire 3
04 Wall Fire 4
05 Wall Fire 5
06 Wall Fire 6
07 Wall Fire 7
08 Wall Fire 8
09 Wall Fire 9
10 Wall Fire 10
11 Monmouth Fire 1
13 Monmouth Fire 2
15 Wall Fire 1
16 Wall Fire 6

There are portable radios mounted on the apparatus for extra use on the fire ground.

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