

Tamaqua Fire Department

RADIO PROCEDURES
UNIT IDENTIFICATION

OPERATING GUIDELINES
OPERATIONS # 101.00
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DATE: 10/01/05

ALL RADIO TRANSMISSIONS SHOULD BE CALM, BRIEF, AND IN A NORMAL TONE OF VOICE.

ALL RADIO TRANSMISSIONS SHALL USE COMMON ENGLISH PHRASES. THE USE OF THE "TEN CODE" SYSTEM IS DISCONTINUED.

BEFORE TRANSMITTING, LISTEN FIRST TO INSURE THAT NO OTHER TRANSMISSIONS ARE OCCURRING. PROCEED WITH MESSAGE. ONLY NECESSARY MESSAGES SHOULD BE TRANSMITTED DURING AN INCIDENT. ALL CHIT-CHAT SHOULD BE KEPT TO A BARE MINIMUM. IF YOUR MESSAGE CAN BE GIVEN FACE TO FACE, DO SO. INSTEAD OF CALLING FOR A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT, SEND SOMEONE WHO IS NOT DOING ANYTHING TO GET IT. ANYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE TO LESSEN RADIO TRAFFIC SHOULD BE ATTEMPTED. WE MUST KEEP THE FREQUENCY CLEAR FOR IMPORTANT AND EMERGENCY MESSAGES.

GENERAL RADIO PROCEDURES:

WHEN RESPONDING TO AN ALARM:

"Schuylkill County from Ladder 770"

AWAIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"Ladder 770 Responding"

WHEN ARRIVING ON SCENE:

"Schuylkill County from Engine 778"

AWAIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"Engine 778 on Scene"

IN ADDITION, THE FIRST UNIT ON SCENE SHOULD INCLUDE A REPORT OF FIRE CONDITIONS, IF THERE IS NOT CHIEF OFFICER ON-SCENE: i.e. "Engine 782 on location, smoke showing; fire showing; nothing showing; etc." AS PER the "ICS", THE SENIOR OFFICER OF THE FIRST-IN PIECE SHALL ASSUME COMMAND OF FIRE UNTIL RELIEVED BY A CHIEF OFFICER.

WHEN Available:

"Schuylkill County from Engine 784"

AWAIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"Engine 784 available"

NOTE: There is no need to let the communication center no that you are back in station, they only want to know when you are available!

NOTE: When possible place all units available from incident to reduce radio traffic.

BOX ALARMS

DUE TO THE AMOUNT OF RADIO TRAFFIC INHERENT TO A "BOX" OR "GENERAL" ALARM, CERTAIN PROCEDURES MUST BE ALTERED TO ENHANCE OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY:

NO MORE THAN TWO (2) ATTEMPTS AT AWAITING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WHEN RADIOING RESPONDING ARE TO BE MADE. IF NO ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM COUNTY IS RECEIVED, UNIT IS TO SIMPLY TRANSMIT:

"Schuylkill County from Engine 778, Responding."

SPECIAL SERVICE VEHICLES (i.e. squad, utility, etc.) AND SECOND-OUT PIECES OF FIRE APPARATUS ARE NOT TO CALL RESPONDING UNLESS SAID VEHICLE/PIECE IS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED BY THE INCIDENT COMMANDER.

WHEN UNITS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED BY COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS ON ORDERS OF THE INCIDENT COMMANDER, THERE IS NO NEED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THIS MESSAGE.

i.e. "Schuylkill County to all Tamaqua fire units not on scene, on orders of 771, you can cancel."

NO NEED TO ACKNOWLEDGE

EMERGENCY TRAFFIC (Priority)

ANY UNIT ENCOUNTERING AN EMERGENCY SITUATION REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ACTION SHALL USE THE TERM "**Priority**" TO GAIN RADIO PRIORITY.

i.e. "Ladder 770 to Command, Priority`"

COMMAND WILL ACKNOWLEDGE AND REPEAT THE Priority MESSAGE. IF A UNIT CANNOT CONTACT COMMAND, THE UNIT WILL CONTACT COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS TO ESTABLISH EMERGENCY TRAFFIC WITH COMMAND.

THE AIR ABSOLUTELY BELONGS TO ANY UNIT GIVING THE EMERGENCY TRAFFIC CALL "Priority."

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UNIT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

The follow are the recognized unit and officer radio numbers:

Fire Chief: 771
1st Asst. Fire Chief 772
2nd Asst. Fire Chief 773
3rd Asst. Fire Chief 774

Department Aerial 770

65-1 American Hose Apparatus:

1997 KME Pumper 775
2006 KME Pumper 776
Captain 777
Lieutenant 777A
Lieutenant 777B

65-2 Citizens Fire Co. Apparatus

2000 KME Pumper 782
1999 Squad 783
Captain 781
Lieutenant 781A
Lieutenant 781B

65-3 East End Fire Co. Apparatus:

1997 KME Pumper 778
1981 Squad 779
Captain 780
Lieutenant 780A
Lieutenant 780B

65-4 South Ward Fire Co. Apparatus:

1995 KME Pumper 784
1981 MACK Pumper 785
1994 Squad 786
1986 Brush/ P/U 787 #1
1991 Utility 788
1975 Brush 787 #2
Captain 786A
Lieutenant 786B
Lieutenant 786C