

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

1) Command vs. TAC

In route to incident – you are still controlled by Heartland and need to stay on Command to obtain updated information.

Stay on command until given an assignment – this is Zone 4 OPS policy. If you are first on scene investigating, you need to stay on command to communicate with incoming units, as other units arrive and you are given assignments switch to TAC. If you are in the Command Vehicle - there must be two units on scene before you can go to TAC. Once you go to operational mode, you go to TAC. Both frequencies should be monitored from the Command Vehicle.

If you are assigned staging stay on command to communicate with the IC.

Command training will be done in color group setting. All agencies should be doing the same things operationally. Chief Richardson will take this discussion back to Zone OPS meeting, that once you are on scene or given an assignment, you can switch to TAC.

2) Information that should be given once you arrive on scene:

- A) Type of building
- B) Address or Location of incident
- C) Occupancy and size
- D) Identify problem-Fire-Rescue-Hazmat ect...
- E) Extent / Volume of smoke
 - Light:** Light, white, wispy smoke; smoke in one or two windows.
 - Moderate:** Volume of brown smoke.
 - Heavy:** Smoke is pressurized and black
- F) What actions you are taking (example: first in engine is responsible for water supply).
- G) Resources needed.

Building should be described as:

A Side – Address side of building
B, C, D sides – go clockwise around the building
Floor designation assignments 1, 2, 3 ect..

Fire should be reported as:

1 window, B side of building

Well Involved-Fire from multiple doors or windows

Fully Involved-Fire from every opening

Smoke has one set of descriptors, fire has it's own set of descriptors.
Need to review/train with pictures showing different types of smoke (light, moderate, heavy)

3) **Naming groups**

Discussion of the following:

Single engine designator until the extent of fire is determined.

If Truck is doing multiple functions – name stays Truck X.

At this time, truck will be assigned a name that ties with its function (i.e. ventilation groups).

Trucks do not take command. The truck should come to the front of the scene unless needed out on the street.

Make sure the location of the Command Post is announced. If the BC leaves the Command Vehicle, officer should be wearing a coat and Helmet, and have two radios (Command and TAC).

4) **Chief Officer Assignments**

If Chiefs show up at an incident, they are there for support, not to take command. Utilize them for Safety, RIC, OPS, Accountability, and Media. They can be your eyes and ears.

All assignments must be put out on the air, including the above assignments.

Media – we want Fire Department faces in front of the camera. Utilize the PIO to get ink out fast, or the BC or designated person in front of the camera.

5) **Company Officers**

If the Company Officer arrives before the Battalion Chief and they can make an immediate difference by taking command, they can do so. There must be two or more resources to take command.

If the incident is not significant, Battalion Chiefs should let Company Officers take command and the Battalion Chief should assume safety. This will allow the Company Officers to develop their management and command skills.

At the end of a working fire the IC or Accountability Officer should conduct a PARs

6) **ICS Command Sheets**

Use written worksheets. Battalion Chiefs will work together to create a new worksheet within two weeks. Should be a multi-part form so that a copy can be passed off if necessary.

7) **On –Scene Modes of Operations**

A. Investigating

- 1 All units stay on command
- 2 First in unit investigates
- 3 First in unit announces findings and:
- 4 Releases companies if unfounded
- 5 If incident develops establish command structure and move operations to TAC

B. Passing Command

- 1 First in unit provides size-up and sets up for Operations and stays on command
- 2 Second in unit assumes command and units with assignments switch to TAC

C. Taking Command

- 1 First in unit provides size-up
- 2 Takes Command

D. Rescue Mode

- 1 Identified rescue mode over the command channel
- 2 Next in unit assume command and move operations to TAC
- 3 Address RIC and Accountability as units arrive
- 4 Report by first in unit to Fire Chief for Rescue Mode Operation