

FELTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

ARTICLE: II

SOP: 2600

SECTION: 2600

INCIDENT COMMUNICATIONS

SUBJECT:

COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURES

PURPOSE:

To provide radio and incident communications as efficiently as possible that are consistent with other Santa Cruz County Fire Agencies.

SCOPE:

To be used by dispatch and field personnel for radio communication.

PROCEDURE:

The Felton Fire Protection District shall utilize the policies and procedures as outlined in the Santa Cruz County Fire Agencies Operations Manual, Communications Section for purposes of dispatch and radio communications.

Command Net

On most incidents, the command net will be the dispatch net (red). If the incident escalates or it is a multi-agency/jurisdictional incident, the Incident Commander may request a second net to be used as a Command Net. This will move radio communications off the dispatch net to a separate command net assigned to the incident. The command net should be used by the Incident Commander to talk to dispatch or for the use of the Incident Command Staff. Once a command net has been established, all responding units should move to the command net. Any resources responding to the incident or not assigned should remain on the command net.

Communications Compatibility

In order to be compatible with other agencies, the following recommendations for Command and Tactical nets are available to the Incident Commander:

Command:	Tactical:
Red 154.325	Yellow 154.190
White 1 154.280	Blue 154.415
	Black 154.055
	CALCORD 156.075
	White 2 154.265
	White 3 154.295

It must be understood by the Incident Commander that there may be limitations in the availability of the radio channels. Every attempt should be made to choose compatible channels or provide radios if necessary. Other forms of communication should be enhanced in order to reduce the need for radio communications.

Communications Plan

On any significant or multi-jurisdictional incident, a communications plan should be developed by the Incident Commander. The plan should identify the command and tactical nets to be used on the incident.

Dispatch Center

Every attempt should be made to use the dispatch center of jurisdiction regarding the flow of information about the incident. Whenever we are responding to assist another fire agency, FFPD units will switch to the assigned command net if possible.

Single Point Ordering

Related to the common dispatch center, a unified ordering point should be used on all incidents whenever possible. When working in a unified command, all attempts will be made to centralize ordering so that the incident command can be run through the agency of jurisdiction. This will enhance the use of all resources to their fullest.

SUMMARY

Through the use of common terminology and operations, communications will be enhanced leading to more effective and efficient incident management operations.