



BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Call to Order: 0830-0925

Date: May 18, 2022

Old minutes: Old minutes emailed out. Motion to accept old minutes and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

Treasurer's Report: No changes for April statement. Beginning balance: \$4518.44.

Ending balance: \$4518.44. Motion to accept treasurers report and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

Communications/Bills: None

New Chief/Visitor: None

Committee Report:

Radio Grant: Received the \$13388.43 from the county. Has received only three invoices so far. Waiting for invoices to come through. Send invoices to grocer@aol.com. Everyone that is participating in this second round will get \$1800.00 per station for fire. Please get the radios ordered. Money that is left over will purchase a cache of radios. We have 2 years but Bruce would like to get it wrapped up.

ByLaws: Have had a couple of meetings, hope to get a draft copy to group for June meeting. Question for the group. With some of the things the committee is looking at, do we want to go back to having a November meeting? Have a November meeting was suggested and no one objected. An updated meeting schedule will be sent out. Additional discussion on November meeting date could also be moved if needed.

Sheriff: Per D. Albers. All is good. Keep dogs locked up.

Red Cross: None

Great Lakes Drone: None

Dispatch/911: Continue to struggle with staffing. Have added additional call taker so there are now 2 call takers. After summer will go back into dispatcher training. Doing interviews. Another dispatcher has put in notice. Chris requested with staffing being tight please use radio ediquite. Please wait for dispatch to acknowledge your radio traffic. Still need to know first unit enroute but additional trucks/units should not be calling dispatch. Additional units should be calling command or first truck when going enroute. A lot of POV unit going direct to scenes. There are no times documented for POV responses in CAD. Dispatch is starting to give MPSCS firegrounds in dispatch. Please listen to your dispatch and answer up on assigned MPSCS fireground. Multiple agencies are not listening and answering up on different talkgroups and not hearing units answer up or respond, or on scene size ups. Please have radio IDS up to date and to dispatch. Getting more and more emergency alerts. Remember emergency alerts and not recommended to be active in fire radios. North Berrien having issues with emergency alerts. Frank stated it is a radio issue and radio is being changed out. Dispatch needs a list of radio ID's/serial numbers/and who that radio is assigned to. If it is a spare radio list it as spare. Bruce reminded all serial number is on invoices. Frank reminded all that radio ID's and serial numbers are listed in the MPSCS portal. Dispatch spending a lot of time chasing emergency alerts down. If you have emergency alert active and accidentally activate it please acknowledge it to dispatch. Jamie asked if dispatch can note in active911 the MPSCS fireground. Chris...Yes and NO...depends on when you want your active911. If assigned before dispatch, then yes. Chris is trying to get dispatchers to set off tones, send active911, second tones. Chris will talk to dispatchers to try to assign MPSCS fireground before active911 and get it in there. Chris stated she works in the afternoon and will work on it. For the departments that wait on a fireground it would not be in the active911. Dispatch is now assigning the other MPSCS firegrounds as well as it gets busier. Therefore, Please listen to your dispatches and answer up on assigned MPSCS fireground. Discussion on the BC Fire Chiefs request that Dispatch kick off fire departments that continue to be chatty or continue to do operations on 11F911. Frank asked about 11BCPAGE. Dispatch not ready to use 11BCPAGE. Chief Mattix supported the request to have dispatch tell departments to move off 11F911 if department to chatty or running operations on 11F911. Discussed departments using their private talkgroups. We reminded all that

every fire department has their own proprietary talk group. Chief Mattix stated he will send out a reminder busy season coming and remind all on radio etiquette. Frank reminded all that us as the department leaders to keep the chitchat off 11F911 and use proprietary for chitchat.

DNR: None

Funeral: Berrien Springs

Emergency Management: All good

EMS:

Medic-1: Busy like everyone.

S.M.C.A.S.: None

Med Flight: Getting busy with landing zone classes. Request from one of the pilots. Please mark LZ with an engine with lights going. Heading up to Benton Harbor for Senior PGA meeting.

Med Control: K9 first aid class last night. Went very well. Want to do more training. Al asked about the EMS strike force that Chief Jones, Chief Lamb, Chief Davidson, DR Beyer, and Al had put together, Now with COVID being lifted would like to do a training at the hospital all departments can play. Would like to test the medical branch and have EMS/MFR and Fire departments staged in parking lot and have a simulated event at the hospital. Only MFR department present was Chikaming. Al stated he would like to offer it up to all departments in the county to participate. Would need fire departments to do patient moving and assistance. Chief Mattix, Frank, and Al to get together and work on it. Frank asked if there is interest among departments present. Chikaming unable to send a medical unit. There were No objections to it. Chief Mattix, Frank, Al to work on a date. Frank asked Jason if Medic would be able to provide CEU's for EMS

Chief Harper commented on how good the K9 first aid class was. He learned a lot however he was not able to get a K9 medical kit. The kits were only given out to people with K9. Al stated he would see if he can get some. Question asked if med flight or Medic would transport a K9? Mark stated he is pretty doggone sure they would transport a PD K9 but would find out for sure

LEPC: Next meeting June 21, 2022.

BCFA: Gerry on vacation. Frank stated he was asked by Gerry to have fire departments give Gerry how many CO detectors and how many smoke detectors per department. Get your numbers to Gerry.

Training: Adult and HS class taking final written Thursday night and practical on Saturday. Any department personal that can help please let Cory know and be at the BC Fairgrounds by 0700 Saturday morning. Certified and non certified can help. Certified to be proctors and non certified can be runners. Also need apparatus as well. 40 students testing. Contact Corey Burks if can help

HazMat: All good. Looking to branch out. Team open to operations level fire department members. If interested get with Dave or Rocky.

MITRT5: No updates.

MABAS: Meeting last Wednesday. The MIMABAS store has change. New store is through Eagle Engraving. Website: https://eagle-engraving.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=133_160

Every MIMABAS item purchased MIMABAS gets 25% back. That is and increase from old store.

MIMABAS Trainings:

March 2022 Radio/Zoom MRP activation for division 3701.

April 11-13 2022, Midwest Fire Rescue Expo and Conference

May 11, 2022 Radio/Zoom MRP activation for division 3801.

June 06 and 08 Red Center Exercise with Western Wayne UAS and Hazmat.

Working on MRP ordering video.

MIMABAS Presentation:

Delta County

Shiawassee County May 05.

Isabella County May 11.

Metcosta County May 12.

Antrim County May 25.

Marquette County June 21

Tuscolo County July 12.

MIMABAS FY2022 Purchases:

Forward command unit in final specs

18,000 gallon fuel tanker to be delivered in next few weeks.

Generator light tower trailers currently in use in Grayling.

Special Operations:

Working with state on certification for IMT teams

MIMABAS Team Validations:

Battle Creek Hazmat March 16

Macomb CO Hazmat May 04

Western Wayne Tech Rescue June 21.

Washtenaw CVO Tower Rescue April 29

Macomb CO Tech Rescue June 2023

New division:

Lapeer County Division 3305.

The MIMABAS RIT and MayDay policies are on the table as well. The communications, response, and accountability ones will be emailed out as they are very lengthy to print.

Old Business: Chief Mattix reminded all to please keep up on NFIRS reports.

BioCare:

North Berrien July 25.

Weesaw July 29.


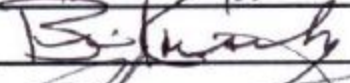
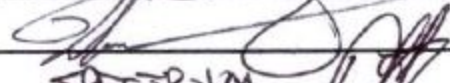



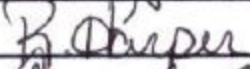
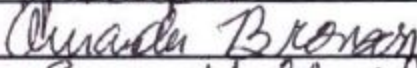
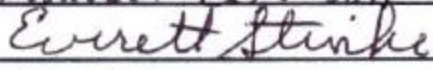
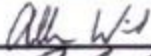
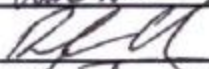
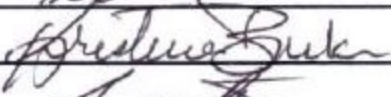


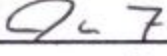
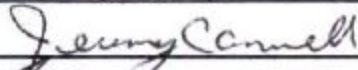
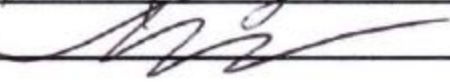
Frank asked for those departments using BioCare please get your BioCare dates to him to be put in minutes.

New Business: Chief Myers discussed issues with Fire Cat hose testing. He stated they took a very long time to test hose, pulled some crew off his job, left hose laying on ground. Chief Myers stated he contacted to complain, and bill was reduced. Others stated had problems as well. Chief Mattix stated he had issues as well. Chief Mattix requested departments that have issues with Fire Cat hose testing to let him know.

Next Meeting: 0830 on June 15, 2022. Frank will be on vacation for that meeting. Meeting most likely to be recorded.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn 0925.

**Berrien County Fire Chief's Association
Attendance Sheet
May 18, 2022**

	Print	Signature	Dept.
1.	Mike Mattix		NBFR
2.	Bin Knisely		Bertrand FD
3.	Tim Jesswein		Buchanan Twp / Niles Twp
4.	Al DiBato	SPECTRUM 	SPECTRUM
5.	Don MYERS		BSO FD
6.	Jason R. Wiley		Medre 1
7.	ROB HARPER		BCTFD
8.	Amanda Bronson		Wessau Twp
9.	EVERETT Steinke		STFD
10.	Allen Weik		Chickney
11.	Brandon Chick		Lincoln
12.	Kris Burles		911
13.	BRUCE Stover		
14.	Frank DeCatonre		MILES
15.	JAMIE Flick		WBT FD
16.	Jeremy Connell		STDPs
17.	MARK Berger		MedFlight
18.			



**MICHIGAN
MUTUAL AID BOX ALARM SYSTEM (MABAS)
POLICIES – PRACTICES – GUIDELINES**



Subject: MIMABAS May Day

No:

Functional Area: MIMABAS Operations

Category: Policy

Revision Date:

Approved by: President Brian Ball 1/2022

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Purpose

This Standard Operating Procedure is for the purpose of providing for a clear and definitive process for all area fire departments for calling for, and handling a “Mayday” request for help in an immediate hazardous environment.

Definitions

MAYDAY - Is considered an immediate need for help and implies a life or lives are in immediate danger.

RIC or RIT - Either Rapid Intervention Crew or Rapid Intervention Team. Both have the same function.

On Deck – A forward staging position located just outside the immediate hazard zone, safely distanced from the entrance of a tactical position. Once a crew is assigned to an On-Deck position, they are first and foremost a Rapid Intervention Crew until they are given an assignment into the hazard zone.

Emergency Traffic Only – Radio discipline by all on the scene. Radio traffic should only pertain to the emergency declared and/or priority traffic that has an effect on life safety. Face to face communication as much as possible to keep the fire ground channel free.

GRAB LIVES Acronym:

G-auge Check Air Gauge
R-adio for Assistance
A-ctivate Pass
B-reathing Conserve Air

L-ow Stay Low
I-lluminate Shine Flashlight
V-olume Make Noise
E-xit Find an exit
S-hield Airway, Protect Airway

Procedure

Personnel's Responsibility

To ensure the best chance for a positive incident outcome, personnel should immediately transmit a MAYDAY when any of the following situations develop:

1. Firefighter(s) have become entangled, trapped, or pinned;
2. Firefighter(s) have fallen through a roof or floor and cannot be accounted for or have become injured;
3. Firefighter(s) are caught in uncontrollable thermal conditions
4. Firefighter(s) cannot find hose line or tag line with zero visibility;
 - A. A low air alert activates, and firefighter(s) cannot immediately find an exit.
 - B. At any other time, a firefighter believes the safety of a crew, or a crew member may be at risk.

Transmitting MAYDAY

Personnel should declare a MAYDAY as follows:

- Declare "MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY and UNIT

Example: MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY, Engine 21

- Be prepared to give the Who, What, Where report when MAYDAY is acknowledged.
 - Who is in trouble
 - What happened / What is the problem / Conditions
 - Location /Where

Example: Engine 21, FF Tom Smith is lost in heavy smoke and heat condition on the second floor, Charlie side.

- Retransmit "MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY, and UNIT if not immediately acknowledged.

MAYDAY Operations

1. Unit declares a MAYDAY
2. Dispatch should automatically send emergency tones and say "**Emergency Traffic Only, a MAYDAY has been declared**"

Incident Commander (IC) should acknowledge MAYDAY, request **emergency traffic only**.

3. The IC asks the unit calling the MAYDAY to identify

- a. WHO, WHAT, and WHERE the MAYDAY is occurring.
 - b. Fire Dispatch will relay messages that are not immediately acknowledged by the Incident Commander.
 - c. If fire dispatch has not acknowledged the MAYDAY, the IC shall request emergency tones and declare the MAYDAY over the radio.
4. The MAYDAY unit will give the:
 - a. WHO (name and unit)
 - b. WHAT (lost / trapped / injured/ out of air/ SCBA malfunction.)
 - c. WHERE if known (floor/ side/ area/ division.)
5. The Incident Commander will confirm:
 - a. MAYDAY Units radio traffic (WHO, WHAT, WHERE) and
 - b. Ask the MAYDAY unit to initiate their GRABLIVES procedures.
6. The Incident Commander will assign a Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) supervisor and deploy RIC
7. All units will maintain their current assignments, and the radio traffic should be priority radio traffic only. **(NOTE: All units will remain on their current radio channel unless directed by the IC).**
8. The Incident Commander will continue to keep an open line of communication with the MAYDAY unit, via radio.
9. Fire Dispatch; Upon hearing the MAYDAY:
 - a. Tone out an additional alarm to the scene to include: 3 Engines 1 Ladder Truck, 1 Command Officer, 1 Paramedic Unit and Metro Tech Rescue (Level II stage).
 - b. The Incident Commander at their earliest opportunity will contact Fire Dispatch by radio or phone to confirm the additional alarm was dispatched.
10. IC Should request an additional medic unit for each MAYDAY firefighter, and additional alarms/units as deemed necessary.
11. Incident Commander will continually monitor the MAYDAY situation and provide additional resources as requested by the RIC supervisor.
12. The RIC supervisor will notify the IC, **“Rescue Complete”** and full PAR for all his units.
13. The Incident Commander will conduct a full PAR, face to face if possible.

MAYDAY Termination

1. IC will ask dispatch for tones
2. IC transmit; "MAYDAY operations have been completed. All units can resume normal radio traffic."

IC should consider using MAYDAY flow sheet included with this procedure

Expectation of Dispatch

1. Transmit Emergency Tones and state a MAYDAY has been declared.
2. Confirm that IC acknowledged the MAYDAY **(if the IC has not immediately responded.)**
3. Auto dispatch 3 Engines, 1 Ladder, 1 Command, 1 Medic, and Metro Tech Rescue. Request units to Level II stage.
4. Maintain Emergency Traffic only until cleared by IC.
5. Transmit tones ones when IC terminates the MAYDAY.

FIREFIGHTER MAYDAY

Look at radio screen & document Radio ID _____

Transmit: "All units assigned to _____ incident, emergency traffic only. Unit calling MAYDAY identify"

Receive and Document:

Who Name _____

Unit _____

What Lost Trapped Injured Out of Air SCBA Malfunction

Other: _____

Where Floor _____ Side _____

Area _____ Division _____

Transmit: "Firefighter _____ I copy your MAYDAY (Confirm Who, What, Where information to FF). RIC is being deployed. Initiate your G-R-A-B-L-I-V-E-S procedures"

Deploy RIC. Assign RIC Group Supervisor.

Transmit on assigned channel: "All units on the _____ incident, we have a MAYDAY. Maintain your current assignments. Emergency traffic only."

Transmit "FF _____ remain calm, control your breathing, turn on your pass and shine your flashlight. RIC is coming to get you".

Transmit Resource Request to Dispatch:

Requesting _____ additional alarms/units including _____ Medic units

***Consider assigning an officer to command suppression efforts.**

- Assign additional companies to RIC supervisor upon request / check with RIC supervisor on additional needs.**
- Terminate MAYDAY operations with face to face PAR. Resume normal radio traffic.**

G-R-A-B L-I-V-E-S

Gauge – Check Air Gauge

Low – Stay Low

**Radio – Radio for Assistance
Flashlight**

Illuminate – Shine

**Activate – Activate Pass
Noise**

Volume – Make a Loud

Breathing – Conserve Air

Exit – Find an Exit

Shield Airway – Protect Airway

Considerations

***Double Current Alarm (minimum)**

***Stage Units**

***12 to 1 rescuer ratio (minimum)**

***Suppression Efforts**

***Additional Command and Medic Units**

***Tech Rescue**

***Is there a need for additional Frequency(s)**

NOTE



MICHIGAN MUTUAL AID BOX ALARM SYSTEM (MABAS) POLICIES – PRACTICES – GUIDELINES MANUAL



Subject: MIMABAS Rapid Intervention
Functional Area: MIMABAS Operations
Category: Policy
Approved by: President Brian Ball

No:
Adoption Date: 3/01/2022
Revision Date:
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Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to increase firefighter safety by implementing procedures for safeguarding and rescuing firefighters who are operating in environments that are immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH). This policy applies to all members assigned to an incident and is designed to ensure immediate assistance for members who become lost, trapped, or injured by adhering to the two-in/two-out standard and designating rapid intervention teams (RITs). 303.1.1

Definitions

- Immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) - Any atmosphere that poses an immediate threat to life, would cause irreversible adverse health effects or would impair an individual's ability to escape from a dangerous atmosphere. Interior atmospheric conditions at structure fires beyond the incipient stage are considered IDLH, as are a variety of rescue types.
- On Deck is a forward staging position located just outside the immediate hazard zone, safely distanced from the entrance of the sector or division. Once a crew is assigned to an On Deck position, they are first and foremost a Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) until they are given an assignment into the hazard zone.
- Mayday is the nationally adopted "call for help" term used to indicate that an emergency responder is in a situation of imminent peril where he/she is in need of immediate help.
- Rapid intervention team (RIT) - A formalized designated group of individuals or companies whose sole function is to prepare, monitor and provide for effective emergency rescue of responders in IDLH atmospheres.

Policy

It is the policy to ensure that adequate personnel are on-scene before interior operations begin in any IDLH environment. However, nothing in this policy is meant to preclude firefighters from performing emergency rescue activities before an entire team has assembled.

Pre-Deployment

Prior to initiating any fire attack in any IDLH environment with no confirmed rescue in progress, members should ensure that there are sufficient resources on-scene to establish two-in/two-out procedures (29 CFR 1910.134; Mich. Admin. Code, R 408.17451).

- Members should ensure that at least two firefighters using self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) enter the IDLH environment and remain in voice or visual contact with one another at all times.
- At least two additional firefighters should be located outside the IDLH environment. One of the two outside firefighters may be assigned to an additional role so long as the individual is able to perform assistance or rescue activities without jeopardizing the safety or health of any firefighter working at the incident.

Initial Deployment

During the initial phase of an incident, confirmed rescues should take priority. When a confirmed rescue is identified during the initial phase of an incident, emergency rescue activities may be performed before a designated On-Deck crew has assembled.

All members operating in IDLH environments should be tracked and accounted for at all times, except when it would preclude firefighters from performing emergency rescue activities during the initial phase of the incident (Mich. Admin. Code, R 408.17451).

RIT Duties

The RIT should be assembled from resources at the scene, whose sole function is to prepare for, monitor, and provide effective emergency rescue for responders.

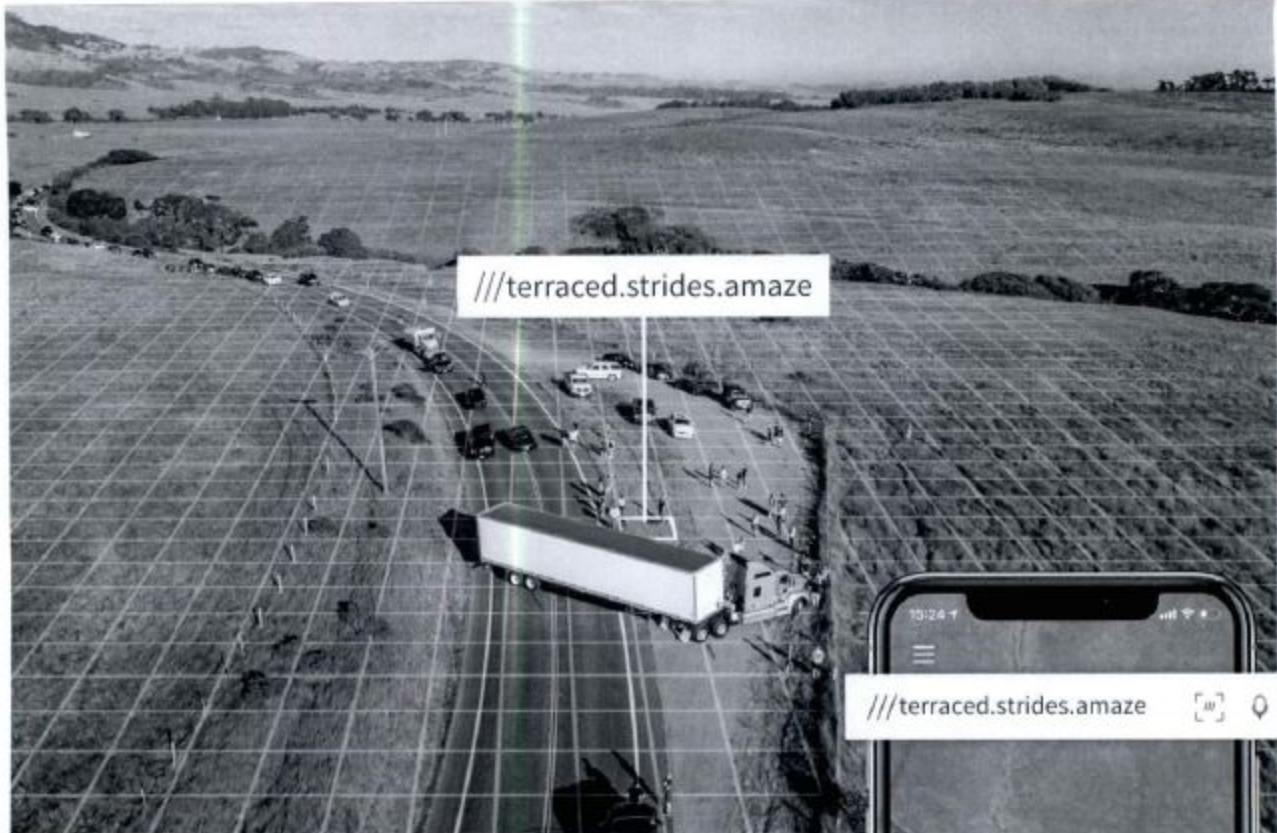
- To the extent possible, visual and voice communication should be maintained between those working in the IDLH environment and the RIT outside the IDLH environment.
- RIT members should not be involved in any other duties that divert attention or resources away from their primary mission of responder rescue.
- Additional companies may be assigned to the RIT as conditions warrant. For large incidents with multiple points of entry, multiple RITs should be considered.

Emergency Deployment of RIT

When a Mayday firefighter-down or firefighter-missing broadcast is transmitted, all non-emergency radio traffic should be cleared from the radio channels that the missing or trapped firefighter is using. Non-affected personnel should switch to other tactical frequencies. At least two individuals should be dedicated solely to monitoring the tactical channel. One person should be responsible for gathering information on the identity, location, and condition of the trapped or missing firefighter, while the second person should communicate with the trapped or missing firefighter and offer support on the tactical channel.

For an emergency deployment of a RIT, a Rescue Group Supervisor position should be activated to coordinate the rescue as well as any fire activities in support of the rescue effort. Other divisions and groups may support the Rescue Group Supervisor's efforts by diverting fire spread through horizontal or vertical ventilation to draw fire away from the affected rescue areas and by placing hose streams to check fire spread and protect rescue efforts.

The RIT supervisor should notify the Rescue Group Supervisor before making entry for emergency rescue. The Rescue Group Supervisor should provide any assistance that is appropriate to the situation. Additional resources should be ordered as needed, including additional RITs, medical treatment and transportation groups, or other organizational elements.



Tell 911 exactly where help is needed with what3words

what3words is an easy way to give an exact location. Every 10ft square in the world has been given a unique combination of three words.

- To give a what3words address in an emergency:
1. Open the what3words app.
 2. Wait for the blue GPS dot to stabilize, then tap the current location icon.
 3. Read the three words to the 911 call operator.

