



BERRIEN COUNTY
FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN



Call to Order: 0830-0952

Date: April 23, 2024

PRERSENTATION: Presentation by chief Myers, on tablet command

Old minutes: Old minutes emailed out. Motion to accept old minutes by: Chief Florey. Seconded by: Deputy Chief Gowen. Motion passed. None opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Beginning balance: \$7433.99. Deposits: \$100.00; two late dues payments. Ending balance: \$7533.99. Motion to accept treasurers report by: Chief Harper. Seconded by: Chief Mattix. Motion passed. None opposed.

Bills: Receipt for BCFCA half of food for dispatcher appreciation week. Amount: \$206.50. The agreed amount was \$200.00. Any issues with paying the additional \$6.50? No objections.

Communications:

General Communications: Thank You to Sodus, North Berrien, Watervliet, and Great Lakes Rescue for providing fire/EMS coverage in van Buren County for the Tom Maines funeral on March 06, 2024.

Bio Care schedule posted on TexCom.

North Berrien Fire Rescue is hosting a Career Survival and Emotional Wellness class on May 13, 2024. The class is open to all first responders: Fire/EMS/police/dispatchers, and their families/loved ones.

This seminar will educate through "boots on the ground" experiences and will provide responders and their loved ones with a clear picture on why this profession leads to destructive and unhealthy lifestyle habits.

You, your work family and your loved ones will be armed with tools to manage the everyday unique stressors and will be able to recognize the warning signs for chronic and post-traumatic stress and suicidal behavior.

Contact Sofia DeJong: dejongsofia@gmail.com or Frank: delatorre-01@comcast.net with any questions.

New Chief/Visitor:

Great Lakes Drone: Not Present

EMS:

Medic-1: Nothing new to report

S.M.C.A.S.: Not Present

Med Flight: Not Present

Med Control: Not Present

Dispatch/911: Jennifer Flick thanked the fire chief's association and firefighters association for food for telecommunicators week. The new tower is up at the Buchanan Twp. site outbuildings in place fence in place. The new tower should be up and running fall of 2024.

Communications Committee: currently working on a radio communications PowerPoint/video that will be shared throughout the fire departments in the county.



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Policy Guideline Committee: Incident command guideline was emailed out to everyone yesterday. Committee, is looking for feedback on the guideline. Committee continues to work on the mass casualty guideline. Since Mass casualty and RTF overlap.....Question, will all fire department, including non-MFR fire departments be willing to participate. It has been difficult to work on putting together a mass casualty guideline, not knowing who all is willing to participate. Possible Survey to get feedback.

BCFA: next meeting at Niles City, Fire Department on May 1, 2024. Car show flyers are available. Fundraising for the car show is ahead of last your schedule. Looking to have more firetrucks than last year. Room for 25 firetrucks. They'll be a taco breakfast and other vendors there as well. Multiple activities/trainings and announcements on the web. Please check them out. Lest we forget reenactment announcement also posted on the web.

Training: surveys are due May 3, 2024. The Training Committee's next meeting is this Sunday at 2 PM at the Berrien Springs fire department. Fire fighter, 1-2 state testing is this weekend. Looking for help from fire departments that have students in class. Also looking for apparatus. Benton Harbor department of public safety Academy starts May 28, 2024. Benton Harbor department of public safety is offering a program called virtual training officer. There are three different levels.: basic advanced and training officer. Cost is \$1200-\$3600 a year. Some chiefs stated they did not receive survey and asked if survey can be sent out again.

Emergency Management: public reception centers will be evaluated this year. This will involve the New Buffalo City and New Buffalo Twp. Fire Department. Both agencies would greatly appreciate any help. Everyone is short on help so if your department can send some people to help, it would be greatly appreciated.

MABAS: No meeting this month.

Other Comments:

Old Business: Mutual aid agreement. Page 2 paragraph 4. In regards to probationary FF, Bottom line we are covered. Mutual aid agreement will be posted on texcom and Gerry will also post on the web.

New Business: Checking in on station: Chief Flick inquired about full time chiefs checking in in the morning like the PD does, dispatch can then call you on the radio for minor calls like alarms, investigations, burning complaints, lift assists, etc.... Not required. If you want to do this you can if you do not then don't. Has the ability to cut down on radio traffic and unnecessary responses. Lengthy discussion. This would work similarly to PD. Two Chiefs do not like the idea. Discussion lead to BCPAGE is not always being used. Any issue with giving it a try? No objections allowing a trial.

501C3: Chief Myers discussed the 501C3 non profit status. Question on why the BCFCFA would need a 501C3 when the BCFA and the BCFBTC both already have a 501C3 status. This would be specific to us the BCFCFA. We would not have to depend on either of those associations. Motion by Deputy Director



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Kazmierzak to move forward with 501C3 status for the BCFCFA. Seconded by Deputy Chief Gowen. Motion passed. None opposed.

Question on what calls warrant an 11FGF? Recently overheard a department request an 11FG for traffic control. Why? Now dispatch has to listen to: “good after the white car”, etc.... Why aren't proprietary talkgroups used for this?

Discussion on simple/complex incidents to define use of 11FG.

Communications committee will work to address this in the radio training presentation they are working on.

Next Meeting: 0830 on Wednesday, May 15, 2024. Lincoln Twp. Fire.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Deputy Chief Gowen. Seconded by: Chief Florey. None opposed. Meeting adjourned 0952hrs.



BENTON HARBOR FIRE TRAINING CONSORTIUM

“VIRTUAL TRAINING OFFICER”

BASIC TRAINING PACKAGE - \$1200 ANNUALLY

2 Training Lesson Plans Per Month

4 Quick Drills Per Month

6 OSHA Compliance Trainings

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8 Quick Drills Per Month

6 OSHA Compliance Trainings

1 In-Person 4-Hour Class

THE TRAINING OFFICER PACKAGE - \$3600 ANNUALLY

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8 Quick Drills Per Month

6 OSHA Compliance Trainings

2 In-Person 4-Hour Class

Discounts on BHDPS Training Offerings

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SOG, ISO Compliance & Training Program Development Consultation

For More Information contact Deputy Director Brian Kazmierzak

bkazmierzak@bhcity.us or 269-443-1027

REALISTIC-RELEVANT-REFERENCED TRAINING!



Berrien County Firefighters Association & Sheriff's Department



BENEFIT CAR SHOW

Saturday June 29th, 2024 - 9 AM to 2 PM

(Rain Date Sunday June 30th, 2024) Gates open at 7:00 AM

Maiden Lane Park

1051 Maiden Lane, Saint Joseph, Michigan 49085 (The Soccer Fields)

**FREE ADMISSION
TO THE PUBLIC**



NITRO CARS FIREUP

12:00 Noon

Donations Appreciated

CAR SHOW ENTRY FEE: \$10 PER VEHICLE (at the Gate)

Free SWAP MEET Spaces 20' x 20' - SILENT AUCTION

FOOD VENDORS - Music by Live DJ Hunter Wright

Breakfast TACOS (starts at 7:30 am hosted by the St. Joseph Masonic Lodge #437)

FIRE TRUCKS & POLICE CARS - Event T-Shirts available

PEOPLE'S CHOICE, Fire & Sheriff AWARDS

Opening Ceremony at 9:30 AM



New 2024— Supercars from Southwest Michigan Cars & Coffee



2023 People's Choice Awards

CONTACT INFORMATION

Show Chairman: Steve Wright (269) 876-7454 wrightsarmynavy@gmail.com

Vehicles: John McLellan (269) 580-2770 jmclellan75@comcast.net

Swap Meet: Bob Basselman (269) 861-6078 robert49085@gmail.com

Fire & Police: Gerry Kabelman, President BCFA (269) 208-9352 gerrykabelman@mail.com

Or Bruce Cole (269) 208-0686 colemotorcar@ameritech.net

A special thank you to
St. Joseph Charter Township
for use of the Maiden Lane Park.



All proceeds to be equally divided between the Sheriff's Department
and the Firefighters Association, both have 501C3 status

Make Checks Payable To: Berrien County Firefighters Association

PO Box 214, 4411 E. Snow Road Berrien Springs, Michigan 49103

BCFA Website:
mi-BCFA.org

NO PETS ALLOWED!
(Service dogs welcome)

CAR SHOW INFO
mi-BCFA.org/CarShow.htm

Benefit Car Show Sponsors





ACTIVE SHOOTER/HOSTILE EVENT PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

What You Need To Know About NFPA 3000

As more hostile events continue to occur around the world, it is critical for first responders, emergency personnel, facility managers, hospital officials, community members, and others to have the information they need to be prepared when attacks occur. NFPA® is developing a new standard – NFPA 3000, *Standard for Preparedness and Response to Active Shooter and/or Hostile Events* – to address that need.

The purpose of NFPA 3000 is to identify the minimum program elements necessary for organizing, managing, and sustaining an active shooter and/or hostile event response program and to reduce or eliminate the risks, effect, and impact on an organization or community affected by these events. The document addresses the following areas and others:

- Risk assessment
- Planning
- Resource management
- Organizational deployment
- Incident management
- Facility readiness
- Finance
- Communications
- Competencies for law enforcement
- Competencies for fire and EMS
- Personal protective equipment
- Training
- Community education
- Information sharing
- Readiness of receiving hospitals
- Recovery

By the Numbers

• Active shooter events in the US: 2000–2013

- 160 incidents
- Combined 1,043 killed and wounded, not including shooter(s)
- 486 killed
- 557 wounded

• Active shooter events in the US: 2014 and 2015

- 40 incidents
- Combined 231 killed and wounded, not including shooter(s)
- 92 killed
- 139 wounded

• Shooter events occurring with greater frequency and loss

- Three active shooter events, over the course of less than 17 months, produced more than 50% of the casualties reported from 2000 to 2013.
- Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida (June 12, 2016): 49 dead, 58 wounded
- Las Vegas, Nevada (October 1, 2017): 59 dead, 441 wounded
- Sutherland Springs, Texas (November 5, 2017): 27 dead, 20 wounded
- Two of the deadliest tragedies on record happened within five weeks of each other.



ACTIVE SHOOTER/HOSTILE EVENT PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE CONTINUED

FAQs

What are the Main Objectives for Developing NFPA 3000?

Prepare a single set of requirements to be used by a whole community addressing unified command, integrated response, and recovery as follows:

• **Unified Command:**

Explain how and why the unified command structure at an operations level needs to be in place and practiced.

• **Integrated Response:**

Preparation and response must take into account the operations of numerous different agencies. These organizations must have operational plans that incorporate the objectives of other responding agencies and they must function as a cohesive, integrated unit.

• **Recovery:**

Effective recovery planning must start now, and there are several aspects of recovery that need to be planned for.

Who is Working on Developing NFPA 3000?

• **NFPA:**

The non-profit organization is facilitating the code development process to create this brand new document.

• **Committee of Broad-Based Technical Experts:**

A 46-member all-encompassing NFPA Technical Committee has been assembled with representatives from law enforcement, fire, EMS, federal agencies, health care, private security, universities and local government.

• **First Responders and the Public:**

The NFPA standards development process is open to anyone to view and participate in. The public, first responders, and any interested party can provide input when the draft is posted, and can follow the development of NFPA 3000 by receiving updates as soon as they are available.

Is NFPA 3000 Only for the Fire Service?

No, NFPA 3000 is for citizens, facilities, schools, health care, non-governmental organizations, law enforcement and other responders, city leaders, and emergency management. All of these stakeholders need to be at the table and working together.



What Can You Do?

- Access the full draft text of the proposed standard online at www.nfpa.org/3000.
- Learn more from our experts on NFPA Xchange™ at <https://community.nfpa.org/>.

➤ **BECOME AN NFPA MEMBER**
FOR MORE OF THESE RESOURCES



IT'S A BIG WORLD.
LET'S PROTECT IT TOGETHER.™

This material contains some basic information about NFPA 3000, *Standard for Preparedness and Response to Active Shooter and/or Hostile Events*. It identifies some of the requirements in the DRAFT NFPA 3000 as of the date of publication. This material is not the official position of any NFPA Technical Committee on any referenced topic which is represented solely by the NFPA documents on such topic in their entirety. For free access to the complete and most current version of all NFPA documents, please go to www.nfpa.org/docinfo. References to "Related Regulations" are not intended to be a comprehensive list. The NFPA makes no warranty or guaranty of the completeness of the information in this material and disclaims liability for personal injury, property, and other damages of any nature whatsoever, from the use of or reliance on this information. In using this information, you should rely on your independent judgment and, when appropriate, consult a competent professional.

RESCUE TASK FORCE GUIDELINES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE/EMS

This document offers guidelines, standards and protocols of the integrated efforts of a Law Enforcement/Fire/EMS Team defined as a Rescue Task Force (RTF). For use by First Responders in a hostile human threat environment for saving victim's lives by rapid access, initial medical treatment and evacuation to a safe zone. The performance standards will address:

- The RTF unit
- The RTF elements
- Element Members
- Section Chief

Rescue Task Force – Unit

A task force is a combination of resources task organized for a specific tactical mission.

The Rescue Task Force Unit (RTF) has two sub-elements --- Law Enforcement (Security) and EMS (Firefighters/Trained EMS Personnel). The RTF is assembled to provide security and rapid stabilizing trauma care in established warm zones of hostile incidents. The decision to form and subsequently employ a RTF will be made by Unified Incident Command (PD/FD/EMS) utilizing reliable incident information reported by law enforcement contact teams.

- A RTF unit is required to be able to assemble quickly with available Law Enforcement and Fire/EMS personnel.
- A minimum of four personnel two (2) Law Enforcement and (2) Fire/EMS are needed to form a single RTF unit. **All FD RTF personnel will be equipped with Red Tactical Body Armor, Fire Helmets and Triage kits. NO MEMBER MAY BE A PART OF AN RTF WITHOUT THE PROPER PPE!**
- The RTF unit understands and operates within the boundaries of the clearly identified warm zone corridors that have been cleared by Law Enforcement contact teams
- The RTF must maintain radio communications with the Unified Command Post via 71-COMMON (Countywide) since this is an interoperable PD/FD/EMS channel and are kept informed of the location of Law Enforcement contact teams.
- The RTF must track and report the number of warm zone casualties encountered to the Unified Command Post.
- The RTF will maintain tactical discipline and operating posture in the warm zone, with each element, (Law Enforcement and EMS) providing its essential support, until the Unified Command Post declares the scene secure.
- The RTF commander will be designed by the Unified Command post from the Law Enforcement element of the RTF.
- The RTF remains together as an intact unit always from entering the warm zone until exiting the warm zone.
- The RTF operates only in the warm zone and does not move or operate in un-cleared areas.
- The RTF operates within the warm zone until reaching all victims or exhausting supplies then performs rapid extrication of victims to a casualty collection point (CCP) or triage area as appropriate.
- The RTF provides warm zone security and applies rapid Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) principled treatments to accessible victims.

RESCUE TASK FORCE GUIDELINES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE/EMS

- The RTF identifies a CCP near an egress suitable for evacuation to an external triage location. The location of the CCP is communicated to the Unified Command Post. This is dynamic as the CCP location could change as more resources become available or as the boundaries of the warm zone expand.
- After reaching the limits of the warm zone and/or all accessible victims the RTF moves victims to the designated CCP.
- Additional RTF units may be formed and employed as needed to treat additional victims or assist with moving patients to the CCP. This must be communicated and acknowledged by the Unified Command Post and all other RTFs prior to deployment.

Rescue Task Force – Law Enforcement Element Member

The RTF Law Enforcement element member is a sworn police officer with training in Active Aggressor, Human Threat type incidents and Law Enforcement tactical operations in threat environments. The RTF Law Enforcement element member:

- Is armed per the protocols of the Authority Having Jurisdiction.
- Carries the appropriate amount and types of ammunition for the RTF mission determined by the AHJ.
- Utilizes ballistic protection as determined by the AHJ.
- Provides continuous security protection to the RTF unit utilizing appropriate tactical formations.
- Does not assist in medical care of moving victims to the CCP.
- Directs the movement of the RTF unit.
- Remains with the RTF unit always while the unit is operating in the warm zone.

Rescue Task Force – Fire/EMS Member

The RTF Fire/EMS element member is a licensed paramedic, EMT, or first responder with training in TECC and/or Stop the Bleed protocols. The RTF FD/EMS member:

- Utilizes ballistic protection as determined by the AHJ. ALL VESTS SHALL BE RED AND CLEARLY STATE RESCUE TASK FORCE ON THEM!
- Remains with the RTF unit always while in the warm zone and works within the security provided by RTF Law Enforcement members.
- Carries medical equipment and supplies to treat 7-10 victims.
- Provides rapid TECC and places victim in the recovery position (Stabilize, Position and Move-On).
- Moves victims to a CCP.
- Assists with transferring victims to an external triage area when directed.

Rescue Task Force – Section Chief

The RTF Section Chief is a dynamic leader and communicator capable of quick analysis and ongoing threat assessments of the fast-paced environments typically involved with hostile human threat incidents. The RTF Section Chief:

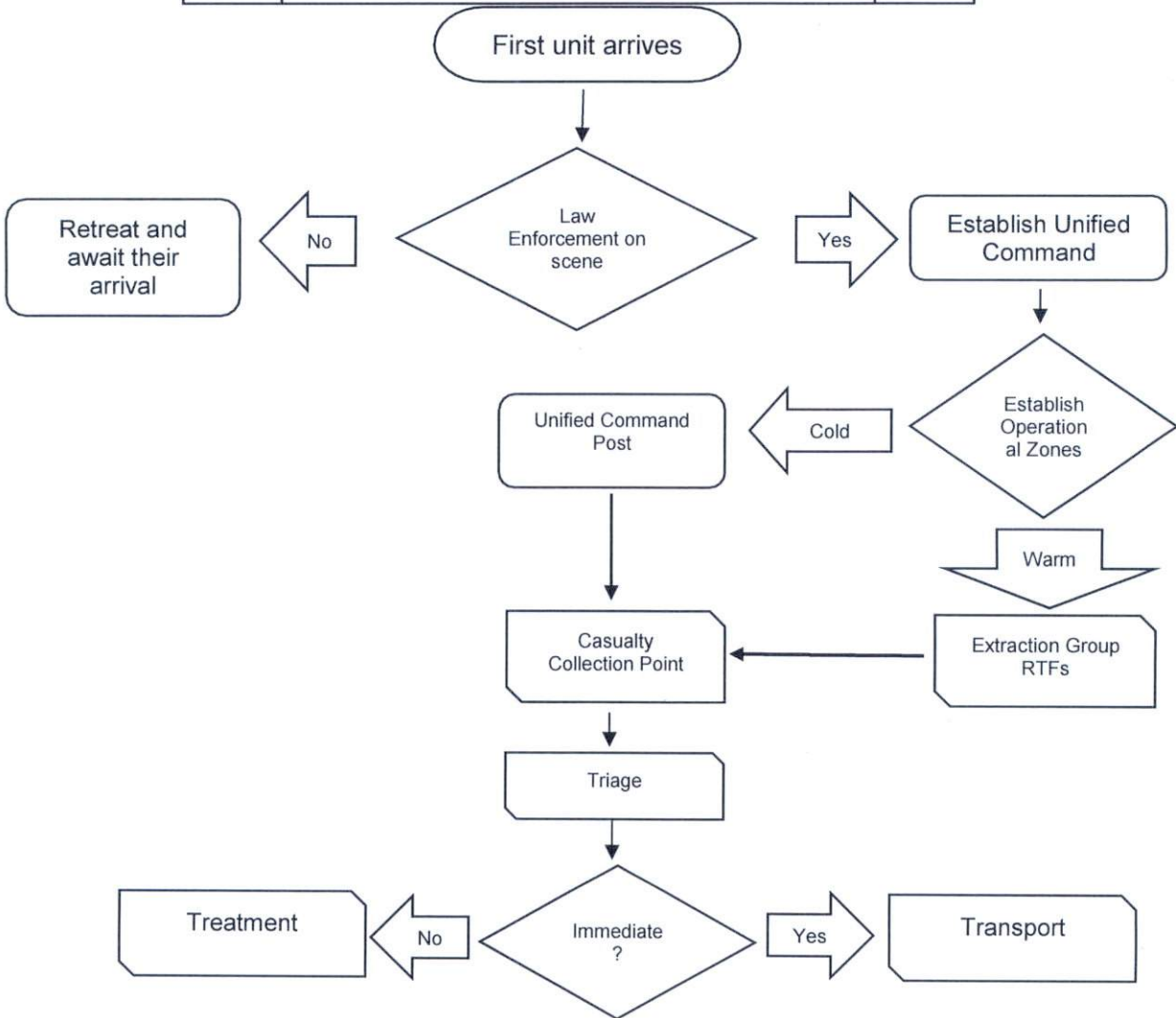
- Keeps accountability of deployed RTFs.

RESCUE TASK FORCE GUIDELINES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT & FIRE/EMS

- Effectively communicates within the Unified Command System all aspects of the RTF situation including Conditions-Actions-Needs (CAN).
- Keeps continued awareness of the threat situation and changing incident dynamics and makes strategic decisions and RTF assignments based on warm zone boundaries.
- Maintains continuous communication with RTF teams and adjusts assignments as needed based on incident dynamics and feedback for the RTF teams.
- Is trained in Unified Command and experienced in complex incident management.

Active Shooter Incidents

- FIRST FIVE MINUTES**
- Upon arrival assume and establish fire command.
 - If law enforcement is not yet on-scene, request an ETA and retreat to an area away from the line of fire or possible threat migration.
 - Establish unified command with law enforcement and EMS.
 - Unified command should coordinate to determine cold, warm, and hot operational zones.
 - Unified command should coordinate scene entry and patient movement.
 - Establish casualty collection point (CCP)
 - Establish Triage, Treatment, and Transport groups/divisions
 - Initiate fire suppression, if necessary.
 - Request additional resources as needed.





Lest We Forget Presents

June 22 & 23, 2024

80th

ANNIVERSARY D-DAY & BATTLE OF NORMANDY

A World at War

Follow Parking Signage
275 Upton Dr

Saturday

Tiscornia Beach St. Joseph, MI

WORLD WAR II BATTLES

9:00am Normandy & 1:00pm Saipan Beach Landings



**We Do This All On Donations,
PLEASE HELP AND DONATE**



Rides Available



At The Airport



Saturday & Sunday



Fun For The Whole Family



Medal of Honor Sponsors



Frederick S Upton Foundation

Judith Felland



SCHALON FOUNDATION

For Further information on the
Event Schedule
see www.lestweforgetusa.org
Find us on Facebook



BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

PURPOSE

To guideline identifies the responsibilities of incident command and provides a consistent approach to incident command for NIMS Type 4 & 5 events, to improve fireground management and safety, along with a standardized vision of the strategies that will be used on the fireground.

It defines the functions of Command, the Incident Command System/National Incident Management System (ICS/NIMS), and other Command considerations to provide for the safety of personnel operating at emergency incidents; to improve the use of resources and tactical effectiveness; to meet OSHA and EPA regulations requiring the use of an Incident Command System/National Incident Management System for Hazardous Materials Incidents; and to meet NFPA Standard 1500/1561 requirements for the use of an Incident Command System/National Incident Management System for operations at all emergency incidents.

GUIDELINE

To provide firefighters with firefighting options that allow for safer incident outcomes. Most importantly utilizing the most efficient resources, clarifying strategic options, and developing an incident action plan that will ensure strong management and coordination of resources.

GOALS

The following are the goals of the Incident Command System

- Ensure the safety of personnel at emergency incidents through improved command and control.
- Establish an organizational structure adaptable to any incident.
- Improve on-scene operational effectiveness.
- Meet the laws, rules, and standards that apply to emergency incident management.
- Provide guidelines suitable for use regardless of which jurisdiction or agency is involved. To meet these goals, the Department shall implement the IMS appropriately at all incidents for which it has management responsibilities.

THEORY

The one function that will always be filled at every emergency incident, regardless of the size, type, or jurisdiction that the incident occurs in, is the Incident Commander (IC) position. The IC has the responsibility for the overall management of the incident. Incident command procedures are designed to accomplish the following:

- Fix responsibility of command with a designated member through a standardized identification system, based on arrival sequence and other variables.
- Ensure that visible, direct, effective command is established as early as possible upon arrival at the incident scene.
- Establish an effective framework within which the activities and responsibilities assigned to the Incident Commander can be properly addressed.
- Provide a system for accomplishing the orderly transfer of command from the initial working Incident Commander to later arriving officers.

RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of all members of the Berrien County Fire Chiefs Association to follow this policy to allow for effective and efficient command and interoperability on the fireground.

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Initial Size-up and Initial Radio Report:

Initial Radio Report:

- The *Initial Radio Report* automatically establishes that all additional responding units should Stage, Level 1, except for the first arriving **Apparatus Officer and/or Command Officer**.

The *initial Radio Report* should include the following:

- Announcement of arrival on the scene,
- Building/Area Description:
 - Size—Small, Medium, Large, or Mega
 - Height—Number of stories
- Occupancy type:
 - Residential, Multi-Family Complex, Commercial, Strip Mall, Tilt Wall, Warehouse, etc.
- Problem Description:
 - Conditions—Nothing showing, smoke showing, working fire, defensive fire conditions.
 - Location of the problem—Floor and/or area of the building is the fire?
 - Initial Incident Action Plan (Tasks, Locations, and Objectives)
 - If no visible conditions are observed, the IAP will be to investigate.
 - Strategy Declaration:
 - Offensive Strategy - Interior Fire Attack
 - Defensive Strategy - Exterior Defensive
 - Resource Determination should include:
- Requesting any additional resources needed.
- Requesting responding units downgrade to non-emergency.
- Canceling resources not needed.
- Assume and Name Command.

360° Size-up:

The 360° size-up should be completed after the first arriving **Apparatus Officer and/or Command Officer** provides the Initial Radio Report. A 360° size-up with a thermal imager is **recommended** at all incidents and will be completed as early into the incident as possible. A 360° size-up and follow-up report should be completed before entry into a structure, except for victims that can be seen from areas of entry or egress.

- If an officer encounters a developing situation requiring immediate action, that officer should assign another member of his/her crew, if possible, to address the developing situation and the officer should continue with the 360° size-up.
- If unable to complete the 360° size-up, due to building size or obstructions, the IC should delegate an individual or company to continue the process so that all sides of the incident are visualized. Every attempt should be made to get a basement report in this situation. This should be communicated to the dispatcher.

Follow-Up Report:

The IC should reaffirm the Risk vs. Benefit Analysis after conducting a 360° Size-up. The IC will announce a follow-up report stating:

- Whether 360° size-up is complete/incomplete.
- Results of the 360° size-up and safety concerns or hazards.
- A basement report – is there exterior access?
- Confirmation of strategy or changes to the IAP.
- Provide the geographic location of the first-in apparatus and **Accountability location**.

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Implementing the IAP:

After completing the Initial Size-up, Initial Radio Report, 360° size-up, basement report, and the follow-up report; the IAP should be implemented according to the tactical objectives of the incident.

Offensive IAP includes:

- Offensive strategy tactical priorities and their corresponding completion
 - Benchmarks should be announced when achieved.
 - Water on the Fire
 - Primary and Secondary Search **ALL CLEARS**

Defensive IAP includes:

- Establishing cut-off areas
- Defining collapse zones/areas
- Searching and/or protecting exposures

Making Assignments to Accomplish the IAP by:

Issuing Assignments to your crew:

- All crews operating in the IDLH/hazard zones should maintain constant situational awareness and crew integrity, which is maintained by voice contact, physical contact, and visual contact. Crews operating in an IDLH/hazard zone should have a minimum of two members, with at least one member monitoring the portable radio channel assigned by the dispatcher.

Issuing assignments to arriving crews:

- Arriving crews should Level 1 Stage. Upon arrival, the IC should assign crews according to the needs of the IAP and the next tactical objective. ***The IC should not assign tasks to crews that are still responding unless the task is to alter their direction of approach.***
- Whenever assignments are issued, the order model should be used, and each company should be told their task, location, and objective (TLO).
- Arriving crews should be told where to position their apparatus if it is needed to accomplish a tactical objective.
- Request additional resources when there are not enough crews to maintain a tactical reserve and the incident has not been brought under control. The following are potential support tasks for accomplishing these:
 - **On-Deck (Rapid Intervention Crew):** As early as possible, a minimum of one crew should be assigned to be On-Deck (RIT) in each sector that has working crews, maintaining enough On-Deck crews in each sector to ensure there are no gaps in RIT duties or forward resources. The assignment of an On-Deck (RIT) crew does not stop the IC from assigning a dedicated RIT if it is deemed appropriate for the incident. If a dedicated RIT is established, they will not rotate to other assignments as the On-Deck crew will.
 - **Back-Up Line:** At all structure fires there should be a back-up line to protect the initial attack crew's exit path out of the structure due to escalating conditions, search, and rescue needs, etc.
 - **Exposure Protection:** Identify any possible exposures and protect them. Exposures can be attached or detached compartments, units, or buildings, including if attached units share a common attic or wall, and assess the possibility of fire traveling to other areas.
 - **Tactical Ventilation:** Some conditions may require removing products of combustion to improve the atmosphere of an IDLH environment in **coordination** with attack teams entering, by reducing smoke conditions and increasing visibility or to assist with property

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conservation by removing heat and smoke particulates. When needed, Officers should consider the following:

- Ventilation must be coordinated with the fire attack and only after the “**water on the fire**” (**knockdown**) benchmark has been communicated.
 - Ventilation tasks should be accomplished with an understanding of how the ventilation profile and flow paths will be changed and how it will affect the location and extent of the fire.
 - Tactical Ventilation should occur at the request of the interior attack crew, or the IC, and flow paths should be controlled as much as possible before any type of Tactical Ventilation.
 - Structure fires should be presumed to be Ventilation Limited (until proven otherwise) due to the types of fuels that comprise the contents and structural components. Because they are Ventilation Limited, additional ventilation will likely produce a rapid increase in fire growth and intensity if the space is not cooled. An intensifying fire can quickly overwhelm ventilation openings and extend fire to uninvolved areas.
- **Utilities:** Electrical wires, natural gas or LPG can all hinder suppression or rescue efforts. Controlling utilities provides safer conditions and prevents further property damage. During a structure fire, all attempts should be made to shut off the electricity and gas to the building(s). Utility companies should be notified through Dispatch, to request representatives respond and secure the service.
 - **Loss Control (Salvage):** Loss Control is the protection of buildings and their contents from unnecessary damage due to water, smoke, heat, and other elements. Loss Control should be a concern during every phase of the incident. Firefighters should use compartmentalization to control fire & smoke spread whenever possible.
 - **Search Concealed Spaces (Overhaul):** Searching concealed spaces involves searching for and extinguishing any hidden, remaining fire and ensuring that the structure and its contents are in a safe condition. The process of searching concealed spaces also encompasses fire cause determination and recognizing/preserving any evidence of arson.
 - **Owner/Occupant Support:** The IC should be responsible for establishing the owner/occupant support functions in all emergency incidents. Officers should meet with the Owner/Occupant to discuss the actions taken by the fire department. If necessary, the IC may request additional resources for the owner/occupant support function through Dispatch. (e.g., the Red Cross). When an owner/occupant is not on location, or able to be contacted, all attempts should be made to secure the property.

Command Transfers:

Use the following steps when transferring command:

- Working crews **should attempt** to remain radio silent when the transfer of command is taking place.
- The Command Officer coming on scene summarizes the current IAP; with the Task, Location, and Objective of each assigned unit in the Hazard Zone; and will request a CAN report from the current IC.
- The current IC should confirm or correct the summarized IAP and TLO of assigned units and provide a CAN Report.
- The incoming Command Officer should contact Dispatch and announce their:
 - Assumption of command.
 - Current strategy for the incident.

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- Request for additional resources if needed.
- See Appendix A for Stationary Command Post information.

Assigning Sectors, Divisions, and/or Groups (SDG): (See Appendix B for Graphics)

- When three (3) or more companies are assigned to the same geographical area, the IC can designate one company officer as the **Supervisor**.
- Sectors will be used to designate geographical locations on firegrounds (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta).
- Floors are working areas. Divisions are Tactical Supervisors.
- Groups can be used to designate crews doing a task (Vent group, search group, etc.).
- Exposures:
 - structures or occupancies next to the main fire occupancy starting with the closest, moving to the next exposure, and so on. When the IC can give the exposure type and the occupancy number which greatly enhances the directional sense of awareness.
 - All communications from the area should be from the designated supervisor to the IC.
 - Supervisors will communicate with their assigned companies by radio or face-to-face; with the preferred method being face-to-face, depending on proximity to one another.
- Additional arriving chief officers will strengthen the overall command organization. For incidents that have not been stabilized, the IC should use the subsequent arriving chief officers to fill or upgrade the SDG or support positions to:
 - Improve safety.
 - Decrease the IC's span of control.
 - Improve management of SDG.
 - Improve communication.

Review, Evaluation, and Revision (Ongoing Size-ups):

- The IC should conduct an ongoing size-up and change the operational strategy or tactics as needed. Additional size-ups should occur whenever significant events occur. The "20-Minute Incident Clock" should be used as a tool by the IC to help forecast the incident and re-assess the current IAP.
- Officers should remember that the first 20-minute Incident Clock notification means the fire has been progressing for approximately 25-30 minutes (5-10 minutes to process the call & respond, plus 20 minutes on the scene).
- **ALWAYS REMEMBER** - Structural failure is a distinct possibility when heavy fire conditions are present.

Continue, Support, and Terminate Command:

- The IC should assume, maintain, and upgrade the command positioning relative to the incident size and type. Once all fireground factors have been mitigated the incident can be de-escalated as needed, and command can be transferred down to a lower-ranking officer. The same Command Transfer is used whether transferring command up or down.
- On-scene companies should conduct gross decontamination, rehab, and an on-scene After-Action Review (AAR) before demobilizing.

Personnel Accountability Reports

Several accountability benchmarks are included in tactical operations. The personnel accountability report (PAR) is a periodic accounting or roll call of personnel operating at an incident scene. For the Tactical Supervisor, a PAR accounts for all companies or teams assigned to their SDG. The IC may request a PAR or

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Roll Call PAR of specific SDG companies or teams, or all companies or teams. When the IC requests a PAR or a Roll Call PAR, company officers, team leaders, or Tactical Supervisors should verify accountability for every person assigned to their company, team, or SDG and that they have an adequate air supply to exit the Hazard Zone safely. The PAR results are then reported to the Accountability Officer or Tactical Supervisor, who should report to the IC. When a Roll Call PAR is requested, company officers or team leaders should verify accountability for every person assigned to them by name to the Accountability Officer, Tactical Supervisor, or directly to command in the event no Tactical Supervisor has been assigned. **NO PARS SHOULD BE COMPLETED DURING A MAYDAY.**

A PAR should be required when:

- Any personnel are unaccounted for, missing, or trapped.
- When critical incident benchmarks have been met (e.g., fire knocked down, checking for extension, primary search complete – nothing found)
- There is a change from offensive to defensive operations.
- Any sudden hazardous event related to the incident - flashover, backdraft, or collapse.
- Any time the IC believes such is necessary.

A “NO-PAR” policy will be in effect once a MAYDAY has been transmitted. This means that unless an operating unit DOES NOT have a PAR, PAR information is NOT to be transmitted over the radio channel. This policy greatly reduces the amount of radio traffic transmitted in the first few minutes of a MAYDAY and allows the IC the airtime needed to react to the MAYDAY traffic. When the PAR is called for, the reply should be from the companies, teams, or the Tactical Supervisor in the highest-hazard areas first, then progress to less-hazardous areas. Unless a unit does not have a PAR, they should maintain radio silence until contacted by Incident Command to report their PAR. Crews should identify their company or team name or apparatus number, location, and current task.

Fireground Priority Traffic

The following procedure will be used to clear radio traffic for priority communication when necessary to address potentially dangerous circumstances.

- To clear all radio traffic on the fireground talk group, the firefighter requesting exclusive use of the talk group must announce their unit ID and declare “**PRIORITY TRAFFIC.**” No other radio traffic should be transmitted until the nature, location, and type of situation is identified.
- The “**PRIORITY TRAFFIC**” declaration must be given to the IC (or a Tactical Supervisor if assigned) and is reserved for reporting critical information that will most likely require a significant adjustment to the IAP or the incident’s overall strategy.

Examples

- Cannot complete a task.
- Fire in void spaces.
- Victims requiring rescue, NOT evacuation.
- Potential building collapse.
- Energized electrical wires posing an electrocution hazard.
- Loss of water supply with firefighters inside the structure.
- Any potentially dangerous circumstance that exists on the fireground.

Fireground Emergency Traffic

The IC is the only person who can initiate an **emergency traffic** report. Companies operating in and around the Hazard Zone will contact the IC with **priority traffic** reports, and the IC will determine the need for

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emergency traffic and the corresponding tones. If the IC declares the need for emergency traffic and has the alert tone activated (or activates the alert tone from their portable radio), they will then give directions to units operating on the fireground.

Emergency Evacuation Signal/Alert Tone

An audible tone of consistent frequency and duration intended to draw attention to radio traffic. Often called Alert Tone, this tone is generated by the Dispatcher, although some radio systems have the capability of transmitting this tone from mobile radios and or portable radios.

Personnel on the fireground will **maintain radio silence** except to transmit traffic relevant to a Mayday, Priority Traffic, or Status Change.

Command has two options to transmit the Alert Tone:

- Dispatch can activate the Alert Tone, and they will override all other radios.
- The IC can activate the Alert Tone via a properly programmed radio but will not override other radios.

The emergency traffic report should be structured in the following manner:

- The IC contacts Dispatch directly and asks for emergency traffic.
- Dispatch will sound the emergency alert tone.
- The IC will deliver the emergency traffic radio report.
- Once the report has been given, Dispatch will repeat the emergency traffic report verbatim on the channel it was given.

Emergency traffic will receive the highest communications priority from Dispatch and the IC. All other units operating at the incident site will maintain radio discipline until the emergency traffic has been cleared by the IC. Once the situation causing the Emergency Traffic has been mitigated (PARs obtained, Mayday cleared), the IC should contact Dispatch and clear the Emergency Traffic with a brief report stating why.

Offensive to Defensive Strategic Shift

The announcement of a change to a defensive strategy will be made as follows:

- Command contacts Dispatch and asks for the emergency alert tone or activates the alert tone from the portable radio.
- The emergency alert tone is transmitted.
- Announce to all Hazard Zone units:
 - We are shifting to the defensive strategy.
 - All units must “exit” or “abandon” the structure.
 - **Exit**—An orderly withdrawal where interior lines and equipment will be removed and repositioned/shut down when changing to a defensive strategy.
 - **Abandon**—An emergency retreat where all hose lines and heavy equipment are left in place, and all members in the Hazard Zone will exit the structure as quickly and safely as possible.
 - All units must report PARs upon exit.
 - Obtain a PAR from all units exiting the IDLH environment.
 - Company Officers will account for their crews and advise their Tactical Level Supervisor or Command on the status of their crew upon exiting.

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- Tactical Supervisors will notify Command regarding the status of the individual crews assigned to their SDG upon their exit.
- Command's greatest priority once a strategic shift has been initiated is the safe exit of all units located in the Hazard Zone. Staged units and other units working outside the Hazard Zone should maintain radio silence until all PARs have been tallied (unless they have priority traffic).

Safety Officer

The Safety Officer position is a component of the Command Staff at major incidents. The position is assigned when the size or complexity of the incident prevents the IC from personally supervising the function. The Safety Officer should be one of the more experienced and tactically competent members on the fireground. The responsibilities of the Safety Officer include, but are not limited to:

- Monitor and assess safety hazards and unsafe conditions.
- Suggest measures to reduce risks to firefighting personnel.
- Inform IC of safety problems and hazards
- Assure Personnel Accountability has been established and is being monitored.
- Coordinate firefighter rehab with EMS and IC

The Safety Officer can bypass the chain of command when it is necessary to correct unsafe acts. The IC must be immediately informed of these corrective actions.

The Safety Officer will always maintain communications on the fireground tactical channel. The term Safety will be their radio identifier.

Procedures for Implementing Operations

At a large, complicated incident or as an incident escalates and the situation exceeds a manageable span of control the Incident Commander may appoint an operations officer. The operations officer will normally work from the command post. Typically, the operations officer will assume tactical responsibilities while the IC will retain strategic responsibilities. The IC remains responsible for the overall command of the incident. The IC should announce the establishment of operations via the radio.

- After operations are established, assigned units operating at a tactical level will report directly to the operations officer.
- When it has been determined that a high-rise fire is in progress and will require a concerted fire department effort to extinguish, an operations officer designated by the IC will advance to the fire area wearing full protective equipment including SCBA. Operations will operate from a secure position between forward staging and the fire area, normally one floor below the fire. A "Fire Attack Chief" will assume the position of running the fire floor.

Procedures for Implementing Branches

Branches may be established for the following reasons:

- At a large incident or as an incident continues to escalate and the number of resources exceeds a manageable span of control for the operations officer.
- Multi-Functional emergency (i.e., WMD, HazMat)
- Multi-jurisdictional (i.e., aircraft crash, mutual aid)
- Operations will work with branch officers to identify task-level objectives. Branch officers will assign tasks and monitor progress with resources under their command.
- **The two most common branches implemented at an incident will be the EMS Branch and the Water Supply Branch, remember the terms EMS Command and Water Command do not exist**

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in the Incident Command System and should NEVER be used on the fireground!

Procedures for Implementing Sections

- As the incident continues to escalate additional organizational support may be required. "Section" designations will be activated when the corresponding functions are needed by the incident.
- Each section will be under the direction of a section officer assigned by the IC.
- Each Section responsibility will be carried out by the IC until the organization is sub-divided into sections. The sections are Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration.
- For additional information, consult the Incident Command Systems Model Procedures for Structural Firefighting.

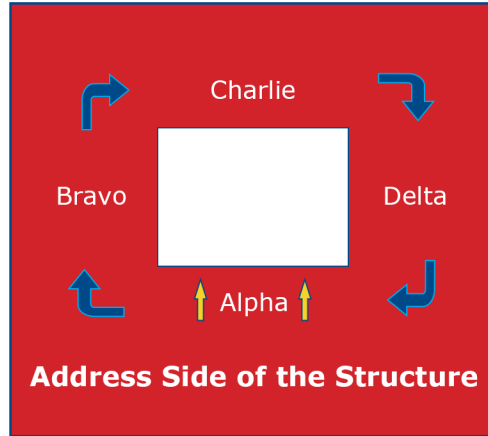
APPENDIX A Command Modes & the Command Post

For situations where the initial attack does not quickly stabilize, command must be upgraded to a subsequent arriving Command Officer. Typically command of an incident is passed from the initial IC to the first arriving Command Officer. The most effective position to command an incident is from inside a stationary Command Post. The first arriving Command Officer should attempt to establish the stationary command post from their vehicle when possible. The IC must forecast the incident needs and request additional assistance, resources, and formal Rehab when needed.

The IC working from a stationary position should utilize a "Command Worksheet/Command Board" upon arrival. This serves as the IC's written IAP by organizing the scene, tracking (companies, assignments, and benchmarks), PARs, water supply, and other essential information. The recorded information assists an IC in assuring the Strategy and IAP are on course. The information will facilitate the expansion of an incident by identifying assignments completed, addressed, waiting to be assigned, and when Command is transferred during extended incidents. The Command Worksheet/Command Board also provides the documentation needed for post-fire reviews and when generating reports in the event of an injury or fatality.

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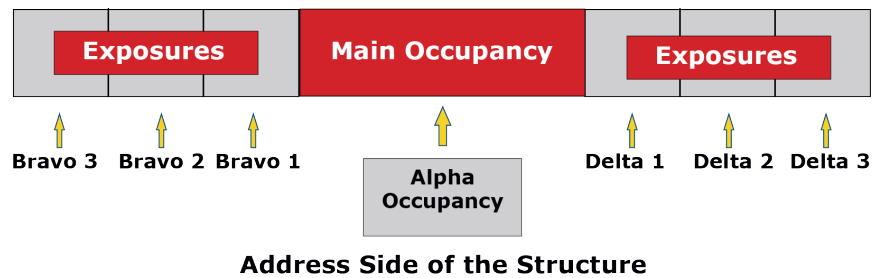
APPENDIX B Geographical Area Designations



Sector/Division/Group Designations

Floor 4- Division 4
Floor 3- Division 3
Floor 2- Division 2
Floor 1- Division 1
Sub-Floor 1- Basement 1
Sub-Floor 2- Basement 2

Exposure Types & Designations



2 THE RESCUE

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"This is one of the best classes I have taken. It should be a requirement by the state!"

***This course supported by grant funds awarded to Michigan Rural EMS Network (MiREMS) by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**

This seminar will educate through “boots on the ground” experiences and will provide responders and their loved ones with a clear picture on why this profession leads to destructive and unhealthy lifestyle habits. We will demonstrate how our inability to manage the cumulative stress from daily exposures to adrenaline and trauma negatively affects our safety, decision-making and one’s ability to remain ethically solid.

You, your work “family and your loved ones will be armed with tools to manage the everyday unique stressors and will be able to recognize the warning signs for chronic and post-traumatic stress and suicidal behavior. You will learn realistic, simple and successful methods to help rescue the rescuers!

- Stepping off the adrenaline roller coaster
- The “Terrible 10”
- Suicidal tendencies awareness
- Post-traumatic stress symptoms
- Managing critical incident stress
- Identifying cumulative acute stress
- Core values vs. situational values
- Lifestyle habits warning signs
- Support keys & phrases
- 4 C’s for survival



"If I would have known that this is what was going to be presented. I would have brought my spouse."

"Very realistic and it hit close to home. This is the best training class I have ever attended!"

"It helped me understand why my dad acts the way he does sometimes. I realize how I can help now instead of getting upset."

- ***"You and Mike are saving lives, saving relationships and preventing substance abuse with every presentation. Every public safety employee should attend this valuable training"***
- ***"A great chance to take time and internally reflect on how we need to continually remind ourselves that our emotional well-being is as important to our survival as maintaining our tactical skills"***
- ***"I thought it was going to be the type of training where afterwards we would all go out and hug a tree together... I was extremely happy it was the exact opposite. It was amazing training!"***