

TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT CHAPTER 2: STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

Part 1: Response Guidelines

Subject: Mayday Radio Communications

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Section: 2-1-33

Effective Date: 10-27-03

Revised Date:

33.01 Purpose. This policy is established to ensure that department members know the proper means of transmitting life threatening emergency radio traffic at an incident

33.02 Goal. To provide a means of communicating a firefighter is down, trapped, disoriented, or otherwise incapacitated on the fire ground.

33.03 Definition.

A) Mayday. Shall be the verbal radio transmission used by any distressed firefighter for any reason. No other term shall be substituted. Any emergency responder may declare a "Mayday" if he or she becomes lost, trapped, injured, or disoriented.

33.04 Guideline. In the event an individual or a team experiences or observes a critical situation, they will then transmit a "Mayday". This will be done by announcing, "Mayday, Mayday, Emergency Traffic" over the radio repeatedly until acknowledged by command.

Once a "Mayday" has been acknowledged, the individual or Team Leader will provide the following information to command:

- Who's in trouble (i.e. *Interior*, no proper names)
- How many
- Current situation
- Location
- Any known injuries
- Any special equipment needed
- Approximate air supply remaining

Once this information is transmitted, the individual or Team will be given the highest level of priority by the Incident Commander and Safety Officer. It is the Incident Commanders responsibility to obtain and dedicate the necessary resources to handle the situation. The Incident Commander will announce all radio traffic on that frequency is restricted except for the individual or team transmitting the "Mayday" and the on scene personnel that are assisting them.

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After the situation has been mitigated, the Incident Commander will inform all on scene personnel and Base that the situation has been cleared and normal radio traffic may resume.