

GLASGOW FIRE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guideline

GUIDELINE: FIREGROUND COMMUNICATION			SECTION: 308
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PURPOSE

So that the entire department has a detailed and understandable version of the Standard Operating Guidelines of the Glasgow Fire Department in regard to fireground communications.

FIREGROUND OPERATIONS RADIO CHANNEL

The Glasgow Fire Department will utilize channel 1 as the fireground operations channel. All units will try to operate on this channel. If for some reason a radio will not operate on channel 1, it can be switched to channel 2, but realize that channel has no repeater capability. If 2 fires or 2 responses are happening at the same time, one command can use channel 1 and the other command can switch to channel 3 but also realize that channel 3 is not on the repeater.

10 CODES AND PLAIN ENGLISH

The Glasgow Fire Department will utilize the 10-code list that was developed by all the local agencies and voted on and passed by the Management Control Board. These 10 codes are to be utilized when dispatched to the scenes and leaving the scenes of incidents when talking to dispatch, but this does not in any case keep any Glasgow Fire Department unit from utilizing plain English if needed for clarity. The on-scene communications will be plain English as 10 codes do not have the capability to express all the language needed on incident scenes. The ability to express oneself during an emergency must take precedence.

ENTRY CONTROL

When crews are entering the work area, such as a structure, the crew entering shall notify command that they are entering the structure, which side they are entering from and what is their assignment and whether they are going left or right. Upon changing floors, the crew shall call command with their location change ("going up to 2nd floor" or "going down to basement"). When the crew exits the structure or work area, they will call command and announce what crew has exited and where they exited from.

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Fireground communications are usually communicated over the radio but there are times that needed information may be relayed face to face. Either is acceptable but anytime that face to face communications is used and the information could be vital for other units operating on scene, then that information should be repeated over the radio so that all personnel on the scene can hear what is taking place. Such as, when you ask a crew face to face to set a 24' ladder at the B/C corner to the second-floor window, that should be repeated

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over the radio as, "Command to all crews. We are setting up a 24' ladder on the B/C corner second floor window for secondary aggress."

FIREGROUND COMMUNICATIONS WITH DISPATCH

Any time units are on a scene working, all fireground communications need to go through command and then command will contact dispatch with the information. This will keep dispatch from having to talk to multiple personnel working on the same scene which ties up the radios and dispatchers.

RESPONDING WHEN OUT OF STATION

If an apparatus begins its response to a fire run, and is not coming from its assigned station, the unit is to give their location when calling dispatch saying where they are responding from. For example, "Engine 1 is 10-18 from the training center". The purpose of this is to assist all other units in determining if they may be closer to the incident and can notify the responding unit to cancel because they are the closer unit and will be able to respond to the incident faster. There will be no need for this announcement if all units are out of the stations at the same location.