

FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION OF BROWARD COUNTY

Mutual Aid & Communications Committee

SUBJECT: Uniform Radio Designation Policy

DATE: March 4, 2005

INTRODUCTION

In an effort to establish effective communications during emergencies and to provide uniform radio designations throughout Broward County for mutual aid incidents. The following policy is supported and adopted by the Fire Chiefs' Association of Broward County.

OVERVIEW

The following policy was developed by the Mutual Aid & Communications Committee of the Fire Chiefs' Association of Broward County. The policy is intended to provide each fire rescue agency in Broward County with individual radio designations for apparatus and personnel. The policy will utilize the district response/uniform fire station numbering system and uniform apparatus designations as a base. The policy will eliminate duplication of radio designation numbers as well as personnel titles that can be confused with established incident management position titles. The policy will also provide common titles to identify various ranks and staff positions.

POLICY

1. UNIFORM FIRE STATION NUMBERING SYSTEM

The uniform fire station numbering system for Broward County will be administered by the Mutual Aid and Communications Committee. When a fire station is closed by an agency and they do not choose to relocate it, the designation number will be reassigned by the Mutual Aid & Communications Committee prior to the creation of a new designation number.

Example: BSO Fire Rescue Division closes Fire Station #15 and does not relocate it. Tamarac Fire Rescue's newly constructed fire station will then be assigned the # 15 designation rather than becoming Station # 104.

2. RADIO DESIGNATIONS FOR APPARATUS

a.) Radio designations for apparatus will be established by combining the uniform apparatus designation title with the response district/fire station number.

Example: ENGINE 05, LADDER 98, RESCUE 64

Radio Designations for Apparatus Cont.

- b.) Additional apparatus at the same fire station location or reserve apparatus utilized for special details or events will be identified by placing a numerical designation other than the number one, in front of the district/fire station number. Single digit designations will have a zero added to avoid confusion with other districts.

Example: Fire Station # 5 houses two in-service engines and one reserve engine. The in-service units would receive the designations ENGINE 5 and ENGINE 205. If the reserve unit was placed in-service to cover an extra duty detail it would be designated as ENGINE 305.

- c.) Fire station geographical locations that consolidate more than one response district may utilize apparatus designation numbers from all of the districts served.

3. RADIO DESIGNATIONS FOR PERSONNEL

- a.) The officer in charge of the apparatus will be responsible for acknowledging a radio transmission to the apparatus and will therefore have the same designation as the apparatus. The other assigned personnel will utilize the apparatus designation followed by a letter from the phonetic alphabet.

Example: A lieutenant, driver engineer, and two firefighters assigned to ENGINE 33 would be designated as follows: ENGINE 33, ENGINE 33-ALPHA, ENGINE 33-BRAVO, ENGINE 33-CHARLIE.

- b.) Staff officers will be designated by their assigned position and/or rank combined with a fire station or district number. An agency may choose to assign their headquarters designation number to all staff members or utilize all of the available district response numbers within their jurisdictional or contractual areas. As with multiple apparatus at the same fire station, multiple individuals with the same rank or assignment will add a numerical designation larger than one in front of their district/fire station number.

Example: A senior staff all working out of the same location (District 58) consisting of a Chief of Department, a Deputy Chief, two Asst. Chiefs, and four Division Chiefs, would have the following designations: CHIEF 58, CHIEF 258, CHIEF 358, CHIEF 458, CHIEF 558, CHIEF 658, CHIEF 758, CHIEF 858.

In a larger department the agency may choose to use their other district numbers to avoid four digit Chief designations after the number nine is used....CHIEF 958, CHIEF 18, CHIEF 98, CHIEF 94, etc.

- c.) Radio designations for operational personnel, such as a shift Battalion Chief, will mirror the fire station number to which they are assigned.

4. *UNIFORM RADIO DESIGNATION GUIDELINE*

ASSIGNMENT / RANK	RADIO DESIGNATION
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT	CHIEF
DEPUTY CHIEF	“
ASSISTANT CHIEF	“
DIVISION CHIEF	“
BATTALION CHIEF	BATTALION
CAPTAIN	CAPTAIN
LIEUTENANT	LIEUTENANT
FIRE MARSHAL	MARSHAL
INSPECTOR	INSPECTOR
TRAINING OFFICER	TRAINING
LOGISTICS OFFICER	SUPPORT
DIRECTOR	DIRECTOR
EMS OFFICER	EMS
FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER	PREVENTION
STAFF OFFICER	STAFF
MEDICAL DIRECTOR	MEDICAL DIRECTOR

5. *UNIFORM APPARATUS DESIGNATIONS*

The following designations are taken from Appendix F of the Fire Chiefs’ Association of Broward County Uniform Incident Command Procedure:

AIR	Helicopter or fixed wing aircraft
AIR TANKER	Aircraft up to 3000 gpm
AMBULANCE	BLS transport capable unit
ATTACK	Mini pumper
BATTALION	Area Command Officer/Shift Commander
BRUSH	Off-road vehicle with water tank and pump
DIVE	Dive team equipment vehicle
ENGINE	NFPA compliant Class A pumper
FIREBOAT	Boat with firefighting pump
FOAM	Vehicle or trailer other than crash truck with min 50 gal.
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Team vehicle
LADDER	Straight aerial ladder of at least 75 feet
MCV	Mobile command vehicle
MEDICAL	ALS transport capable unit with civilian staffing
PLATFORM	Telescopic boom with platform of at least 75 feet
QUINT	Class A pumper with at least 75 foot straight aerial
RESCUE	ALS transport capable unit with cross trained firefighters
SNORKEL	Articulating platform device
SQUAD	Heavy, medium, or light rescue, or personnel carrier
SQUIRT	Class A pumper with 55-70 foot aerial/water tower

Uniform Apparatus Designation Cont.

SUPPORT	SCBA refill truck
TANKER	Apparatus with minimum of 1500 gallons on-board water
TENDER	Foam tanker with minimum 1000 gallons foam
TRUCK	Airport crash truck with foam
UTILITY	Light/generator/ventilation vehicle

6. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW OR ADDITIONAL DESIGNATIONS

Agencies wishing to establish a new district response zone/fire station designation, radio designations for new positions, titles, or ranks shall request the Mutual Aid & Communications Committee to review their requirements. The Committee chair will then advise the agency of any duplication or conflict with existing designations, make the agency aware of any abandoned designations, or provide a new designation.

In order to reserve a new or existing fire station designation number for future construction or relocation, the requesting agencies Fire Chief or designee must submit their request in writing to the Mutual Aid & Communications Committee Chair. The designation number will be reserved until such time as the fire station project is completed or the requesting agencies Fire Chief or designee cancels the reservation.