


Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service

FIRE CHIEF'S GENERAL ORDER

NUMBER: 08-19

December 8, 2008

TO: All MCFRS Personnel

FROM: Interim Fire Chief Richard Bowers 

SUBJECT: Communications on Tactical Talk Groups

This Order modifies **MCFRS Standard Communications Manual Policy 22-03AM**, Section 9, page 37, Assignment of Alternate Talk Group(s) – Full Assignments, and Section 12, page 43, On-Scene Reporting and Communications.

Units responding on incidents that have been assigned to a Tactical Talk Group must **not** verbally announce the unit's status (i.e., responding, on-scene, etc.) on the Tactical Talk Group. These verbal announcements must be made on 7 Bravo (or 71 Bravo; 72 Bravo; etc.). After a unit's status has been acknowledged on 7 Bravo (or 71 Bravo; 72 Bravo; etc.), that unit must switch to the Talk Group(s) assigned to the incident.

During the initial phase(s) of the event, no radio transmissions will be made on the Tactical Talk Group, except for:

- Water Supply instructions;
- Initial on-scene reports;
- Establishment or assumption of Command;
- Communications critical to the event from field units or ECC, e.g., Side Charlie and basement reports; discovery of any unexpected hazards; occupant information; deviations from the SOP; etc.; and
- Arrival of the first Certified Chief Officer

Unless directed to deviate from it, personnel must follow the appropriate Standard Operating Procedure. Units without an assignment must report to the Command Post.

Once Command is established, ECC will not announce unit response checks or the second vocal announcement on the Tactical Talk Group.

If you have questions, please contact Battalion Chief Scott Goldstein at (240) 777-2464.