

Sanoca Rural Fire District, Inc.  
**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**  
Emergency Operations

**Fire Company Operations**

**Subject: Radio Usage**

Revised: June 24, 2003

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**PURPOSE**

To establish a fire department policy on the proper use of the radio for effective communications.

**POLICY**

It shall be policy for all members to use this procedure when using fire department radios.\

**PROCEDURE**

Fire calls are dispatched by Wilson 911 on primary repeater channel 1. Only one officer may check enroute via radio. This prevents confusion on the dispatchers' part and allows everyone to hear the details of the call on their pager, scanner, or radio.

Be sure to listen to what trucks are checking enroute so you will know whether to respond to the station to get a truck or go to the scene on your personal vehicle. (please limit pov's).

Each truck shall check enroute with Wilson 911. Once you have checked on the scene, switch your radio to channel 2 (or talk around).

All personnel on the fire ground shall be either on talk around channel or any other assigned TAC or COMMAND channel. The only person or radio that is to be on primary channel 1 is the incident commander.

\*Radio use shall be professional, short, and precise. Think before you speak.

\*Use plain English instead of 10-codes.

\*Make an attempt to carry fire pagers in turnout coat radio pockets. This will enable you to hear the **fire retreat tone** if it is sounded.

\*Incident Commanders should assign radio channels for specific crews, groups, sectors, to avoid missed transmissions.

\*Fire attack or any operational crews who become trapped, lost, or immediately endangered should radio a "**MAYDAY**" message to the Incident Commander.

\*Every fire attack crew conducting an interior fire attack or reconnaissance mission shall have a portable radio.

\*Horseplay on the radio on any channel will not be tolerated.

