

<b>Polk County TEAMS</b>	<b>#200 Mutual-aid Radio Procedures</b>	Enactment Date: 5/1/2005 Effective Date: 5/1/2005 Revised: 2/14/2006
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<b>Section 1: Scope</b>
<b>Section 2: Definitions</b>
<b>Section 3: Policy</b>

**Section 1: Scope**

The purpose of this procedure is to better utilize the radio frequencies available for TEAMS mutual aid operations.

FCC Rules and Regulations allow fireground frequencies to be installed and used only by mobile and portable radios. It is the goal of TEAMS that base station radios and radios connected to base station antennas will eventually not allowed to transmit on the designated fireground channels.

**Section 2: Definitions**

The TEAMS network uses a variety of radio channels (frequencies) to provide clear and safe communications for incidents involving multiple agencies. Exhibit 1 shows the radio system network, including assigned Response/Command and fireground channels.

**Exhibit 1**

<b><u>FUNCTION</u></b>	<b><u>RADIO CHANNELS</u></b>		
<b>General Dispatching/Paging</b> <i>TEAMS Dispatch</i>	<b>Polk County Fire Channel (154.310)</b>		
<b>Command/Response*</b> <i>Dispatch &lt;&gt; Unit/Incident Commander</i> <i>Radio Traffic</i> <i>mobile&lt;&gt; mobile</i> <i>mobile&lt;&gt; base</i>	<b>Fire East</b> <b><u>(155.745)</u></b> Pleasant Hill Altoona Bondurant Mitchellville Runnells	<b>Fire Central</b> <b><u>(154.130)</u></b> Ankeny Delaware Elkhart Polk City Saylor	<b>Fire West</b> <b><u>(154.815)</u></b> Clive West Des Moines Urbandale Windsor Heights Grimes Granger Johnston
<i>* not implemented at this time</i>			
<b>Fire Ground Channels#</b> <i>(10 watt limitation)</i>	<b>RED</b> <b>(154.070)</b>	<b>WHITE</b> <b>(154.010)</b>	<b>BLUE</b> <b>(153.770)</b>
<b>Back-up Fire Ground Channel</b>	<b>GREEN</b>	<b>(156.015)</b>	
<b>#CTCSS (PL) for all fireground channels will be 186.2 TX/RX</b>			

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**Section 3: Policy**

The following procedures shall be followed at all TEAMS alarms (2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm or greater) mutual aid incidents.

After requesting a 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm or greater, the Incident Commander shall switch to the designated **Response/Command** channel (Fire East, Fire Central or Fire West). Apparatus and other units will use the designated **Response/Command** channel while responding and arriving on the scene. All companies (units/personnel) operating on the emergency scene will switch to and utilize the designated **Fireground** radio frequency for the jurisdiction agency that is operating the incident.

All fire department units shall use the designated **Response/Command** channel while responding to the scene of a 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm or greater incident. The designated **Response/Command** channel shall be used to report to TEAMS dispatch (Polk County) that the unit is en route and has arrived on the scene. All units arriving on the scene shall report to the staging area, standby, and remain on the designated **Response/Command** frequency.

The IC shall use the designated **Response/Command** channel when communicating with the Staging Officer. When assigned out of staging to report to or assume an Operational sector, the assigned company (personnel) shall then switch over to the designated **Fireground** channel or if possible, report in person to the IC or assigned sector.

**Note:**

**WESTCOM departments (Clive, Urbandale and West Des Moines) will use the designated Polk County Response/Command and Fireground Channels for their TEAMS alarms, as soon as a non-WESTCOM agency is requested for mutual aid. This will be accomplished by:**

- WESTCOM will have access to the designated Response/Command channels. Mutual aid units will be able to contact WESTCOM as needed.**
- WESTCOM departments will establish a link between their 800 MHZ fireground channel(s) and the designated VHF Tactical (fireground) channel(s).**

Field operations communications should take place on the designated **Fireground** channel unless a “MAYDAY” is broadcast. After a MAYDAY is broadcast the stricken firefighter(s), Rapid Intervention Team and Safety Sector will stay on the primary designated **Fireground** channel for the incident during the rescue efforts and all communications will be directed to the R.I.T. Sector Officer. All non-affected companies must be ordered to switch to **Fireground Green** (156.015) and continue to operate in their assigned sectors.

The IC may utilize the backup fireground radio frequency (**Fireground Green**) if the incident becomes too large or too complex to be managed using just one tactical radio frequency. The IC must designate which separate sectors or divisions will operate on which **Fireground** channel.

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Only those units on the fireground or emergency scene will communicate on the **Fireground** radio frequencies. Fire department units not at the actual emergency scene will remain on the designated **Response/Command** frequency.

When referring to the **Response/Command** or **Fireground** frequencies, they shall be referred to as **Fire East, Fire Central, Fire West, Fireground RED, Fireground BLUE, Fireground WHITE or Fireground GREEN.**