

SFD Dispatch Policy and Guideline Manual

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RADIO SYSTEM AND DISPATCH CHANNEL

The SFD radio system consists of five frequencies with repeaters. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) call sign for SFD is WNNO 487.

FIRE 1 = 453.850 MHz Receive
 458.850 MHz Transmit

FIRE 2 = 453.850 MHz Receive
 458.850 MHz Transmit

FIRE 1 (main dispatch channel) repeater is located on the Johnson Tower. The tower is located west of US Interstate 540, just northwest of the town of Johnson. As stated above, FIRE 1 is the main dispatch channel for SFD, and shall always be used for dispatching units unless the FIRE 1 repeater is out of service for maintenance.

FIRE 2 repeater operates on the same exact frequency as FIRE 1 except the tone coded squelch is set on a different tone frequency so that both repeaters are not activated at the same time. FIRE 2 repeater is located on Dodd Mountain and serves as the back-up repeater in case FIRE 1 goes out of service.

FIRE 2 has better reception when SFD units are on incidents east of the city. FIRE 1 does not provide 100 percent coverage to areas east of the mountains on the east side of the city. It is SFD policy to have units switch to FIRE 2 if they are on incidents in the Nob Hill / Sonora and Hickory Creek / Pleasure Heights communities. By switching to FIRE 2, the apparatus will be assured of being received at the dispatch center. The dispatcher may need to remind SFD units to switch to FIRE 2 whenever a unit responds to these areas.

On all responses to the area east of Springdale, if the unit switches to FIRE 2, the dispatcher must select the FIRE 2 channel on the console. If a unit does not switch to FIRE 2, distortion is caused when two repeaters are keyed simultaneously. Advise the unit to switch to FIRE 2 to eliminate this distortion.

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FIRE GROUND TACTICAL CHANNELS

TAC 1 = 453.3375 MHz Receive
458.3375 MHz Transmit

TAC 2 = 460.4250 MHz Receive
465.4250 MHz Transmit

TAC 3 = 453.300 MHz Receive
458.300 MHz Transmit

TAC 1 and TAC 2 are located on Callahan Mountain. TAC 3 is located at the Johnson Tower. Tactical channels are used by on scene units to communicate on calls such as structure fires, special operations, technical or extended rescues, mass causality incidents, Haz-Mat incidents, and at other times as directed by Command.

When the first unit arrives on scene, the company officer will give a scene size up on FIRE 1 and then switch to a tactical channel, typically TAC 1. When a unit reports "on scene" on a tactical channel, the dispatcher is not to repeat it on the tactical channel unless it is obvious to the dispatcher that the unit is on a tactical channel accidentally. In such case, the dispatcher should advise the unit they are on the tactical channel. The dispatcher shall repeat the on scene information on FIRE 1. When the incident commander (IC) needs to communicate with the dispatcher, the IC will usually use FIRE 1. As necessary the dispatcher can communicate on a tactical channel.

MONITORING FOR INTEGRITY

When the radio repeater has a loss of primary power and changes to a back-up power supply, a series of tones will sound over the radio. The radio alarm box located above the fire console should also sound an audible alarm. The alarm will sound at ten minute intervals while the repeater is on back-up power. Notify Battalion 1 when the tones come across the radio or the box alarms. If the alarm continues to sound and contact has been made no further notification is required.

Testing is performed on the system approximately one time per month. The testing should occur during the day and dispatch should be notified prior to the test.

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VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHANNELS

Listed below are the frequencies for the rural fire departments that we deal with on a daily basis. These can be provided to the medical helicopter agencies as needed when they will be flying to these areas.

CAVE SPRINGS	FIRENET SW	PL 173.8	453.5875 Receive 458.5875 Transmit
	TAC 1	PL 173.8	458.4625 Receive 458.4625 Transmit
	TAC 2	PL 173.8	458.7125 Receive 458.7125 Transmit

Cave Springs FD will primarily operate on Firenet SW.

NOB HILL	FireCom East	PL 156.7	452.0500 Receive 457.0500 Transmit
HICKORY CREEK	Hickory Creek Tac	PL D731	460.475 Receive 465.475 Transmit
LOWELL	TAC 41	PL 131.8	451.6000 Receive 456.6000 Transmit
TONTITOWN	TAC 51	PL 141.3	458.125 Receive 453.125 Transmit
	TAC 52	PL 110.9	466.700 Receive 461.700 Transmit

* PL stands for Private Line and you must have this code to access the channel.